

# HRH CP Strengthens US Defence Ties

Defence partnership takes spotlight



HRH Prince Salman with Vice Admiral George M. Wikoff

- **HRH CP reaffirms U.S. defence partnership**
- **C-SIPA cited as cooperation anchor**

**Mahir Haneef**  
TDT | Manama

The Kingdom’s enduring defence partnership with the United States took centre stage yesterday as His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the

Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, and Prime Minister, met with Vice Admiral George M. Wikoff, the outgoing Commander of the U.S. Naval Forces Central Command, U.S. Fifth Fleet, and Combined Maritime Forces, at Gudaibiya Palace. During the meeting, His Royal Highness reaffirmed the close and longstanding Bahrain–U.S. relationship, describing it as strengthened through multi sector collaboration, particularly in military and defence cooperation. HRH emphasised that both

**The U.S. Fifth Fleet, headquartered in Bahrain, oversees naval forces operating in the Arabian Gulf, Red Sea, Arabian Sea, and parts of the Indian Ocean.**

nations continue to build on their partnership, aligned with critical agreements such as the Comprehensive Security Integration and Prosperity Agreement (C-SIPA). His Royal Highness expressed

gratitude to Vice Admiral Wikoff for his efforts in furthering Bahrain–U.S. ties throughout his tenure, wishing him continued success in future assignments. The discussions also covered recent regional and international developments and reaffirmed the role of the United States and allied countries in promoting regional and global stability. HH Shaikh Isa bin Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Minister of the Prime Minister’s Court, HE Shaikh Salman bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Minister of Finance and National Economy, and several senior officials attended the meeting.

## Bahrain, UK Deepen Defence Partnership



HRH Prince Salman meets Vice Admiral Edward Ahlgren

- **C-SIPA cited as key link**
- **Defence cooperation reaffirmed**

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His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince, Deputy Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, and Prime Minister, reaffirmed Bahrain’s expanding strategic partnership with the United Kingdom, anchored in the Comprehensive Security Integration and Prosperity Agreement (C-SIPA), during a meeting with Vice Admiral Edward Ahlgren, the UK’s Defence Senior Advisor to the Middle East and North Africa,

and an accompanying delegation, at Gudaibiya Palace. His Royal Highness affirmed Bahrain’s historic relationship with the United Kingdom, one founded on a multisector strategic partnership that continues to grow, particularly in the military and defence fields. HRH emphasised the shared commitment of both Kingdoms to continue enhancing bilateral cooperation to achieve common goals. His Royal Highness highlighted the successful bilateral ties between Bahrain and the United Kingdom, underpinned by joint agreements such as the Comprehensive Security Integration and Prosperity Agreement (C-SIPA), which the UK recently joined. Agreements like these, HRH noted, strengthen coordination, advance development, and create quality opportunities that benefit the peoples of both Kingdoms.

The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of American Mission Hospital extends their heartfelt congratulations to



**His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa**  
**And**  
**His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa**  
Crown Prince and Prime Minister

On the occasion of McLaren’s victory in the Formula 1 Constructors’ Championship for the second consecutive year



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