



National Commission on the Future of the Army

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National Commission on the Future of the Army Discusses Progress on its Final Report

With the deadline of the release just over two months away, the National Commission of the Future of the Army (NCFA) held its seventh and penultimate open meeting in the Washington, D.C. area; this time taking no public testimony.

The Commission opened with a summary of activities since its last open hearing – a meeting with OSD leadership on future demands and threats; a site visit to the Joint Air Defense Operations Center; a future environment discussion with Col. (Ret.) Douglas MacGregor from the Burke-Macgregor Group LLC; a discussion with the CSA and VCSA; as well as correspondence from the Adjutants General of the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico, and members of the U.S. Senate.

The subcommittees each presented findings and recommendations for inclusion in the final report. “The Commissioners have spent the last two days behind closed doors working through the specifics of each recommendation,” Gen. (Ret.) Carter Ham stated, the Chairman of the Commission. “We have a sensible approach – one that leads us through a series of cohesive steps designed to stimulate the right questions and provide a framework linking them to relevant and feasible solutions.”

The operational subcommittee is finalizing its classified conclusions and will begin work on an unclassified version for the public report. Likewise, the aviation subcommittee is still reviewing structure and organizational options, such as multi-component units sharing equipment, but will make final recommendations for the report at a later date.

The generating force subcommittee presented recommendations on three topics: Reserve Component off-ramping, Inactive Ready Reserve (IRR) and Inactive National Guard, and Mobilization Force Generating Installation (MGFI). Both discussions on IRR and MFGI will incur recommendations starting with the legal review of the IRR program while the base recommendation for MFGI includes establishing a second pool of pre-deployment training equipment (PDTE) at Fort Bliss.

The institutional subcommittee is still reviewing recruiting and training options, yet offered some recommendations on officially codifying the already stable structure-allocation process, continuing IPPS-A funding, and allowing a TTHS-like capacity during times of national emergency.

“We have tried to be as thorough as possible, and cover just about every asset and scenario imaginable,” said Thomas R. Lamont, Vice Chairman. “One theme remains constant as we look at the profitability of the force – utilization of the Reserve Components of the Army.”

The NCFA has been charged by Congress to examine the structure of the Army and policy assumptions related to the size and force mix. The Commission will make recommendations on modifications to the structure of the Army based on current and anticipated mission

requirements and acceptable levels of national risk, consistent with anticipated resources. The Commission will also specifically examine the transfer of Army National Guard AH-64 Apache attack helicopters from the Army National Guard to the Regular Army. The Commission will issue its report no later than February 1, 2016.

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