

STATEMENT BY

**MG GLENN H. CURTIS
PRESIDENT
ADJUTANT GENERALS ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES**

**BEFORE THE
COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF THE ARMY**

August 18, 2015

Good morning. My name is Glenn Curtis, Adjutant General of Louisiana. I am speaking to you today in my capacity as President of the Adjutants General Association of the United States. I am here with six of my colleagues and none of us are on active duty orders and no one in the Defense Department has seen, reviewed or approved our remarks. We represent the 54 Adjutants General.

I'll begin by re-stating our primary goal for the outcome of this Commission. We want a Total Army that is in the best interest of the United States. Not a Total Army that is in the best interest of Louisiana or the Army National Guard, or in the best interest of the states represented by my fellow TAGs who are here with me today.

There is no substitute for land power in the joint fight of the 21st century and no one can replace the active duty's leadership role. We do not seek to be a separate service and are proud of our role in the total force Army, which is unique. We are the Army's primary combat reserve and the Nation's first military responder. We want a Total Army that is in the best interest of our nation.

To that end, my colleagues and I are presenting to this commission a set of written testimonies and white papers that support these interests. The topics include Affordability, Capability, Accessibility, Readiness, Full-

Time Support, and the need for Combat Power in the Guard. We picked those topics because we thought about what questions we might be asking ourselves if we were given the task that Congress has placed before you. Then we set about to provide answers to those questions.

All of our analysis and supporting data can be found in the white papers we've presented today. We hope you find them useful in answering these and other questions that have relevance for this Commission.

With regards to Value

1. What does RAND really claim about the relative cost between the Active and Reserve Component?
2. Is it really a long-standing myth that the Reserve Component is cheaper than the active component?

With regard to Capability

3. Is the Army National Guard interchangeable with the Active Component?
4. Upon deployment is an Army Guard formation as effective as its Active Component Counterpart?

With regard to Accessibility

5. When has the Guard been inaccessible?

6. How does General Grass's "All-In" memo affect Guard accessibility?

With regard to Readiness:

7. Why does RAND state that it takes 165 days for a Guard BCT to prepare for deployment when the DoD and history says it takes between 50-110 days?

8. Can the Guard mobilize faster?

The next two questions don't belong into any of the previous categories.

9. What factors caused the Guard's increase in Full Time Support personnel over the last decade?

10. Why does the Guard need combat formations?

As I stated earlier, we've answered each of these questions—and more—in our white papers. And through our research we found that we are in agreement with many others, to include former Army Chiefs of Staff General Raymond Odierno and General Gordon Sullivan. Both have said that the planned drawdown in the Total Army is a dangerous path given the reality of the world we live in. We unanimously concur and believe that the quality and efficiency of the National Guard is part of the solution.

In closing, I want to express my sincere thanks to Congress for creating this commission and to all of you for serving on the commission. I do not envy your task. The 54 Adjutants General represent the military's closest contact to our citizens, your National Guard. We live next door to them, share the same sidewalks, send our kids to the same schools, and share our faith in the same Churches. We want what Americans throughout the ages have wanted, a secure nation that protects the fundamental rights that our founding fathers established in the constitution. We are here today and anytime you need us, to be part of the solution, an equal partner, a willing participant to engage in meaningful conversation about the future of our Total Army and what's best for our nation.