



National Commission on the Future of the Army

2530 Crystal Drive, Zachary Taylor Building, Suite 5000
Arlington, VA 22202

National Commission on the Future of the Army

Open meeting, December 17, 2015

Present:

Chairman	GEN Carter F. Ham (USA, Ret)
Vice Chairman	HON Thomas R. Lamont (ARNGUS, Ret)
Member	GEN James D. Thurman (USA, Ret)
Member –	GEN Larry R. Ellis (USA, Ret)
Member –	LTG Jack C. Stultz (USA, Ret)
Member –	HON Robert F. Hale (Former USD Comptroller)
Member –	HON Kathleen H. Hicks (Former PDUSD Policy)
Member –	SMA Raymond F. Chandler (USA, Ret)

Designated Federal Officer – Mr. Don Tison (DFO)

Documents received by the NCFCA Commission:

- (1) Open Meeting Slides 17 Dec 2015
- (2) Operational Subcommittee Multicomponent Units paper 17 DEC 15

Audio recording for the entire meeting is available at www.ncfa.ncr.gov

The DFO called the meeting to order @ 1500 hours.

Procedures for the meeting – The DFO discussed Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) requirements and Federal Register posting for the open meeting.

Chairman's update – The Chair provided an update on Commission activities to date. The Commission had no site visits since the last Open Meeting on 19 November 2015. He noted that since the last Open Meeting the President signed the National Defense Authorization Act of fiscal year 2016, which provides the Commission more flexibility in preparing the final report by exempting the Commission from specified FACA requirements unless five or more Commissioners attend a meeting. The DFO concurred with the explanation of the new provision.

The Chair noted the activities of the past month were focused largely on concluding analysis, discussion amongst the staff and the subcommittees, and the beginning of writing the final report.

Subcommittee updates – Each subcommittee displayed a slide on the screen showing analysis, timeline, and activities to date.

GEN (R) Ham presented a revised outline for the final NCFA report developed by the Drafting Subcommittee. There were no objections to the new outline.

HON Hicks provided an update on the Operational Subcommittee. HON Hicks noted the subcommittee's initial focus on assessing the current and future operational environments. This assessment included anticipated threats and mission requirements for Army forces. She explained that between Commission events and subcommittee engagements with multiple allies and partners, the subcommittee was able to assemble the strategic challenges in the future environment that Army forces will likely face. She also noted that the subcommittee reported to the Commission on the future operational environment and Army missions in a closed session on October 23, 2015. HON Hicks then explained how the subcommittee reported to the full Commission on the methodology, analysis, and recommendations regarding the structure of Army operational forces through a series of NCFA closed meetings due to the classification of the analysis.

HON Hicks then presented a subcommittee paper on the potential for Army multicomponent units for the Commission's consideration. She noted the Army's has a varied history with multicomponent unit initiatives, both negative and positive. The subcommittee believes that clearly establishing the proper purpose for a multicomponent unit (e.g. improved effectiveness or increased total force integration among Army components) is paramount to multicomponent unit success. With no objection, the Commission accepted the report.

LTG (R) Stultz provided an update from the Institutional Subcommittee. LTG (R) Stultz recounted the subcommittee's papers and proposals reported to the Commission during earlier NCFA Open and Closed meetings which included: (1) Army National Guard forces allocation and distribution; (2) Integrated Personnel and Pay System Army (IPPS-A); (3) using activity-based costing as the NCFA cost estimation model rather than "fully-burdened life-cycle cost;" (3) managing the Army as one total force with integration across the Army for personnel, pay, training, and recruiting, and (4) endorsing the Generating Force analysis model from the U.S. Army Manpower Analysis Agency (USAMAA) and Center for Army Analysis (CAA) because the Total Army Analysis, which is presently in use as one of the predominant total force shaping processes, only addresses operational units.

GEN (R) Ellis provided an update on the Force Generation Subcommittee actions. He noted the list of documents, briefings, and staff papers presented to the Commission in the charts at this open meeting reflected the subcommittee's total output to date. He stated that the documents reflected the research, analysis, and facts previously presented to the Commission. He further stated that the documents contained proposals from the subcommittee intended to be incorporated in the final Commission's report as recommendations pending Commission deliberations.

HON Hale provided an update from the Aviation Subcommittee. Hon Hale noted the Aviation subcommittee had previously discussed its status during November's open

meeting. He reiterated that the subcommittee had completed its work and reported to the Commission during the 19 November closed meeting. He further explained the subcommittee's recommendations addressed both the Apache transfer question as well as the need for a greater use of multi-component units in the Army's aviation community and reminded everyone that the full Commission was currently considering the subcommittee's proposals.

Public Comments

Although time was allocated, no public comments were requested for this meeting.

Chairman closing remarks; DFO closing remarks

The Chair stated that in accordance with the NDAA for FY 2015, the Commission's final report would be rendered no later than 1 February 2016. The target date for the official and public report rollout is 28 January 2016. He presented a slide with calendar dates for specific engagements for releasing the Commission's final report. The Chair explained in addition to report writing, a full security review would take place before sending the report to the printer.

The DFO announced the final open meeting for the Commission will be announced in the Federal Register and held at the Hall of States, on 28 January 2016 in the afternoon.

The DFO adjourned the meeting @ 1600 hours.