



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) Operational Subcommittee 15 DEC 15 Meeting Minutes

Date: 15 December 2015

Time: 0910 – 1100 hours

Location: Taylor Building, Arlington, VA

Format: Subcommittee meeting with Operational Subcommittee Chair and Commissioners

Attendees:

HON Kathleen Hicks – Operational Subcommittee Chair

GEN (Ret) Carter Ham – Commissioner

LTG (Ret) Stultz – Commissioner

SMA (R) Raymond Chandler – Commissioner

MG (R) Carpenter – NCFA Executive Director

Mr. Donald Tison – Designated Federal Officer (DFO)

MAJ Vinson Morris – Subcommittee DFO

Mr. Kerry Schindler – NCFA Staff

Mr. Scott Sharp – NCFA Staff

Mr. Jason Southerland – NCFA Staff

MAJ Benjamin Fernandes – NCFA Staff

Documents Submitted to Subcommittee:

- Operational Subcommittee Multicomponent Units paper 17 DEC 15

At 0910 hours, the DFO discussed the applicable Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) provisions for the Commission; including changes based on the FY 16 NDAA. Sec. 1061 provision exempted NCFA from specified FACA requirements when less than five Commissioners are present. The Subcommittee noted the provision and decided to continue conducting their meeting as all previous meetings without applying the exemption.

The Chair verbally reviewed the new NCFA report outline approved by the Drafting Subcommittee. The changes involved shifting and combining many elements of the original proposed chapters with only the Aviation and National Guard allocation topics as originally planned.

The Commissioners discussed the different models used to support Commission analysis, including differences between what the Commission's approach to modeling and the Army's Total Army Analysis (TAA) process. This understanding of methodology will be integrated into the NCFA report classified annex.

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The Commissioners debated phrasing a recommendation concerning minimum end strength for the final report and whether it made sense to provide a further caveat with references to a specific Department of Defense guidance. The decision was made to reference how the Army had met DOD guidance to date.

The Subcommittee then discussed other key capabilities which may warrant specific recommendations in the report and the priority associated with each capability. Capabilities under consideration included Short Range Air Defense; Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear units; and armed reconnaissance aviation. Commissioners agreed that each of these capabilities warranted inclusion in the NCFA final report.

Next, the Subcommittee reviewed the Operational Subcommittee Multicomponent Units paper dated 17 December 2015. The paper included a brief history of multicomponent unit initiatives within the Army recommendations for the full Commission's consideration. The Subcommittee approved the paper for the Chair to present during the NCFA Open Meeting on 17 December 2015.

Finally, the Subcommittee reviewed the list of all Subcommittee reports to the full Commission from previous NCFA Open and Closed meetings. The list was approved and the Subcommittee determined the MCU paper would be their last report to the full Commission.

The meeting adjourned at 1100 hours.