



## **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, May 20, 2015**

Present:

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

Designated Federal Officer – Mr. Don Tison (Designated Federal Officer)

Attendees: In accordance with the provisions of Public Law 92-463, the meeting was open to the public from 9:00 A.M. to 12:04 P.M. There were approximately 68 members of the public present for this event.

Agenda: Announced that Association of the United States Army requested to reschedule to the June 2015 open meeting and that request was accepted.

Call to order

Procedures for speakers – DFO discussed procedures

Chairman's update – Chair provided short update on Commission activities to date

Speakers from:

[National Guard Association of the United States \(NGAUS\)](#)

[Reserve Officers Association \(ROA\)](#)

[The Adjutants General Association of the United States \(AGAUS\)](#)

[Army Aviation Association of America](#)

[Army and National Guard Bureau-Aviation Restructure Initiative](#)

[Government Accountability Office \(GAO\)-Aviation Alternatives Report](#)

[Public Comments](#)

[DFO Closing remarks; Chairman and Vice closing remarks](#)

## **National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS)**

President, National Guard Association of the United States  
(NGAUS)

Major General Gus Hargett, USA Retired

One Massachusetts Avenue, NW

Washington, D.C. 20001

MG(R) Hargett provided written statement and voiced five recommendations from the NGAUS: (1) Sustain the combat role of the ARNG as an integral part of our nation's first line of defense; (2) Sustain the personnel end strength of the ARNG; (3) Continue the operational employment of ARNG units in missions overseas to sustain a base of operational experience; (4) Assure the ARNG receives modern equipment in order to bolster interoperability with the active component (AC); and (5) Shape Army leadership culture to assure that senior leaders have Total Force experience. He also commented that the AC was at risk of becoming dangerously too small.

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## **Reserve Officers Association (ROA)**

Executive Director, Reserve Officers Association (ROA)

Major General Jeffrey E. Phillips

One Constitution Ave NE

Washington, DC 20002

MG Phillips provided a written statement and expressed his organization's general and specific recommendations. General recommendations: (1) embrace the imperative of an operational reserve, (2) need for the Army to fully embrace the Army Total Force Policy, and (3) preserve the separate entities and roles of the United States Army Reserve (USAR) and the Army National Guard (ARNG). Specific recommendations: (1) make better use of mobilization authority provided by Section 12304(b) of Title 10, (2) support using Army Reserve capabilities at a governor's request under expanded authority with 10 US Code 12304(a), (3) place qualified Reserve and Guard members in senior roles at the three- and perhaps four-star rank, (4) ensure senior active Army leaders have some reasonable RC experience serving with a reserve entity, (5) sort out the true costs of Active versus Reserve units, (6) reform Joint Qualification standards to reflect improvements in education delivery, and (7) enhance educational opportunities across the board for RC Soldiers.

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## **The Adjutants General Association of the United States (AGAUS)**

President, Adjutants General Association of the U.S. (AGAUS)

Major General Edward W. Tonini

100 Minuteman Parkway

Frankfort, KY, 40601-6168

Maj Gen Tonini provided a collection of papers and slides described as “This packet of information is a body of work shared by the entirety of the National Guard at the state’s level that began in earnest the summer of 2014 and is still being staffed today.” He discussed desire for the Commission to provide an unbiased look in the best interest of the United States. He further discussed the accessibility, affordability and readiness of NG units. He also commented on disagreement with the Aviation Restructure Initiative (ARI).

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### **Army Aviation Association of America**

President, Army Aviation Association of America  
Brigadier General E.J. Sinclair, USA Retired  
593 Main St.  
Monroe, CT 06468

BG (R) Sinclair provided a page of text and stated that his association would remain neutral in respect to ARI. His key points addressed affordability and force structure, capability, modernization, and readiness related to Army aviation. He expressed his opinion that Army aviation is underfunded.

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### **Army and National Guard Bureau-Aviation Restructure Initiative**

COL John J. Lindsay  
Director, Army Aviation  
HQDA DCS, G-3/5/7  
400 Army Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20310

COL Lindsey provided a collection of papers and slide concerning the Aviation Restructure Initiative (ARI) and spoke on behalf of the Army. He gave a brief history of why the Army created the ARI plan and how the plan was approved. He also cited various analyses completed by outside organizations related to the cost methodology and sufficiency of forces used by the Army.

BG Walter Fountain  
Special Assistant to the Director, Army National Guard  
111 S. George Mason Drive  
Arlington, VA 22204

The National Guard Bureau (NGB) alternative was briefed by BG Fountain. He stated that the NGB supports most of the ARI. BG Fountain used a slide and explained the NGB alternative focusing on where the alternative differed from ARI (e.g. transfer of all AH-64 aircraft from NG to Regular Army).

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## **Government Accountability Office (GAO)-Aviation Alternatives Report**

John H. Pendleton, Director

Force Structure and Readiness Issues

Defense Capabilities and Management Team U.S. Government Accountability Office

Mr. Pendleton provided a written statement and discussed GAO report reviewing the various estimates and analyses related to ARI and the NG Alternative. He provided insights on both proposals but made no recommendations. He also cited other GAO reports on Army force structure and force designs that may be relevant for the Commission's tasks. He recommended the Commission hear from the TRADOC Analysis Center on classified study for operational output.

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### **Public Comments**

No one sought to make public comments.

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### **DFO Closing remarks; Chairman and Vice closing remarks**

Noted the next public hearing in Fayetteville, North Carolina on June 10, 2015.

Adjourned the meeting.

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