



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 – 27 AUG 15, British Embassy

Date: 27 August 2015

Time: 1010 - 1115

Location: British Embassy, Washington, D.C.

Format: round table discussion

Attendees:

Hon. (Dr.) Kathleen Hicks – Commissioner

Mr. Jason Southerland – NCFA Staff

Mr. Mark von Heeringen – Alternate Designated Federal Officer (ADFO)

Brigadier James Illingworth – Military Attaché Embassy Staff

Documents Submitted to Commission: None during this session

Meeting Summary

The Commission continues to meet with representative from allied and partner nations to capture their perspectives as the United States balances the size and mix of the Army and resources. Engaging key allies to understand their perspectives in balancing national security risk, declining defense resources in the current environment is an important element of the Commission's deliberative effort. The Commission is cognizant that the security interests of the United States and its partners and allies are inextricably linked.

Due to the sensitivity of the topics discussed and the inextricable connection to classified national security topics, the minutes below cover the topics discussed at a level of detail appropriate for the open source reporting required by law.

The ADFO opened the meeting at 1010hrs by explaining the Commission's responsibilities and the application of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA). Commissioner Hicks and Brigadier Illingworth then discussed the following topics:

- 1) The British approach to incorporating expected U.S. force contributions into British force planning.
- 2) The British perspective on the future threat landscape.
- 3) The importance of interoperability between U.S. and allied forces.

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- 4) Critical United States Army capabilities to support allied forces.
 - a. Mission Command
 - b. Missile Defense
 - c. Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance
 - d. Strategic Airlift
 - e. Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear
 - f. Combat Search and Rescue
 - g. Cyberspace
- 5) Impact of U.S. global posture, forward stationed forces, rotational forces, and pre-positioned equipment stocks.
- 6) U.S. and United Kingdom perspectives and differences on reserve force capabilities and utilization.
- 7) The effects of declining budgets on British and American defense.

Brigadier Illingworth is open to subsequent discussions to ensure the Commission has any information required. The meeting adjourned at 1115 hours.