

Anglo-French deal rewrites military history

Britain and France's far-reaching new defence partnership – driven by the desire to maintain cutting-edge military capabilities while reducing defence spending – includes setting up a joint force, sharing equipment and testing nuclear warheads

■ EXPEDITIONARY FORCE

Brigade of around 5,000 soldiers each, with air and sea support, able to deploy at short notice on peacekeeping, rescue or combat missions

Each country will retain veto for each operation, to be led by one military commander chosen at time



■ AIRCRAFT CARRIERS

France's *Charles de Gaulle* and UK carrier being built to be made compatible so planes from either country can land on other's ships. One carrier to remain at sea at all times

Country owning vessel will have right to veto mission

■ NUCLEAR COOPERATION

Nuclear warhead research to be shared. UK centre will focus on developing technology, France will carry out testing under laboratory conditions

Scientists will work at either facility but each country will retain control of its own warheads, and nuclear secrets will not be shared

■ *Joint work on drones, mine counter-measures, satellite communications and cyber security is also planned*

■ AIRCRAFT

Pool resources for training and logistics of new A400M transport aircraft

France to use spare refuelling capacity once UK takes delivery of 14 new Airbus tankers

