



## National Commission on the Future of the Army

**IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **National Commission on the Future of the Army Wraps Up Two-Day Visit to Washington**

National Commission on the Future of the Army finished up a two day trip to Joint Base Lewis McChord (JBLM) Sep. 24-25. Commission Vice Chairman Hon. Tom Lamont along with Commissioners Sgt. Maj. (Ret.) Raymond Chandler and Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Jack Stultz began with a visit to Camp Murray at the Wash. Army National Guard Headquarters. They received briefings from Maj. Gen. Bret Daughterty, the Wash. Adjutant Gen., and several senior leaders from his staff.

Beyond information on domestic missions, overseas deployment missions, state partnerships programs, and force structure reductions, the highlight of the discussion centered on Total Force partnership. "A theme that seems to be emerging more and more as we visit Guard units through the States is that the discord between the Guard and Regular Component resides totally within the Beltway," said Lamont. "As a commission assessing the balance of force mix we must consider the Total Force partnership and such examples were demonstrated by WAARNG through their combat arms alignment of forces, aviation direct support to I Corps, and Special Forces training."

Commissioners next met with the 807th Medical Command and 396th Combat Support Hospital of the Army Reserve. Discussions included the challenges confronting these units, including medical recruiting, standardized training, and reductions of full-time-support manning.

"We can't afford to be parochial anymore," said Commissioner Stultz. "We need to look at more innovative ways to manage the Guard and Reserve using different types of full-time workforce models."

Later that afternoon, the commissioners held an open meeting to hear from the public on the commission's mission. The event was well attended and the commissioners took testimony from state and local officials, congressional offices, community leaders, veterans, and other private citizens. The overall message from the speakers was the JBLM is a great installation and provides tremendous support to Soldiers.

A full day was dedicated to spending time with I Corps and touring the power projection platforms integrated with Joint Base Lewis McChord (JBLM). The Commissioners visited the JBLM Railhead and Contingency Stocks Warehouse as well as McChord Airfield. At both places commissioners witnessed loading operations of Stryker vehicles. The tour ended with a visit to the Port of Tacoma.

"Site visits such as these are critical to the commission as we rely on open, honest, and candid on-the-record responses to our questions," said Commissioner Ray Chandler. "As we end the travel portion and prepare for our analytics phase we see many areas where capacity can be better utilized. We look

forward to placing objectivity and methodology behind analysis in the upcoming months as we prepare the report to Congress."

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 anticipated mission requirements and acceptable levels of national risk, consistent with available and anticipated future 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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