



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 Sub-Committee minutes for the 20 July 15, Ally Engagement with Republic of Korea Attaché

Date: 20 July 2015

Time: 1430-1530

Location: Center for Strategic and International Studies, 1616 Rhode Island Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20036

Format: Information gathering meeting with senior allied official

Attendees:

COMMISSION PARTICIPANTS: HON Dr. Kathleen Hicks, Mr. Scott Sharp; MAJ Vinson Morris Assistant Designated Federal Officer (ADFO)

ACADEMIC PARTICIPANTS: MG Kyoung Soo Shin, Defense Attaché, Embassy of the Republic of Korea (ROK)

Documents Submitted to Commission: None at this meeting

Meeting Summary

This discussion with ROK Defense Attaché was the first in a series of multinational engagements by the Operational subcommittee. The Operational subcommittee plans to meet with representative from 12 allied and partner nations to gain their perspectives on how the United States balances the size and mix of the Army and resources. Additionally, information will be sought from these key allies to help understand their perspectives on how their nation balances national security risk with declining defense resources. The Operational subcommittee is considering how the security interests of the United States and its partners and allies are inextricably linked.

After introductions, the ADFO discussed the requirements of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and its applicability to the NCFA Operational Subcommittee and explained the Commission's responsibilities. Commissioner Hicks and MG Shin then discussed the following topics:

1. The 2012 Defense Strategy shifting priority to the Pacific and its manifestation on the Korean peninsula and the region.

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2. The key attributes of rotational presence as a deterrent on the peninsula verses forward stationed. The relative reliance on US ground force capacity (size) vice specific capabilities (enablers).
3. Principal considerations as the ROK rebalances ground forces within national priorities.
4. Current investments in U.S. special capabilities; CYBER, Air & Missile Defense, Weapons of Mass Destruction Elimination, Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance, and Mission Command.
5. How the ROK Army views expansibility with its 2.9M Reserve Component.
6. How the ROK expresses national risk and risk to force to their legislator and public.

The meeting adjourned with MG Shin offering to meet again to ensure the Commission has any information required.