



National Commission on the Future of the Army

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

SUBJECT: National Commission on the Future of the Army (NCFA) Minutes from Engagement – 29 MAY 15, Engagement with The Adjutant General (TAG) for HI and Guam

Date: 29 May 2015

Time: 0850 - 1030

Location: HQs HIARNG, Oahu, HI

Format: Two Commissioners' engagement with TAGs (Hawaii and Guam)

Attendees:

Commissioner Thomas Lamont
Commissioner Ray Chandler
Ms. Cherie Emerson – NCFA Staff
Mr. Johnny Thomas – NCFA Staff
LTC Greg Hartvigsen – NCFA Staff
Mr. Kerry Schindler – NCFA Staff
Mr. Mark von Heeringen – Alternate Designated Federal Officer
BG Logan (TAG, Hawaii)
BG Tamashiro (Director of Joint Staff, HIARNG)
COL Logan (Acting Commander 29th IBCT, HIARNG)
COL Hara (Deputy Adjutant General, HIARNG)
COL Leshner
COL Varfes-Lum
COL Pukahi
COL Tomasa
COL Nanamori
LTC Tucker
BG Leon Guerrero (TAG, Guam)
COL Crisistomo
COL Charfauros
CPT Fejarang

Documents Submitted to Commission: Written statements from BG Logan (TAG, Hawaii), COL Logan (Commander 29th IBCT, HIARNG), and BG Leon Guerrero (TAG, Guam)

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Meeting Summary

Commissioners Lamont and Chandler and NCFA Staff met with The Adjutant's General from Hawaii and Guam, along with some of their staff, to inform them of the purpose of the National Commission on the Future of the Army and to gather their unique perspectives on the Army National Guard and its capabilities within the USARPAC AOR.

BG Logan, TAG for the State of Hawaii, provided an overview of the accomplishments and contributions of the Hawaiian ARNG and stressed the integral nature of its relationship with AC forces on the island.

BG Leon Guerrero, TAG for Guam, also provided an overview and opening statement during which he indicated the Department of Defense will station 5000 Marines on Guam, expressed support for utilizing the AC Signal command for a THAAD mission on Guam, and mentioned challenges with availability of training centers due to distance, effect of not having a MEPS in Guam, and importance of aircraft in the force structure for search and rescue and MEDEVAC.

Commissioner Chandler: Question on Navy Hospital conducting assessment physical. Is this a Navy or Army standard? Response from BG Leon Guerrero: All services affected. Only one of four applicants will pass the physical conducted by the Navy. The Navy took funding from the Home Town recruiting program. Under the Home Town Program three of four passed the physical. Program discontinued because of no funding from the ARNG.

COL Logan – Deputy PFO, representing BG Olivera, 29th Inf Div Commander, read a prepared statement which emphasized that ARNG equipment and modernization should mirror the active component, the importance of maintaining end strength, Operational Deployment of the ARNG and predictability of rotations. He also mentioned the value of long term relationships developed thru the state partnership program such as currently exists with Indonesia and the shared Philippine partnership with Guam.

Discussion then turned to the difficulties in maintaining operational readiness going forward due to budget constraints associated with sequestration and the impact on individual training and personnel fill. HI TAG indicated if sequestration were maintained, enablers such as engineers would likely be reduced, which would have a direct effect on disaster relief capability.

When asked about ARI, the HI TAG indicated ARI would probably only have an indirect effect on HIARNG forces and that they currently enjoyed a modernized fleet of CH-47F and UH-60M helicopters. Others indicated it would cause general stress on the overall training base with retraining of pilots from one type of aircraft to another in both AC and RC and Hawaii's isolation made any changes in aircraft a major concern.

HI TAG said there is an excellent relationship between AC and HIARNG and a strong emphasis on maintaining a very close relationship with 25th ID, USARPAC and PACOM – e.g., new equipment training on 155mm guns and multiple exercises enabled side-by-side training opportunities. The HI TAG described the USARPAC Commander, GEN Brooks, as multi-

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COMPO focused and the acting commander of the 29th IBCT said the commander of 25th ID, treats the 29th IBCT as one his own Brigades.

When asked about BOG:DWELL, the DCG HIARNG indicated resourcing for training and predictability was key to managing BOG:DWELL and ratios of 1:4 or 1:3 might be suitable for missions like Egypt but operational deployments are best suited with 1:5.

There was discussion about the state's relationship with ARNGB, NGB and HQDA with respect to obtaining resourcing and training seats and the group also discussed how forces were allocated to the various states and if end strength decreases were made, how those were determined.

When asked what the TAGs would like to see the Commission achieve in addition to the NDAA tasks, the HI TAG responded - The most transparent, unbiased and fair review of what America needs for its future Army without favoring any particular organization. The TAG for Guam indicated the Commission should look at cost effective ways for the best force mix, particularly with respect to AC and ARNG THAADS and Signal structure.

The meeting closed with the Commissioners thanking everyone for offering their opinions and personal experiences and he offered that more information about the Commission's activities, along with the ability to provide input, could be found at www.ncfa.ncr.gov.