



## **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, November 19, 2015**

Present:

Chairman – GEN Carter F. Ham (USA, Ret)  
Vice Chairman – HON Thomas R. Lamont (ARNGUS, 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 (Dr.) Kathleen H. Hicks (Former PDUSD Policy)  
Member – SMA Raymond F. Chandler (USA, Ret)

Designated Federal Officer – Mr. Don Tison (DFO)

Not Present:

Member – GEN James D. Thurman (USA, Ret)

### **Documents received by the NCFA Commission:**

- English Language Center in Puerto Rico Information paper from BG Marta Carcana

Audio recording for the entire meeting is available at [www.ncfa.ncr.gov](http://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 – Chair provided an update on Commission activities since the Open Meeting on 22 October 2015. He explained the 18-19 November 2015 Closed Meeting review of the classified and unclassified evidence for proposals the Commission may consider as recommendations.

The Chair noted his meeting with GEN Milley, Chief of Staff Army, and GEN Allyn, Vice Chief of Staff Army. Discussion during this meeting included recount of engagements by the Commission, concerns over future Army funding, and current challenges facing Army aviation.

NCFA Staff update – MG (R) Ray Carpenter (Executive Director, NCFA) discussed the NCFA staff engagement with LTG (R) Richard G. Trefry, former Army Force Management School Director and Inspector General of the Army. Carpenter noted LTG (R) Trefry offered a valuable historical perspective and insights into the Army's force management processes that the Commission should consider as part of its responsibilities to look at the size, structure, and distribution of the Army.

MG (R) Carpenter also reviewed his recent exchange with BG Deborah Howell, The Adjutant General of the Virgin Islands. BG Howell explained unique concerns for illegal immigration in the Caribbean area.

MG (R) Carpenter next discussed his conversation with BG Marta Carcana, The Adjutant General of Puerto Rico. BG Carcana expressed a major concern over the needed continuation of the English Language Center in Puerto Rico. She submitted an information paper to the Commission on the topic.

The Chair then noted the Commission received in October correspondence signed by most of the United States Senators. Vice Chair explained the letter as focusing on the broad nature of the Commission's efforts and suggesting areas that needed emphasis. The Chair further stated that greater utilization of the Reserve Components (RC) of the Army has been a constant theme from members of Congress.

Sub-Committee updates:

- GEN (R) Ellis provided an update on the Force Generating Subcommittee. COL Kurt Weinand (NCFA Staff) addressed the Commission regarding the significant decline in the number of RC units that are off-ramped after notification of sourcing for mobilization. COL Kelly Peters (NCFA Staff) spoke regarding the Individual Ready Reserve (IRR). She noted the Subcommittee's assessment that IRR Soldiers are not properly managed due to an inability to maintain accurate contact information, a lack of full-time manpower to contact IRR Soldiers, a lack of personnel to manage IRR Soldiers' personnel records, and insufficient funding for mustering IRR Soldiers. Sankar Bhattacharjee (NCFA Staff) reported on Mobilization Force Generation Installations (MFGI). He provided the Subcommittee's finding that Fort Bliss and Fort Hood are the only activated primary MFGI locations, but only Fort Hood has a permanent Pre-deployment Training Equipment (PDTE) set. The Subcommittee Chair asked Commission members to adopt the Subcommittee's proposals for action as Commission recommendations. Approval was unanimous.

- LTG (R) Stultz provided an update on the Institutional Subcommittee activities. Stultz recounted proposals presented during previous Open and Closed Meetings: Army National Guard's process for distributing force structure, Integrated Personnel and Pay System-Army (IPPS-A), potential for RC Trainee, Transient, Holdee, and Student (TTHS) accounts, and need to unify Army recruiting. The Chair polled the members and the subcommittee proposals were approved for action.

- HON Hicks provided an update from the Operational Subcommittee, which involved collecting perspectives on the future demand for the Army and the future operational environment. Hicks also spoke on the subcommittee's classified analysis regarding size, structure, component end-strength, stationing, and current and future demand for Army forces.

- HON Hale updated the Commission on the Aviation Subcommittee activities. He explained the subcommittee was finalizing its work regarding the AH-64 Apache transfer and related issues. At the Chair's request, HON Hale also addressed his personal assessment of the recent Bi-Partisan Budget Agreement legislated by Congress.

- GEN (R) Ham, Drafting Subcommittee Chair, provided a quick update on subcommittee activities. He noted that individual chapter writing teams with one Commissioner and two NCFAs staff members have been established. An editing team comprised of the NCFAs Executive Director, Staff Director, and Editor was beginning to assess text consistency.

### **Public Comments**

Although time was allocated, no one asked to make public comments at this meeting.

### **Chairman closing remarks; DFO closing remarks**

Chairman Ham announced the next public hearing will be held in Arlington, Virginia, on December 17th, 2015.

**The DFO adjourned the meeting at 1550 hours.**