



National Commission on the Future of the Army

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

SUBJECT: Minutes from the Aviation Sub-Committee Classified Meeting

Date: 16 July 2015

Time: Meeting called to order at 1247 Hours; adjourned at 1708 Hours

Location: Taylor Building, 2530 Crystal Drive, Crystal City, VA

Attendees:

Commissioner Robert F. Hale, Aviation Sub-Committee Chairman
Commissioner Thomas R. Lamont, Aviation Sub-Committee Member
Commissioner Larry R. Ellis, Aviation Sub-Committee Member
Commissioner James D. Thurman, Aviation Sub-Committee Member
Mr. Don Tison, Designated Federal Officer (DFO)
MG Michael Lundy, Commander, US Army Aviation Center of Excellence
COL Ken Hawley, Chief, FORSCOM Aviation Division
Mr. Jack Parkhurst, Deputy Chief, FORSCOM Aviation Division
MG (Ret) Ray Carpenter, NCFA Executive Director
LTC Steve Pierce, NCFA Staff, Aviation Sub-Committee Co-Lead
LTC Gregory Hartvigsen, NCFA Staff, Aviation Sub-Committee Co-Lead
LTC Sean Spence, NCFA Staff
CPT Sarah Moore, NCFA Staff
COL Shane Story, NCFA Staff
Mr. Anthony Boyda, NCFA Staff
Mr. John Thurman, NCFA Staff
Mr. Josh Klimas, RAND
Mr. Mark Pizzuto, Alternate Designated Federal Officer

Documents Submitted to Commission: Two unclassified briefings (USAACE Army Aviation brief and RAND/NCFA Attack Reconnaissance Battalion steady state cost comparison) and one classified briefing from FORSCOM Aviation Division on aviation force requirements and operational demand.

Meeting Summary

Commissioner Hale called the meeting to order and made opening remarks. Mr. Tison, DFO, discussed the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and its applicability to the NCFA Aviation Subcommittee. This was a classified meeting with participants from the US Army Aviation Center of Excellence (USAACE), Forces Command (FORSCOM) Aviation Division and RAND. The meeting started with subcommittee members and staff discussing how to analyze options for AH-64 aircraft distribution identified during the July 9, 2015, subcommittee meeting. Commissioners

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directed employing the TRADOC Analysis Center to conduct sufficiency analysis using Department of Defense scenarios to assess the sensitivity of constraints and assumptions in providing adequate warfighting capacity for a given scenario.

After a short break, leaders from USAACE and FORSCOM Aviation arrived and Mr. Tison reviewed the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and its applicability to the NCFA Aviation Subcommittee. MG Lundy then discussed Army Aviation manning, training and equipping from his perspective as the Army Aviation Branch Chief and Commander, USAACE. He discussed how and why senior Army leaders and aviation planners developed the Aviation Restructure Initiative (ARI) and its importance to Army Aviation and the Army. All Commissioners asked questions that led to further discussion of the topics.

Next, COL Hawley and Mr. Parkhurst discussed FORSCOM's ability to meet Combatant Commander operational requirements for aviation forces as well as meet other steady state aviation requirements. They highlighted that ARI will best allow FORSCOM to source requirements currently and into the future given current and projected resourcing levels. Commissioners asked questions of COL Hawley and Mr. Parkhurst to better understand the information they presented.

Finally, Mr. Klimas from RAND and Mr. Boyda of the NCFA Staff presented a briefing on two cost analyses of Attack Reconnaissance Battalions in the Regular Army and the National Guard. They presented their findings and highlighted areas of agreement and disagreement. RAND methodology included data based on recent historical costs while NCFA staff introduced costing method using aim points for achieving readiness over a multi-year cycle. Commissioners asked questions about the sources of information and individual assumptions made in each analysis. Commissioners requested that Mr. Klimas and Mr. Boyda assist with future cost analysis of options for aircraft distribution as a means to better understand the full costs for each option.

The Aviation Sub-Committee Chair thanked the briefers for their work and indicated the staff would continue dialogue with their organizations and possibly request further information in the future. Briefers thanked the Commission for what they are doing. The meeting was adjourned at 1708 Hours.