AUKUS USW: FOCUS ON THE FOUNDATIONS

DR. CRAIG HOOPER

THEMISTOCLES ADVISORY GROUP

THESIS: AUKUS IS A TECHNOLOGY EXCHANGE PROGRAM

- While promoted as a nuclear submarine deal, the USW aspects of AUKUS may end up being a minor part of a far larger effort. We don't want to mess up!
- Leakages of classified technology or hiccups in information transfer can hinder--even stop--a tech transfer effort.

INDIA

Massive data leak on combat capabilities of Scorpene submarines

NEW DELHI AUGUST 24, 2016 09:53 IST
UPDATED: NOVEMBER 17, 2021 03:53 IST

SHARE ARTICLE | 0 | PRINT | A | A | A

tober 29, 2015 photo, Indian Navy's Scorpene submarine INS Kalvari is being escorted by tugboats as it arrives at Docks Ltd., a naval vessel ship building yard, in Mumbai.

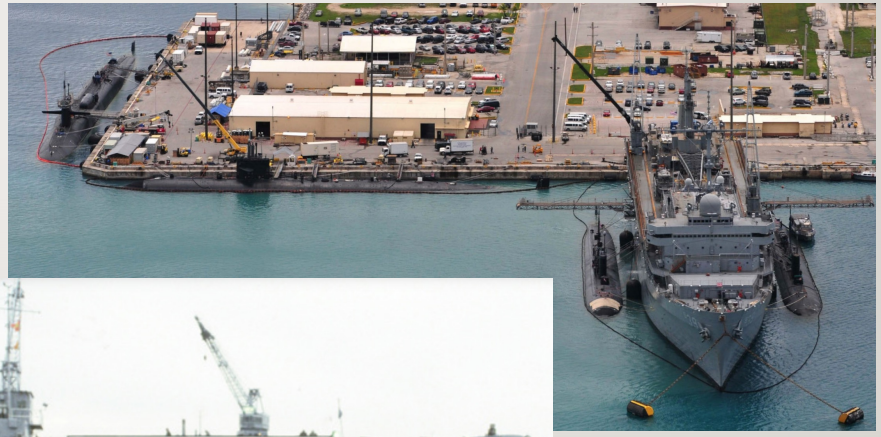
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Monday, March 1, 2010

BAE Systems PLC Pleads Guilty and Ordered to Pay $400 Million Criminal Fine

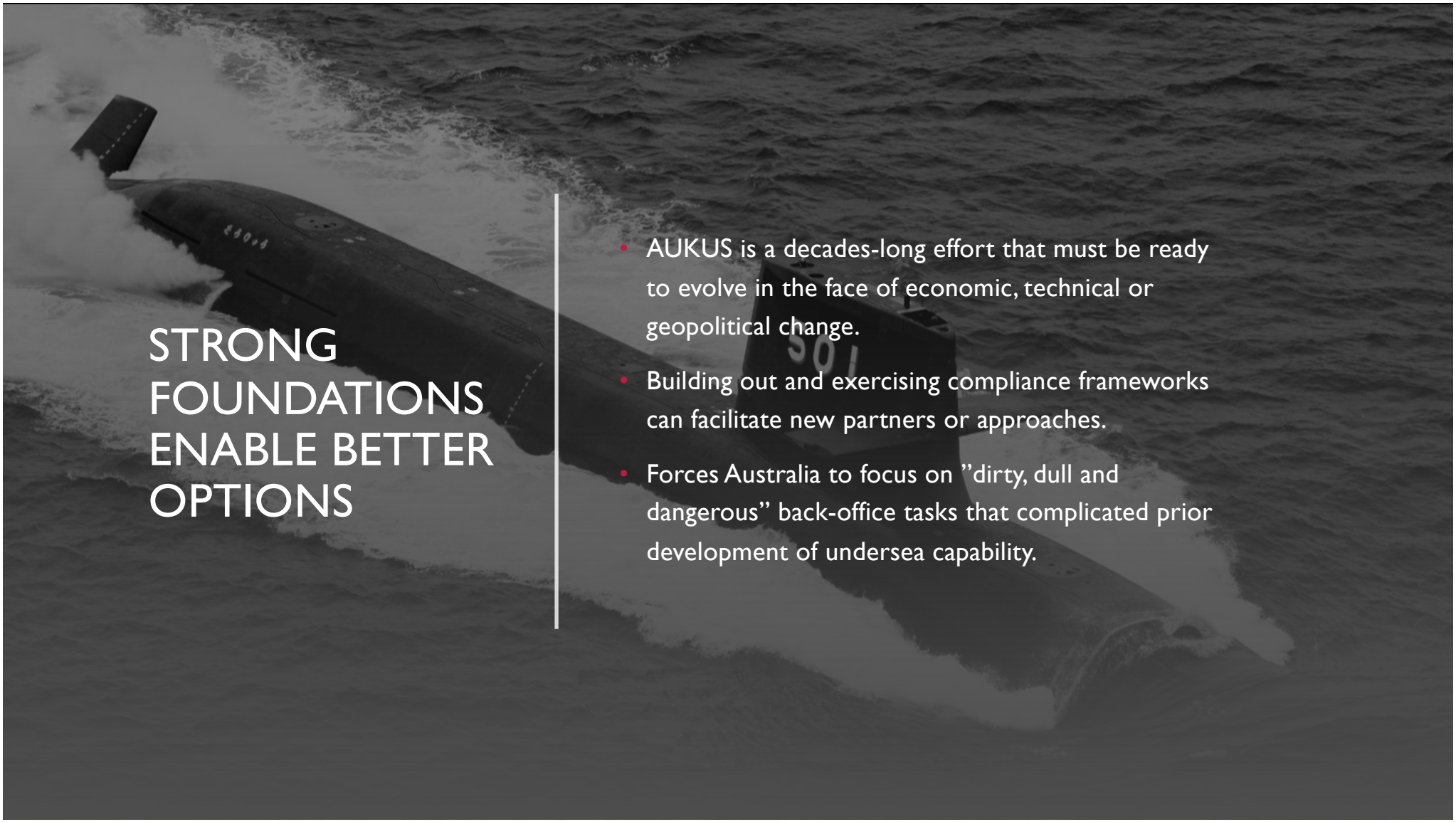
BAE Systems plc (BAES) pleaded guilty today in U.S. District Court in the District of Columbia to conspiring to defraud the United States by impairing and impeding its lawful functions, to make false statements about its Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) compliance program, and to violate the Arms Export Control Act (AECA) and International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR), announced Acting Deputy Attorney General Gary G. Grindler. BAES was sentenced today by U.S. District Court Judge John D. Bates to pay a $400 million criminal fine, one of the largest criminal fines in the history of DOJ's ongoing effort to combat overseas corruption in international business and enforce U.S. export control laws.

COMPLIANCE IS A BURDEN

1. Regulatory compliance in tech transfer is disproportionately placed upon smaller actors—innovators, 2nd tier suppliers.
2. Identify potential contributors and focus on a ”crawl, walk, run” approach with “boring” foundational projects.



Each of these projects are relatively low-risk, but they are flexible, build trust, and enable virtually any option aimed at advancing Australian USW capabilities.



STRONG FOUNDATIONS ENABLE BETTER OPTIONS

- AUKUS is a decades-long effort that must be ready to evolve in the face of economic, technical or geopolitical change.
- Building out and exercising compliance frameworks can facilitate new partners or approaches.
- Forces Australia to focus on ”dirty, dull and dangerous” back-office tasks that complicated prior development of undersea capability.