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ARMY AND AIR FORCE NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE COMPONENT EQUIPMENT POSTURE

HEARING

BEFORE THE

AIR AND LAND FORCES SUBCOMMITTEE

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED ELEVENTH CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

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ARMY AND AIR FORCE NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE COMPONENT EQUIPMENT POSTURE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
AIR AND LAND FORCES SUBCOMMITTEE,
Washington, DC, Thursday, April 22, 2010.

The subcommittee met, pursuant to call, at 1:31 p.m., in room 2118, Rayburn House Office Building, Hon. Adam Smith (chairman of the subcommittee) presiding.

OPENING STATEMENT OF HON. ADAM SMITH, A REPRESENTATIVE FROM WASHINGTON, CHAIRMAN, AIR AND LAND FORCES SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. SMITH. I call the meeting to order. Good afternoon.

The Air and Land Forces Subcommittee meets today to receive testimony on the equipment status and the requirements of the Army and Air Force National Guard and Reserve components.

I will apologize as an initial matter. We probably won't have that many members at the committee today, since the House concluded its business for the week a little over an hour ago; and many members, I am sure, are heading back to their districts as quickly as possible. But Mr. Bartlett and I are, I believe, more than capable of holding down the fort; and we will accommodate anybody else who does show up.

But I want to thank our witnesses for being here today and welcome them. We have Major General Raymond Carpenter, who is the Acting Deputy Director of the Army National Guard. We have Lieutenant General Harry M. Wyatt, III, Director of the Air National Guard; Lieutenant General Jack C. Stultz, Chief, U.S. Army Reserve; and Lieutenant General Charles E. Stenner, Jr., Chief, U.S. Air Force Reserve. Thank you, gentlemen, all for being here.

Since September, 2001, almost 600,000 selected guardsmen and reservists have deployed in support of combat operations, representing 40 percent of the total selected reserve force of 1.4 million troops. All 34 Army National Guard combat brigades have deployed to either Iraq or Afghanistan. This is an unprecedented deployment schedule that has placed an enormous strain and burden on those in the Guard and Reserve and their families as well.

But they have also performed with incredible ability. All of us on this committee have had the opportunity in Iraq and Afghanistan and certainly back here as well to visit with those troops, and they have done an incredible job for us while at the same time maintaining their domestic obligations and responding to a variety of emergencies as well. And we thank you four gentlemen for your outstanding leadership and for the service all those who serve

under you have provided for our country. We could not be more proud of their performance.

Last year, Secretary Gates adopted 82 recommendations from the congressionally mandated Commission on the National Guard and Reserves. One of those recommendations was to equip and resource the Guard and Reserve component as an operational reserve, rather than the Cold War model of a strategic reserve.

Additionally, the Chief of the National Guard Bureau is now a 4-star general, giving him equal status among the Nation's senior officers.

The old strategic reserve model assumed very few mobilizations and assumed risk with inadequate equipping strategies. The change to an operational reserve status coincident with the reorganization of the Army has greatly increased the amount of equipment Guard and Reserve units are required to have.

While the Department is making improvements in progress and providing adequate funding to equip the Guard and Reserve components to enhance its role as an operational reserve, there are a significant number of units that do not have their required equipment; and this is the big issue that we wish to talk about today.

We understand with the strains that have been put upon the force since 9/11 with Iraq and Afghanistan we are doing whatever we can to make sure that our warfighters out there in the field have what they need, and there are changes that have to be made. But, at the same time, we want to make sure that your Guard and Reserve components are adequately equipped for the mission that we are asking you to do. As difficult as that is, this committee is very committed to trying to find the way forward to make sure that it happens.

The witnesses have been asked to clearly lay out what equipment levels their organizations are required to have and how those requirements have changed, as well as what equipment levels they actually have on hand. While most Guard and Reserve units deployed overseas have all the equipment they require, many of those units don't get all that equipment until just before deployment, in some cases after they deploy, which makes training to deploy very difficult.

Aging aircraft continues to be a critical issue for the Air National Guard. Air National Guard aircraft are, on average, 28 years old, with the KC–135 tankers averaging 48 years old. And, again, I should point out it is a major priority for this committee to get you a new tanker. There have been a couple of bumps in that road, as we all know, but we are proceeding forward, and we will continue to press to make sure that happens as soon as it possibly can. We very clearly understand the need.

If the problems of equipment shortages and aging equipment persist, the National Guard and Reserve units that, while very dedicated and willing, may simply not be able to adequately respond to domestic emergencies, let alone train for combat.

Congress has not hesitated in trying to address the equipment readiness shortfalls we have noted in many Guard and Reserve units. Guard and Reserve component procurement for fiscal year 2004 to fiscal year 2010 has totaled approximately $42.1 billion, averaging almost $6 billion per year. Since 2004, Congress has pro-

vided approximately $7 billion in a separate dedicated equipment account entitled the National Guard and Reserve Equipment Account. This funding has enjoyed sustained bipartisan support both on this committee and throughout Congress.

And, finally, we expect to gain a better understanding of the progress that has been made on improving visibility of tracking equipment requirements through budgetary preparation and review, appropriations funding allocation and, ultimately, in the distribution of new equipment.

That concludes my statement. I will submit the full statement for the record.

[The prepared statement of Mr. Smith can be found in the Appendix on page 31.]

Mr. SMITH. With that, I will turn it over to the ranking member on the committee, Mr. Bartlett, for his opening statement.

STATEMENT OF HON. ROSCOE G. BARTLETT, A REPRESENTATIVE FROM MARYLAND, RANKING MEMBER, AIR AND LAND FORCES SUBCOMMITTEE

Mr. BARTLETT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I want to thank our witnesses for being with us today. Thank you very much for your service to your country and for being here with us today.

Mr. Chairman, the reserve component is no longer considered a strategic reserve and is now considered an operational reserve. I look forward to hearing from our witnesses as to how this transition is going and what, if any, the long-term impacts might be.

From an equipment perspective, I absolutely agree that if we are going to continue to expect so much from our reserve forces then not only must we properly equip them in terms of numbers of equipment but also equip them with modern equipment. While I have some concerns regarding modernized equipment for the Army Guard and Reserves, I have major concerns for our Air Guard. The Air Force proposed major changes to force structure along with the fiscal year 2010 budget request. I, along with most of the other members of this committee, was very concerned that these force structure changes were solely the result of a budget exercise that failed to account for the actual military requirements needed to address the security challenges of today and the future. Seeing the short-term perspective, the QDR [Quadrennial Defense Review] and the 30-year aviation plan has only added to my concern.

In this past week, we have received the final three reports required by last year's legislation: one on the Combat Air Force restructuring, one on the fighter force structure, and one on the potential to meet fighter shortfalls by procuring new F–15s, F–16s and F–18s. Those reports, which are unfortunately classified and cannot be fully discussed here, did little to change my belief that the budget is driving the force structure requirements, instead of the other way around.

The fiscal year 2010 budget request targeted the fighter force structure, and it appears that the 2011 budget targets the tactical airlift force structure in a similar manner. The proposed movement of C–130s from the Air National Guard to the active component is very troubling to me. The C–130s play a key role in the Guard's

Title 32 responsibilities and are critical assets for the Nation's ability to respond to most any type of domestic event such as natural disaster or terror attack.

It is unclear to me how we arrive at a point that the active Air Force has to take aircraft in the Air National Guard if what we have been told about the budget is true. In my mind, if the military requirements were, in fact, being met by the budget request, then this attempt at robbing Peter to pay Paul would not be taking place.

I also believe that these shortfalls in tactical aircraft could have been mitigated if we had stuck to the plan to procure 78 Joint Cargo Aircraft [JCA], but, unfortunately, that program was cut as well.

I find this all very troubling, and I hope our witnesses today can help us understand just how much additional risk we have been asked to take. Thank you.

Mr. SMITH. Thank you, Mr. Bartlett.

I will now proceed with the panel's testimony and then go into questions.

Without objection, all witnesses' prepared statements will be included in the hearing record. I would ask that you try to keep your remarks in the sort of 5-to-8-minute range, and we will have the maximum amount of time for questions.

With that, I will turn it over to General Carpenter for his opening remarks.

STATEMENT OF MAJ. GEN. RAYMOND W. CARPENTER, USA, ACTING DIRECTOR, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

General CARPENTER. Thank you, Chairman Smith, Ranking Member Bartlett, distinguished members of the subcommittee.

It is my honor and privilege to be here today representing over 360,000 Army National Guardsmen, over 50,000 who are currently deployed and on point for our Nation.

I wish to thank you for the opportunity to share relevant information on the equipment posture of the Army National Guard. We thank you for your continued support in sustaining the initiatives.

Today, we would like to discuss our critical dual-use equipment, our critical need for certain configurations of the high-mobility, multipurpose wheeled vehicles fondly called the Humvees, the National Guard and Reserve Equipment Account, and the improvements in the modernization and making our facilities energy efficient.

The Army National Guard equipment levels for domestic missions had fallen from 70 percent in 2001 to as low as 40 percent in 2006. Several factors contributed to the decline of the Army Guard equipment levels: changing requirements, equipment destroyed during combat operations, and equipment left in theater for other units.

Current equipment levels as of April, 2010, are 77 percent equipment on hand; and 83 percent of that equipment is subset critical dual-use equipment, is available for domestic response missions.

During fiscal year 2009, the Army G8 released a new Army equipping strategy that establishes a goal of at least 80 percent of equipment on hand for critical dual use for Army Guard units, that

being in the State, available for the governor, regardless of their rotation status in the Army force generation cycle.

The Army National Guard has a fiscal year 2011 authorization for 48,712 Humvees, with 96 percent of those Humvees on hand. Although we are approaching 100 percent equipment on hand, only about 10,000, or around 20 percent, of our authorized fleet is currently modernized. Based on the Army enterprise equipping and reuse conference projections, this number will grow to about 15,000, or approximately 30 percent, by the end of fiscal year 2011, assuming scheduled deliveries are executed as planned.

Congress has been very responsive to the Army National Guard requirements. The National Guard and Reserve Equipment Account [NGREA] has been especially supportive in the pursuit of our equipping for the force. The Army Guard via NGREA received $770 million for fiscal year 2006, $1.1 billion for fiscal year 2007, $1.3 billion for fiscal year 2008, and $779 million for fiscal year 2009. This funding has been used for critical dual-use equipment for command and control, communications, aviation, force protection, including civil support teams, engineering, logistics, maintenance, medical, security, and transportation, our essential 10 capabilities available for the governors if there is a requirement.

In your letter, you asked about the status of funds provided for 2008, 2009, and 2010. Overall, we have used these funds to purchase stocks of radios, trucks, night vision devices, small arms, and communications equipment to fill our most critical gaps. Some of this funding still remains to be executed, but it is always focused on our most urgent priority needs.

Progress is also being made in the visibility and transparency of tracking equipment funds from appropriation through procurement to actual fielding.

The Army National Guard has worked and continues to work with the Army to improve transparency, and I am confident we have a path to success in the future. The Army National Guard will continue to focus on our equipping levels, especially for our critical dual-use equipment, enhance our emphasis on energy efficiency and our readiness centers, provide a logistics training that supports the Army force generation cycle, and procure vehicles that meet our training needs as well as our domestic and contingency operation needs.

The Army National Guard renders a dual federal and state role and provides unique support to our Nation in a cost-effective manner. Through adequate funding of resources and leadership engagement in the equipment fielding and transparency driven by ongoing support from Congress, the Army National Guard will continue to meet operational demands.

I appreciate the opportunity to be here today and look forward to your questions.

[The prepared statement of General Carpenter can be found in the Appendix on page 33.]

Mr. SMITH. Thank you, General.

General Wyatt.

STATEMENT OF LT. GEN. HARRY M. WYATT III, USAF, DIRECTOR, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

General WYATT. Chairman Smith and Ranking Member Bartlett, distinguished members of the committee, thank you very much for the opportunity to visit with you today regarding the equipment posture of our Nation's Air National Guard, some 106,700 members strong.

Since 9/11, over 146,000 Air National Guard members have deployed overseas, many of them on second and third rotations to combat zones, 75 percent of those in a volunteer status. In the past year alone, we have deployed 18,366 service members to 62 countries and every continent, including Antarctica.

The stewardship of your committee and the level of commitment of our Nation's Department of Defense [DOD] and the U.S. Air Force have ensured these airmen go to war well-equipped, well-trained, and well-led. The Air Reserve components are part of a seamless, integrated total force team. We are very thankful for your support and everything you continue to do to ensure our members are appropriately equipped and trained in the performance of their duties.

The Air Force is in the midst of modernizing and recapitalizing its major weapons platforms, and the Air National Guard is a partner in this process. Many of the aircraft and operation today are much older than the airmen who fly and maintain them. Our aging aircraft fleet of aircraft must be recapitalized concurrently and in balance with our total Air Force partners in order to avoid near to midterm age-out of the fighter force our Guard airmen operate. To that end, we support the Air Force's recapitalization plan and have been working diligently to ensure all force structure road maps are inclusive of the Air National Guard.

Additionally, the Air National Guard as our Nation's cost-effective, ready and reliable force, accessible and available, continues to leverage the vast majority of its equipment as dual use, meaning it may be used to support both federal and state missions. This ensures that needed capabilities are available not only to combatant commanders but also for the governors and maintaining capabilities for homeland defense.

However, despite the overall excellent equipment support provided by the Air Force, the Air Guard still has shortfalls in critical support areas, including logistics, vehicles, and maintenance. Air National Guard equipment readiness presents greater challenges as long-term costs in operating and maintaining older aircraft continue to rise due to more frequent repairs, fluctuations in fuel prices, and manpower requirements. The cost of aircraft maintenance continues to rise significantly as we struggle to extend the life of our aging fleet.

These rising maintenance costs are not solely confined to aircraft. During the past year, we have worked with the adjutants general to develop an Air National Guard flight plan, which includes viable options for the Air National Guard. In the end, our goal is to ensure that all plans are concurrent and balanced for the entire, total Air Force.

I appreciate the opportunity to appear before you today on behalf of the men and women of our Nation's Air National Guard. I thank

you for your continuing outstanding support for the Air National Guard as it remains America's ready and reliable force as we meet the challenges of the 21st century.

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

[The prepared statement of General Wyatt can be found in the Appendix on page 47.]

Mr. SMITH. Thank you, General.

General Stultz.

STATEMENT OF LT. GEN. JACK C. STULTZ, USA, CHIEF, U.S. ARMY RESERVE

General STULTZ. Chairman Smith, Congressman Bartlett, other distinguished members of the subcommittee, thank you for the invitation to appear before you today on behalf of 207,749 Army Reserve soldiers who are currently deployed in 20 some countries around the world, as well as here in the continental United States.

We continue to transition from what was the strategic reserve that I entered way back in 1974—or, actually, 1979, after 5 years on active duty in 1974—to what we have today in operational reserve, where we keep 30,000 Army Reserve soldiers on active duty in addition to our 16,000 full-time military for this Nation. So out of an authorization of 205,000, we are providing roughly 45,000 full-time soldiers on a regular basis. It is a great return on investment for America, but we need to keep that force trained, ready, and equipped.

The Army Reserve has seen improvements in the amount of equipment on hand to meet requirements of an operational force. However, several barriers continue to slow the Army Reserve's transition from that strategic to an operational force.

The Army Reserve relies on internal lateral transfers and theater-provided equipment to meet current missions. Since we are currently at 80 percent equipment on hand but only 65 percent modernized, we continuously cross-level equipment to meet these needs. We are very thankful to Congress for helping us abate our equipment challenges through the National Guard and Reserve Equipment Account. These funds greatly add toward our operationalizing the Army Reserve by serving as a supplement to the planned Army procurement.

NGREA enables the Army Reserve to procure modernized equipment that the Army is unable to provide. For example, between 2009 and 2010, the Army Reserve was allocated $2.7 billion for equipment by the Congress and was appropriated $212 million through NGREA. We are procuring with that money power generation, field feeding, logistics systems, and tactical wheeled vehicles, in addition to what the Army is scheduled to provide for us. Our goal is to make the most effective and efficient use of these funds, to procure equipment that produces trained units that are ready to fight and win on the battlefield or respond to domestic homeland missions.

In order to successfully function as an operational reserve and support the Army force generation process, the Army Reserve requires a consistent and transparent stream of modernized equipment. The Army Reserve's equipping goal is to ensure that our soldiers train with and train on the latest equipment the Army uses

in the field as they progress through the cycles of the readiness model. Filling our unit requirements with current generation equipment increases our ability to meet premobilization training and readiness objectives in the Army force generation and maximize the boots on the ground time that those soldiers have when they are deployed.

The Army Reserve is working collaboratively with the Army and DOD to secure the critical resources required to produce individuals in units that can participate in a full range of missions in a cyclical manner. As directed by Army, we have transitioned our training programs to prepare our forces to perform full spectrum operations, increasing our capability but also requiring the equipment to do full spectrum operations.

We still have the challenge of modernizing key individual systems. I will give you one example. A family of medium tactical vehicles [FMTV], the FMTV percentage for the Army Reserve may be at 80 percent. However, the modernized is only 49 percent. And we see this across our force where we have equipment on hand that is in lieu of or substitute items for the modernized equipment that those soldiers will operate or need to train on to operate in theater.

One of the greatest challenges facing the Army Reserve today is having the right number of modernized equipment sets on hand to train prior to deployment. While we have seen improvements in equipment levels and upgraded modernized equipment, we continue to experience shortfalls. The NGREA, as I said before, is a great asset to us.

I look forward to your questions, but, on behalf of those 207,000 plus soldiers, I want to say thank you for the support that they have been given by you in the previous years and look forward to your support for the future.

Thank you, sir.

[The prepared statement of General Stultz can be found in the Appendix on page 58.]

Mr. SMITH. Thank you, General.

General Stenner.

STATEMENT OF LT. GEN. CHARLES E. STENNER, JR., USAF, CHIEF, U.S. AIR FORCE RESERVE

General STENNER. Thank you, sir.

Chairman Smith, Congressman Bartlett, distinguished members of the subcommittee, thank you as well for allowing us the opportunity to come today and give you a status report on the strength that we have here in the Air Force Reserve, the strength that you have in an Air Force that is doing the Nation's business right now around the world.

And I have with me today—I would like to introduce real briefly here—our Air Force Reserve Command, Command Chief Master Sergeant, Chief Dwight Badgett. He is here helping me in his capacity as the senior ranking enlisted member to keep track of the 72,000 members of the Air Force Reserve is the number we are growing to as we grow in all of the missions that the Air Force is doing, all the missions around the world. And as part of that three-component Air Force, the Air Force Reserve is pleased to be a full partner in that effort.

I will tell you that the authorizations that you have given us in the past have helped tremendously to keep us in a ready status, and we have been doing this as an Air Force for 19 years. Since the Desert Shield/Desert Storm days, we have had some folks in combat operations over the skies, in the Mideast and in other locations around the world continually.

We have a tempo that was sustainable, we have a predictable rotational base, and we keep our folks trained and ready using those authorizations, using the techniques and tools that we have to get those folks through the basic training and then through tech school, making them combat ready in a much shorter time than when they are only available to us on weekends. They are there training on the equipment, three components training on the same equipment and deploying with the same equipment that we have right now. Because we, as an Air Force, do manage and monitor the airplanes, the equipment as a three-component Air Force; and it is the NGREA dollars that are so precious to us as the Air Force Reserve. It helps us accelerate the buys on many of the things in the precision engagement kind of equipment in defensive systems and in irregular warfare combat gear that allow us to train on the same systems and sustain and maintain that combat capability that we have as a three-component Air Force.

You are getting a good deal. For only 5.3 percent of the military's budget, we have got 14 percent of the capability in the Air Force Reserve. We are partners in all of those missions, sir; and I think that pays the Nation big dividends.

The way ahead for us in equipment is to continue to sustain that increase and that increase in capacity, the production capacity that comes with those NGREA dollars in those three major areas. As we do that, I think we will grow in all those mission areas; and we will, in fact, adjust our active reserve component manpower, our authorizations. We will adjust the full time and part time to get more efficient in each of those areas, share where we do the equipment, use the equipment at the maximum rate we can use it. And in those associate concepts and constructs, we are able to seamlessly integrate, train, and ready to the same standards based on the readiness dollars we have and using and leveraging that equipment as part of that operational force that is, in fact, leveraged from the strategic reserve that we are.

We are ready for the major conflicts, and we are a full partner in a rotational basis on a daily basis. Associations, rebalancing, adjustments, and optimizing the equipment we have, utilizing the NGREA that we have got, focusing on precision engagement defensive systems and irregular warfare gear will help us prepare today for tomorrow and the future; and we will maintain that in a sustainable and predictable fashion with those 80 percent volunteers that are doing the business of the Nation around the world today.

I thank you for the opportunity, and I look forward to your questions.

[The prepared statement of General Stenner can be found in the Appendix on page 73.]

Mr. SMITH. Thank you very much, gentlemen.

We will go under the 5-minute rule here, try to keep things moving in an orderly fashion; and I will be under the 5-minute rule as well in terms of my questions.

I start with General Carpenter on the utility in up-armored Humvees. As you know, the Army has concluded that they have got enough basically and they are not building any more; and now they are basically recapping the existing fleet that is here and coming back from Iraq. In terms of your needs, will that sufficiently meet the requirements as you see them for your needs or do you think you will need more vehicles?

General CARPENTER. Sir, we worked with the Army as they went through the process of making this decision; and one of the guiding facts with regard to this whole decision process was that up-armored Humvees are no longer being used in Afghanistan and Iraq and they have given way to MRAPs [Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles]. So with that knowledge and understanding that there was a more modern vehicle on the horizon, the Army made the decision that they were going to terminate the procurement of a newer Humvee, those being the up-armored ones.

For us inside the Army National Guard, it is more of a modernization program than a deployment program. As I mentioned in my opening statement, 80 percent of our Humvees will be older than the 20-year mark by the time we get done using them. So our concern is to be able to sustain that fleet.

Part of the discussions with the Army as we made the decision was that they were going to put a certain amount of money against the recap program and that, additionally, they were going to cascade a certain number of those Humvees to us so that we could maintain something that looked like a modernized fleet.

To the extent that the Army keeps the promises that they have made, I think we are going to be in pretty good shape; And, in all honesty, the up-armored Humvees are of marginal use in some of our homeland defense responses. General Tonini from Kentucky can tell you that an up-armored Humvee doesn't have the greatest utility in an ice storm. So there is good reason for us to sustain the Humvee fleet within our organization.

Mr. SMITH. And you have enough in terms of the domestic needs. I understand that completely. But in terms of your training for when you are activated, is there a training requirement in terms of what you are going to actually be using in the field?

General CARPENTER. Yes, sir. That is important for us as we get ready to mobilize and deploy, to ensure that we have the up-armored version of the Humvee so that we have got a training set that we can train on in order to qualify our drivers.

Beyond that, we are also being fielded with MRAPs at selected places inside of our training base so that we can qualify those drivers in advance of mobilization and deployment. There is also a plan to put MRAP trainers throughout the National Guard. So if all of that stays in place, sir, I think we are going to be in pretty good shape.

Mr. SMITH. You have got what you need.

A question for the Air Force, both General Wyatt and General Stenner. I think the biggest concern on this committee when we look at the capitalization requirements for Guard and Reserve com-

ponents is the C–130. And the demand for those is great obviously in theater. More of those are being moved into the active component, and I think there was a concern on this committee whether or not the Guard and Reserve will have what they need in terms of 130s to meet their training in domestic mission. Can you walk us through that a little bit and what your confidence level is and whether or not you are going to have an adequate level of 130s?

General WYATT. Mr. Chairman, as you are aware, the Mobility, Capability Requirement Study [MCRS] was released and published late February, early March identifying a lower requirement and a current overcapacity of C–130s. It doesn't address the component necessarily where those aircraft are located, but it does address a lower number that are needed.

I think you see in the President's 2011 budget an effort to retire some of the older E models and H models, which are, again, aging airframes, costly to maintain and a direction where we need to go so that we can position ourselves for the missions of the future.

General Stenner and I have met extensively with the Air Force subsequent to the release of the President's budget, and we are addressing the C–130 issue that you have mentioned. In fact, we had another meeting on it today. I am confident that we will meet a resolution that will address the adjutants general need and the governors' need for domestic airlift and at the same time accomplish the President's budget initiative to save some money and move the force in the direction that it needs to go as far as tactical airlift is concerned.

Mr. SMITH. We will be watching that very closely.

General Stenner, just quickly. I am out of time, but go ahead for just a quick comment.

General STENNER. Yes, sir.

I will echo the comments that General Wyatt made. I will tell you that some of the things we are looking at is where it is smart to leverage the Guard and Reserve, that experience in depth, perhaps in a training role. How do we balance the Active and Reserve and Guard at that particular location and mission to get the most of it and then how then will that free up some of the other manpower to put into mission sets that the Air Force has been tasked with that we have been up until this point unable to finance and fund within the cap that we have on manpower? So I think that the 130 will be an example of how we might leverage other weapon systems as well by rebalancing and, in effect, using the amount of iron that we have, the amount of airplanes we have in a more efficient and effective manner, packaging it in associations.

Mr. SMITH. That makes sense. We will want to keep a careful eye to make sure you have enough to do that. But I think certainly I want to make the most out of what we have got.

Mr. Bartlett.

Mr. BARTLETT. Thank you very much.

I want to ask a couple of quick questions about the C–27J. It is my understanding that the original requirement, which has never been formally reduced, was 78 aircraft; is that correct?

Okay. And I am also assuming that that did not include aircraft that might be needed by the Guard for homeland security. That was just the combat forces. Am I correct with that?

General WYATT. I think you are correct, sir.

Mr. BARTLETT. And in spite of the fact that we originally said we needed 78, there has been no study that said we needed fewer and those 78 did not include the Guard's use for homeland security or stateside use, we are now buying only 38, and we can only account for 24 of those, and we are wondering where the others are going. If you could help us where they are going to be bedded down. And then the question is, with these reduced assets and the increased responsibilities that you have, how are you going to be able to meet these demands?

General WYATT. Congressman Bartlett, you are correct. The program of record is 38, and you are also correct that 24 have announced bed-down locations, four aircraft each at six different locations, leaving 14 aircraft yet to be decided as far as their bed-down location. That question is now being vetted through the Air Force's strategic basing executive steering group, which is the entity inside the Air Force that addresses locations according to the drafted criteria for that particular platform. And I am advised that a list of candidate bases, which will be the first glimpse as to where those aircraft may be located, will be coming out shortly.

As far as the need for additional C–27s, you mentioned the direct support mission. The direct support mission can be performed by other aircraft. So I guess my best answer to that would be that there continue to be discussions and analysis inside the Air Force to determine the best way to meet the direct support requirements that the Army has indicated and the proper aircraft mix, proper location, proper component to fly those missions.

Mr. BARTLETT. But isn't it true that our operations in Afghanistan beg for more rather than fewer 27Js because of the size of the fields and so forth there?

General WYATT. We take the request for forces, the request for capability from the combatant commanders. And I am aware there has been an additional request for direct support aircraft in theater. Again, whether that is filled by the C–27 or the C–130 depends upon the availability of aircraft and the specific type of direct support mission that the combatant commander is addressing. So it is difficult to answer your question without knowing specifically what the combatant commanders are requesting at any point in time.

There is a space issue, a ramp space issue in theater. We are limited in the numbers of aircraft, regardless of what types they are, just because of the limited number of square footage of concrete in theater. But certainly the direct support mission is an important one to the Air Force; and it is extremely important to the Air National Guard, since all 38 of those airplanes that you mentioned, the C–27s, are designated for the Air National Guard at this time.

Mr. BARTLETT. General, you mentioned in your unclassified report that the Air National Guard faces a capability gap in the near term which increases in the longer term. Additional delays in production rate, a decrease in the F–35 program will have a direct and proportionally negative impact on the Air Force and, therefore, the Air National Guard fighter gap. How big will this risk be as a re-

sult of your facing the Nunn-McCurdy breach and what can we do to mitigate it?

General WYATT. As you are aware, sir, most of the older block F–16 block 30s reside in the Air National Guard. So we face a recapitalization issue. It may be a little more imminent than the Air Force as a whole.

You are also very well aware that the Secretary of Defense has recently restructured the F–35 program; and it is essential that the program, as restructured, stay on target and be implemented as requested by the Secretary. Any delays create more difficulties for the Air National Guard to transition out of the old legacy airplanes that will be aging out into the new platforms. So timeliness is critical; and the program, as restructured, is of critical importance to the Air National Guard.

Mr. BARTLETT. Thank you.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. SMITH. Thank you.

Mr. Wilson.

Sorry. I should point out—well, Ms. Bordallo is not actually on this subcommittee, so we go in that order, though. With permission, I will call on her after Mr. Wilson.

Mr. WILSON. I am always happy to defer to Member Bordallo.

Mr. SMITH. Okay. Well, go ahead. Okay. Well, one of you has got to step forward here, So I will make the executive decision. Mr. Wilson go ahead, and then we will go to Ms. Bordallo.

Mr. WILSON. Thank you.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman; and thank all of you for your service here. And it is so impressive, your leadership is indeed.

The Guard and Reserve forces are moving from strategic reserve to operational reserve. As a 31-year veteran myself, it is so heartwarming to see the service of our young people. And I know firsthand. I have three sons in the Army National Guard, two sons who have served in Iraq, one has served in Egypt. So I know that our Guard members really want to be operational, not as I was for many years, truly in reserve. So thank you for what you do.

And, also, I am very grateful—my former National Guard unit, I just—I know how much it meant to them, the 218th Brigade, to serve in Afghanistan, led by General Bob Livingston. Truly, as I travel South Carolina today, people who served in Afghanistan, it was a life-changing, positive experience for the members of the National Guard. So thank you for what you do.

Looking back, I would like for all of you to reference how would you rate your ability from the equipment perspective to complete your missions in contrast to where we were pre-9/11, 2001? We can begin left to right.

General CARPENTER. Sir, first of all, let me thank you for your service and the service of your family and the service of the 218th Brigade. They did wonderful work over there at Task Force Phoenix, and they put in place some of the training base for the Afghan National Army and Afghan National Police that we are building on in theater today. So they can be very proud of what they have done over there.

I think that, in response to your question, there are two pieces, those two pieces being the quantity of equipment that we have in

the Army National Guard and the quality of equipment that we have in the National Guard. Pre-9/11, we had 70 percent of the equipment that we were authorized, but honestly much of it was not modern equipment. So as we saw our responsibility to mobilize and deploy our soldiers and what was the kind of equipment that was allowed for deployment in the theater and what the combatant commanders wanted there versus what the National Guard equipment set looked like, we found that there was a lot of equipment inside of our organization that was of the type that would not be allowed to even be deployed.

That was further exacerbated when we saw the results of Hurricane Katrina when we were looking for high-water vehicles in order to conduct operations in that particular emergency and disaster. And, again, the old deuce and a half that many of us grew up with was not adequate for what we were doing there. And I would point out that this year, in fiscal year 2011, we are going to retire the deuce and a half, which has been in our formation since the 1950s. That is a huge accomplishment, and I think it is a good indicator of where we are at in the modernization program.

As I pointed out, we have got 77 percent of the equipment we are supposed to have on hand across the entire Army National Guard. Now, it varies by State. Because as States mobilize and deploy that equipment, resident inside the State changes, and much of that equipment deploys with the organization when they leave. So the statistics I quoted at the outset, the critical dual-use equipment, which is available for both the homeland and the overseas mission, right now is at 83 percent. Sixty-six percent of that is available for the governors. So we have seen huge progress here inside the equipment counts, and that is due to the $32 billion that you all have invested in our organization as an operational reserve.

General WYATT. Congressman Wilson, from the Air National Guard standpoint, we have been an operational force I think probably out of necessity as we have evolved from the very first desert war. We have been an operational force for about the past 20 years. While we continue to—as far as an equipment standpoint—have the numbers of equipment that we need, our problem again is that qualitative issue. As the Air Force moves into more modern equipment, our challenge is to modernize our equipment to make sure that it remains compatible with that equipment flown by the active component.

We stress the importance of the NGREA account to help us do that. We know that recapitalization of the entire fleet is an expensive and time-consuming process, and we know that we can't get to recapitalization at the drop of a hat. So we have got to stress modernizing the equipment that we do have.

We also look at dual use when we expend our NGREA monies. Last year, I believe the amount was $135 million, critically important to getting us the communication links that we need to provide the type of targeting pods that we need, the type of protective equipment for our security forces and those first-responder-state mission-type folks that we have embedded inside the Air National Guard. So the quantitative is not necessarily the issue, but the qualitative and continuous modernization is what is important to us.

Mr. SMITH. Thank you.

General Stultz, you can go ahead quickly. We are out of time if you want to get to the next question. But take a quick stab at it, and then we will move one. We will probably have time for a second round, but go ahead.

General STULTZ. Yes, sir.

I would just like to echo what General Carpenter said. It is a situation of not just on hand but modernization. And, as I said earlier, we are at about 80 percent of on-hand equipment which is the highest we have ever been but only about 65 percent modernized.

And why that is important and the point I would make—and I will keep it short—it is not just about what they are able to do in theater. We provide them the best and the most modern equipment in theater. But if we don't have the modernized equipment back home, it reduces our strategic flexibility. And we have already experienced that where we have had units that were scheduled to deploy to Iraq and we wanted to remission them to Afghanistan because of the surge going on there but were unable to because they were going to fall in on provided equipment in Iraq. There is no provided equipment in Afghanistan, and the equipment back home was not the modernized equipment, and so it really limited our flexibility already there.

So I would stress that it is not just about having the right equipment for what is currently going on, it is having the right equipment that gives us the flexibility for the future requirements that we really don't have the forecast on.

Mr. SMITH. Thank you very much.

Ms. BORDALLO. Sorry.

Ms. BORDALLO. Thank you. Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Thank you for allowing me to ask questions on this important hearing even though I am not a member of this particular subcommittee; and I thank my colleague, Mr. Wilson, for offering me his slot.

Distinguished members of our panel, thank you for your testimony today; and I thank you for your dedication to our country.

My question is for General Carpenter in regards to the Joint Cargo Aircraft. The Army Guard fleet of C–12, C–23, and C–26 aircraft continues to age with no replacement in the future year's defense plan. And, finally, the mobility, capability, and requirement study released this year provides little details on the C–27J. The items I have listed leave me a little confused. Now, this aircraft is needed. However, we have cut the program from 78 to 38 aircraft; and the MCRS, a document that describes our mobility capabilities in the Air Force, barely addresses the aircraft. Our Army Guard planes are getting older; and, therefore, I would like to ask General Carpenter, how is the Army and the Army National Guard addressing the critical need to replace fixed-wing aircraft within the Army National Guard?

And I know that I am being a little bit redundant here. Congressman Bartlett touched on this. But I would like to have a clear answer on this.

General CARPENTER. Thank you for the question, Congresswoman Bordallo.

I think that you know that the Secretary of Defense made a decision this past year to transfer the C–27 program from the Army and from the Army National Guard to the Air Force. That left us with the C–23 aircraft that we currently have inside of the Army National Guard. Those C–23s continue to provide exceptional support in Iraq; and we have, I believe, 11 of those aircraft currently deployed.

The other thing that the C–23 does is it has a huge capability in the homeland mission in terms of being able to deliver smaller cargo loads in a very responsive manner. Since the C–27 program was transferred to the Air Force, our issue is to be able to maintain the capability of the C–23 inside the Army for the time that it is required, and we have a plan with the Army to do that. The C–12 fleet and the C–26 fleet are separate issues, and we are working with the Army on a modernization program for both of those aircraft. They have found a place, particularly in ISR [Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance] and in transportation of passengers in theater; and the value of that aircraft has been validated. And so we are continuing to work with the Army on the modernization piece for that.

I would defer to General Wyatt to discuss further the C–27 issue with regard to that part of your question.

General WYATT. Congresswoman, I think it has been pretty clear that the program of record on the C–27 is 38. We are taking a look at the request for forces in regard to the direct support mission from theater. It is true that the C–130s can handle some of that direct support, but the exact mix in relation to not just the direct support mission requirements but also perhaps the larger requirement of tactical airlift as set forth in the mobility capabilities requirement studies requires the Air Force to take a pretty long look at how we are going to meet both the MCRS requirements and the direct support requirements.

What that particular mix might be is still being discussed, and I wish I could be more specific than that, but I just don't have the exact numbers at this point in time. But it is going to be an issue here inside the Air Force as we talk about those requirements.

Ms. BORDALLO. Thank you very much.

I have one question, also. This has to do with the territory of Guam, which is important. This is concerning the bed-down of the JCA. Tomorrow, our staffs will be briefed on the bed-down plan for several airframes, including the JCA. Can we expect to see a bed-down plan that addresses the homeland defense requirements of the Guard to support the FEMA [Federal Emergency Management Agency] regions within U.S. and the territories?

Also, has there been any discussion about the requirements to support the Compact states in the Pacific? This is very important to the Guam National Guard and the Navy on Guam since we have an obligation to support the requirements of the freely associated States in the Pacific.

General WYATT. It seems to be in my lane. I will try to answer that one.

Your first question as to criteria on JCA C–27 bed-downs, does it include concern about the Homeland Security homeland defense region, and the answer is, yes, the criteria does consider that. It

is part of the criteria. It is not necessarily the most important but certainly an important one, a lot of different criteria going into the bed-down decision of where that airplane should be bedded down.

As far as the territories are concerned and the airlift support required to cover that part——

Ms. BORDALLO. The Micronesian area.

General WYATT. Yes, ma'am—is part of the MCRS studies that have already been accomplished.

Now, as to how the Air Force specifically will address that requirement is again being worked out as we study FEMA, as we study the airlift support for that part of the world and to CENTCOM [Central Command] and the other parts of the world. So it is kind of like a Rubik's Cube, trying to put all the requirements together and best deciding which airframes and what numbers support those particular requirements and which component, what type of associations we need as we transition in the future.

Ms. BORDALLO. Thank you very much.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for giving me this opportunity.

Mr. SMITH. Mr. Coffman.

Mr. COFFMAN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

First of all, thank you so much for your service. It is great to be with you in this committee today.

I myself served in the regular Army, the Army Reserve, the regular Marine Corps, and the Marine Corps Reserve. So I kind of wove in and out of active duty in the Reserves.

My question is, General Wyatt, to the National Guard, Air National Guard. Not every State, obviously, is getting the F–16 replacement, the F–35. The States that currently have them—Colorado is one of those States. We have the F–16, and we are awaiting a decision on whether or not we are going to have the F–35. Can you tell me where we are in the process right now in terms of making that decision?

General WYATT. Yes, sir. The Air Force is studying the different procurement schedules in the F–35. And, as you are aware, those procurement schedules have been recently restructured by the Secretary of Defense.

Last fall, the Air Force announced through their strategic basing executive steering group [SB–ESG] a process, 11 candidate bases, that would address the bed-down of the first, I think, 279 aircraft F–35s, about half of those roughly going to the training mission and about half were operational. The first 279 have been restructured as a part of the Secretary of Defense's restructuring of the program.

I think it is the intent of the Air Force that as we progress down the delivery schedule of that airplane that we will subsequently continue with the strategic basing executive steering group basing process using the criteria as may be amended through experience to consider those bases that might field the next tranche or the next portion, and I think what you are going to see is probably every two years there will be a release of a number of candidate bases.

Subsequent to the release of the candidate bases, they have to go through site evaluations, environmental impact studies, and

statements to determine—and help inform the Secretary and the Chief as they make their final determinations.

But certainly, Buckley, in Colorado, is one of the bases that is being considered. Now, where they will fall out as far as the next tranche, we will just have to wait and see as the basing group goes through its criteria evaluations.

Mr. COFFMAN. And how many Guard organizations that currently have the F–16 will not get the F–35 and will have to find an alternate mission?

General WYATT. I think the answer to that question would be determined by how many we ultimately acquire in the Air Force. The goal continues to be 1,763. The frequency and the rate that those are produced or required will determine to some extent what existing F–16 bases will be I think candidates for that particular airframe. We know that probably not all of our F–16 units will transition to the F–35, but we think all of our F–16 units, whether they transfer to the F–35 or some other legacy airplane as the Air Force fields F–35s, some of their more modern F–16s, F–15s will then float through the Air National Guard. So we see some of our F–16 bases being awarded the F–35, some being awarded later block F–16s, some transitioning into other missions like remotely piloted aircraft, distributed ground stations, intelligence cyber wings, emerging missions that will continue to be of vital importance to the U.S. Air Force. So to say how many, I cannot at this point in time. But that is kind of the process that we will go through.

Mr. COFFMAN. Do any of the members of the panel feel that there is equipment that is being decommissioned that should not be decommissioned? I think, General Carpenter, you mentioned the deuce and a half truck. Do you still feel that has life in it and that it shouldn't be decommissioned or that there is equipment that is being left in Iraq that shouldn't be left in Iraq?

General CARPENTER. From my perspective, we are getting the most modern equipment. We are getting equipment in quantities that we probably haven't gotten certainly over my career. And we can keep a couple of deuce and a halfs around for you, if you would like. For the most part, they are not relevant in our operations anymore. We retired the last UH–1 aircraft here this past year.

Again, all of that is certainly a testament to where we are at in the modernization piece and what NGREA and the investment that Congress has made in the National Guard, how that has increased our ability to be an operational reserve. So we are working towards the modernization program. We have got a ways to go yet but certainly have come a long way.

Mr. COFFMAN. Thank you.

Mr. SMITH. Mr. Platts.

Mr. PLATTS. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

First, I want to thank each of you for your many years of service to our country. I love what I do, and it is an honor to serve in public office, but it pales in comparison to each of you and all our men and women in uniform and, specifically, your efforts in leadership on behalf of our guards and reservists.

I am from Pennsylvania, so my Stryker Brigade just spent a good part of last year in Iraq. In my own area, the 193rd special ops wing out in Middletown I know is one of the most, if not the most,

deployed Air Guard unit out there; and the issues that my colleagues have raised on the equipment, your advocacy is to meeting their needs.

I know it is so important. I know the 193rd, as they continue to meet the mission requirements, are challenged; and equipment is part of that challenge. So your efforts in leading the efforts to do right by all that serve with you is much appreciated.

And with that, Mr. Chairman, I yield back.

Mr. SMITH. Thank you.

I have a couple of questions I want to ask just for the record. I know you probably won't be able to give us a clear answer here up front.

And, also, in following up on Mr. Platts' remarks, I would be remiss if I didn't do a little shout-out as well to General Lowenberg, who is our adjutant general who does a fabulous job out there and also our Reserve wing out at McChord that I know has been very, very active. Many of them are my neighbors. So they are doing a great job. And the entire Guard in our area, topnotch. So we certainly appreciate their service.

The two things that I would like for you to get back to me on—we have talked about recapitalization requirements for all of your components—is a dollar figure. If you could imagine here is what we truly need to be where we are at. Now, I understand you get your budget and you don't come up here and then say, this is where it is insufficient. You come up here and say, it is sufficient, because it is. It is what you have got, and it is what you are going to work with?

But for our planning purposes going forward, to the extent we can get an idea of what would be required to recapitalize you at the level to get the equipment you need to perform your domestic mission and doing the training to be an operational force, that would be helpful.

[The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

Mr. SMITH. And then the other big problem that this committee, this Congress, and I think the DOD is facing is all of the implications of the F–35 problems. A lot of them come back towards you and sort of follows up on Mr. Coffman's question. There is going to be some shortages there as we transition forward. It is quite possible that the F–35 will slip again in terms of when it is going to be delivered. It is even more possible that it will wind up costing more than we expected; and, as a result, we will not be able to buy as many.

It strikes me as sort of crying out for a Plan B in terms of, let us say, we don't wind up with the current requirement of 2,443 F–35s. What are we going to do to make sure that we have the fighter attack aircraft fleet that we need Active, as well as Guard and Reserve, and what would we do?

Obviously, one of the places to look would be to build more F–15s and F–16s. We don't want to do that. And I realize you get into a tough sort of call because, if you spend more money on that, then you have less money for the top-of-the-line F–35.

But in terms of making the money work and making sure you all have what you need, I think we need to be thinking about those

things. I would love to see both of those questions, if you could submit something to the committee, what your thoughts are on those two. That would be very helpful.

[The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

Mr. SMITH. The question I have has to do with recruitment and retention and with your force. As I mentioned, I know, as I think everyone on this committee and probably everyone in the country does, many people who are in the Guard and Reserve and what they have been asked to do since 9/11, the number of deployments now numbers that I have heard are that you are doing good—well, I guess, in terms of getting the numbers out. What are you thinking about in terms of what you need to do for your individual Guard and Reserve members and their families? Because, as you know, this impacts all of them. And that, in terms of recruitment and retention, it is not just the individual, it is the family that is impacted as well. What have you thought about in terms of how to work on those issues to help with recruitment and retention and to make sure you have a satisfied force?

And, General Stultz, do you want to start off there?

General STULTZ. Yes, sir.

As was alluded to earlier, our recruiting and retention right now is very, very good. We are almost 3,000 over strength. So my problem is rebalancing the force. And we have actually had to tell them to slow down on the recruiting because we have got too many of the young soldiers and not enough of the mid-grade soldiers.

But one of the things—and it does get to the equipping side of the house, that I have a concern when it comes to retention. We have got the best-trained, most-seasoned combat force we have ever had. And those soldiers have performed magnificently. What troubles me is when they come back home and they come back home to that Reserve center and they go to their weekend drill and there is a 30-year-old truck sitting there instead of the piece of equipment they just operated in theater. So it does become a morale issue.

So getting the modernized equipment is a key strategy for me in terms of retention. I have got to be efficient about it; and I have got to say, if I can get a full set of new trucks, I probably can't give them all to one unit. I have to spread a piece of each of those modernized trucks throughout so they can train on them. But at least they get to touch and feel that same piece of equipment that they just trained on in theater and just operated in theater.

With regard to the families, the Yellow Ribbon programs that we are doing now, the Strong Bonds programs that we are doing now, all of the family support programs that we are doing now are critical. Because it does show to them our commitment that we are going to take care of them, that we do realize they are sacrificing just as much as those soldiers. So support for our family programs, as well as support for modernized equipment.

Mr. SMITH. General Stenner.

General STENNER. Yes, sir. Thanks for the question.

I will tell you I will reiterate what my partner here has said, that recruiting and retention are good. We have the highest reten-

tion we have had in a long time. We are bringing folks on, and we thought we better figure out why.

So we started looking at it with some data and some analysis and some assessment groups; and the questions that we asked were, why do you join and why do you stay?

Patriotism was at the top of the list. They want to be a participant in this Nation's defense. Folks are doing the job, and they don't want to stop doing the job. But they need to do it in a sustainable and predictable fashion.

So we protect that civilian job they have got as well. So we protect that career path they have in their civilian job. So we are going after the employers as well in asking what is it that is affecting you the most about the tempo that we have? How do we make it sustainable and predictable for that employer? And then the families as well. What is it that they need? And the Yellow Ribbon, as was already mentioned, is a huge help in getting that done. Folks want to participate, sir. And they are doing it in good numbers.

Mr. SMITH. Thank you. Again over time, so I will move on to other members.

I just wanted to say if there is anything our committee can do to help, support for your individual soldiers and airmen and their families is incredibly important to us. Let us know what we can do.

With that, I will turn to Mr. Bartlett, if he has further questions.

Mr. BARTLETT. Thank you very much.

General Stultz, we hear General Casey talk about the Army's force generation model and the heavy reliance the model has on enablers, those combat support and combat service support forces which predominantly rest in the Reserve components. This is where your force is crucial to the Army's mission, as a huge portion of the Army's Reserve is essential enablers. As it relates to your equipment needs, what are your critical equipment shortages and how do these shortages impact your ability to support the Army's missions?

General STULTZ. Thank you, sir.

As you just indicated, the structure of the Army has come to the point, we have operationalized the Guard and the Reserve not because we wanted to but because we had to. When you have 75 percent of your engineering capability in the Guard and Reserve, when you have about 75 percent of your medical capability in the Guard and Reserve, when you have about 63 percent of your logistics, you have to operationalize that force if you are going to be in an extended conflict.

The equipping needs I had, as I outlined already, one is, give us that flexibility that we need strategically so that we can flex when we need to deploy forces in other places as well as that training so that we maximize the amount of time we can deploy a force by minimizing the amount of time back home required to train because they are training on the right equipment.

The critical needs I have got, as was already kind of mentioned, the FMTVs, family of medium tactical vehicles, I am short about 5,000 in my formations, which says you are 80 percent equipped but you are 49 percent modernizing that family of vehicles. In the Humvees, I am 85 percent equipped. I am 13 percent modernized in Humvees. My Humvees are the old, soft-skin Humvees. They are

not the up-armored. They are not equipped for the up-armored. My trucks' average age are 30 years old. The dump trucks we have got are 34 years old average age.

So my needs are getting the modernized equipment on hand to the tune of about—by fiscal year 2016, if I was fully modernized, it would be about $11.3 billion.

Because the other challenge I have got, to your point, sir, as the Army continues to learn and change based on our lessons learned in theater, they are turning to the Reserve and Guard and saying, okay, we need you to take down this capability that we are not using but we need more engineers, MPs [military police], transportation, whatever. We are transforming 16,000 spaces inside the Army Reserves in strength for new capability based on what the Army says they need. That comes with an equipment deal, because every truck company, every MP unit, every engineer unit has a bill of equipment. And that is where that $11.3 billion comes from. It is modernized equipment, plus new needs that the Army says we need.

Mr. BARTLETT. Thank you.

General Wyatt, I have a similar question relative to the essential equipment items for the Air Guard to fulfill its homeland defense and direct military missions.

The fiscal year 2011 budget request appears to plan further drawdowns in Guard aircraft. Can you provide the committee your sense of the potential impacts or areas of risk with the level of aviation assets planned in the budget?

General WYATT. Yes, sir. A two-part question, the first having to do with essential equipment shortfalls that we see.

In the dual-use area, things like improved voice data communications, federal mission and the state mission, self-protective equipment anywhere from—chemical, and biological, nuclear, radiological equipment, face masks, shields, helmets, gloves—all the way up to large aircraft, infrared countermeasures, protective equipment for aircraft missile warning systems. Anything that upgrades our ability to find, fix a target, targeting pods, helmet-mounted cueing systems, radar systems that help distinguish, especially in the Air Sovereignty Alert mission, to distinguish small targets in highly cluttered air environments. And, again, the dual-use equipment, special-use equipment like fire trucks, buses, tactical vehicles, and those sorts of things.

To your second question on aircraft drawdowns, President's Budget 11 and the fighter world contain no further aircraft drawdowns after the fiscal year 2010 Combat Air Forces Reduction. So I think as far as the Air Sovereignty mission goes, at least in the near term, we are okay.

We do have the concern that I mentioned earlier about some of our older airplanes in the 2015, 2016 time frame. The block 30s face some sustainment issues as we go forward. The larger aircraft, again we looked to the Mobility Capabilities Requirements Study as kind of the roadmap. But it has just recently been released, so I think the Air Force is going to need some time to work our way through that to determine the appropriate mix of different types of aircraft before we will be able to answer that question with any specificity.

Mr. BARTLETT. Thank you.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. SMITH. Thank you.

At this point, I will just take Mr. Wilson or anyone else that has anything further after that. Go ahead.

Mr. WILSON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I appreciate the earlier response in regard to equipment on hand, the modernization, the differential between the two; and my next concern is equipping the Guard and Reserve forces who are being deployed to Afghanistan. Again, each of you, if you could tell us what the status is of their equipping level.

General CARPENTER. I think, as the chairman pointed out in his opening statement, every unit that goes down range has absolutely the best equipment that we can provide to him across the Army. That results in cross leveling across, in our case, the Army National Guard and, in some cases, across the Army to make sure that when a unit like the 81st or the 218th goes down range that they have absolutely the best equipment. When they come home, it takes a little bit longer for them to get their equipment back, because there are what we call reset requirements.

So, in some cases, for up to a year maybe, even a little bit longer, depending upon the type of equipment, the unit does not have the equipment that it is supposed to have. For instance, I think the 81st right now, the equipment fill for that particular unit is around 43 percent. They just came back last fall. And so the equipment is in process of being recapped, reset, which is absolutely the right thing because that equipment needs to be prepared for the next time should there be a requirement for that unit to deploy and it needs to provide the equipment for that unit to train on.

So, for the most part, overall the average that I gave you before of 77 percent across the board, that accounts for units that are in reset—well, other units that are in the available year.

General WYATT. Congressman, the Air Force keeps us pretty well equipped at all times because we are on a lot shorter rotation periods but more frequent rotations than the Army is. We have provided as part of our response in written testimony the requested maps that show the equipping levels in the Air National Guard as to each of the States.

We are in pretty good shape. Our issues continue to be primarily in the logistics arena, and this goes back to the some of the truck special use vehicles. We have some shortages in the weapons, the personal weapons for some of our security forces.

But our primary problem is one of modernization, to make sure that, when we deploy, we are up on that operational step with the active component in making sure our systems are interoperable. And that is where we concentrate, to the degree that we can, the expenditures of additional resources like NGREA, trying to mesh that with the State mission, too. A lot of those types of equipment that we need are dual use, and that is where we focus our efforts.

General STULTZ. Yes, sir. Every Army Reserve unit that we deploy down range goes at 100 percent equipped with the mission-essential equipment that they need and it is the modernized equipment that they need.

The challenge we have, I think, is twofold. One, the unique sets of equipment that are in theater—I use the example of the MRAPs in Iraq and the M–ATVs [MRAP–All Terrain Vehicles] that are now in Afghanistan—we don't have those back here to train on. We are currently trying to acquire 24 MRAPs to put at our training centers to give them the experience. We think we will be successful in that regard, but now the focus is on M–ATVs, and all the M–ATVs being produced are going to theater. So in some cases the first time they see that piece of equipment is when they get into theater and have to go through a train-up at that time instead of prior to deploying.

The other thing that we are doing to mitigate is on the Rapid Fielding Initiative, RFI. That is the personal gear that you get that is unique to the theater that is all the best and greatest and thanks to Congress protects our soldiers to the best extent possible. But they don't get that RFI equipment until they get to the mobilization center, in most cases.

We have got a lot of training we want to do prior to that unit getting mobilized. So in the Army Reserve we establish what we call Regional Training Centers. We have outfitted those with RFI. So during the year prior to mobilization, a unit goes through that Center to do their warrior leader tasks, and we issue them the RFI so they can train with the latest and greatest helmet sights and everything. Then they turn that back in.

So when they get to the mobilization station now, they have already trained on that type of equipment, and they get it reissued at that point.

General STENNER. Mr. Chairman, I will echo and, Congressman Wilson, echo General Wyatt's comments.

Let me put a finer point on that as far as the bigger dollar amounts. We have taken risks as an Air Force over the last several years in weapons system sustainment, all three components. We have done that to include modernization as a higher priority. The weapons system sustainment is now a priority, to catch up on some of the backlogs in some of the depots in some of the engines and some of the recaps and resets that we have got to do in our major weapons systems. So weapons system sustainment overall for all three components has got to be increased and the equipping levels that we have got for our personal protective gear sustained as well and recapitalized as well. But we do send the folks to the area of responsibility with the most modern and most recent equipment and seamlessly integrated with our active component.

Thank you, sir.

Mr. WILSON. Thank you. And as a veteran and a parent, I appreciate so much what you do for our troops with modernization. Thank you.

Mr. SMITH. Thank you very much.

Mr. Coffman, do you have anything further?

Mr. COFFMAN. No, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. SMITH. I don't have any further questions myself.

Anybody else? Do you have something?

Okay. I think we are good.

Again, I want to thank all of you gentlemen for your outstanding work. It has been a major transition in the Guard and the Reserve

since 9/11; and, as all of us have testified to, you have done incredibly well and our committee simply wants to help in any way we can to provide you the resources and support you need to continue to do the fabulous job that you and your soldiers and airmen are doing every day. So thank you for testifying.

With that, we are adjourned.

[Whereupon, at 2:47 p.m., the subcommittee was adjourned.]

A P P E N D I X

April 22, 2010

PREPARED STATEMENTS SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD

April 22, 2010

Statement of Air and Land Forces Subcommittee Chairman Adam Smith
Hearing on Army and Air Force National Guard and Reserve Component Equipment Posture
April 22, 2010

"The Air and Land Forces Subcommittee meets today to receive testimony on the equipment status and requirements of the Army and Air Force National Guard and Reserve Components.

"We welcome our witnesses: Major General Raymond W. Carpenter, the Acting Deputy Director of the Army National Guard; Lieutenant General Harry M. Wyatt III, Director of the Air National Guard; Lieutenant General Jack C. Stultz, Chief, U.S. Army Reserve; Lieutenant General Charles E. Stenner, Jr., Chief, U.S. Air Force Reserve

"Since September 2001, almost 600,000 selected guardsmen and reservists have deployed in support of combat operations, representing 40 percent of the total selected reserve force of 1.4 million troops. All 34 Army National Guard combat brigades have deployed to either Iraq or Afghanistan.

"Last year Secretary Gates adopted 82 recommendations from the congressionally mandated Commission on the National Guard and Reserves. One of those recommendations was to equip and resource the Guard and Reserve Component as an 'operational reserve' rather than the Cold War model of a 'strategic reserve.' Additionally, the Chief of the National Guard Bureau is now a four-star general, giving him equal status among the nation's senior officers.

"The old, strategic reserve model assumed very few mobilizations and assumed risk with inadequate equipping strategies. The change to an operational reserve status, coincident with a reorganization of the Army, has greatly increased the amount of equipment Guard and Reserve units are required to have.

"While the Department is making improvements and progress in providing adequate funding to equip the National Guard and Reserve Components to enhance its role as an operational reserve, there are a significant number of units that do not have their required equipment. Sustaining this funding and having the necessary transparency and accountability of the equipment, however continues to be a challenge.

"The purpose of today's hearing is to get a straightforward assessment of the equipment needs of the Army National Guard, Air National Guard, Army Reserve, and Air Force Reserve. The witnesses have been asked to clearly lay out what equipment levels their organizations are required to have, and how those requirements have changed, as well as what equipment levels they actually have on hand.

"While most Guard and Reserve units deployed overseas have all the equipment they require, many of those units don't get all that equipment until just before deployment -- and in some cases after they deploy -- which makes training to deploy very difficult. Aging aircraft continues to be a critical issue for the Air National Guard. Air National Guard aircraft are on average 28 years old with the KC-135 tankers averaging 48 years old.

"If the problems of equipment shortages and aging equipment persist, National Guard and Reserve units that – while very dedicated and willing – may simply not be able to adequately respond to domestic emergencies, let alone train for combat.

"Congress has not hesitated in trying to address the equipment readiness shortfalls we have noted in many Guard and Reserve units. National Guard and Reserve Component procurement from fiscal year 2004 to fiscal year 2010 has totaled approximately $42.1 billion, averaging almost $6.0 billion per year.

"Since 2004, Congress has provided approximately $7.0 billion in a separate, dedicated equipment account entitled the National Guard and Reserve Equipment Account. This funding has enjoyed sustained bipartisan support both on this committee and throughout Congress. Although substantial progress has been made in terms of adequate funding and reorganization, there is much more to be done.

"And finally, we expect to gain a better understanding to the progress that has been made on improving visibility of tracking equipment requirements through budget preparation and review, appropriations, funding allocation and ultimately in the distribution of new equipment."

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STATEMENT BY

MAJOR GENERAL RAYMOND W. CARPENTER

ACTING DIRECTOR, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

BEFORE THE

HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON AIR AND LAND FORCES

FIRST SESSION, 111TH CONGRESS

ON

ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD EQUIPMENT

APRIL 22, 2010

NOT FOR PUBLIC DISSEMINATION UNTIL RELEASED BY
THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
STATEMENT BY MAJOR GENERAL RAYMOND W. CARPENTER
ACTING DIRECTOR OF THE ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

Opening Remarks

Chairman Smith, Ranking Member Bartlett, distinguished members of the subcommittee; we appreciate the opportunity to appear before you today to discuss our Army National Guard Equipment Posture. As I speak, 52,355 of our Soldiers are serving in harm's way for this Nation. The sacrifice of those Soldiers, their Families, and employers is something we must acknowledge and appreciate.

As all of you are aware the ARNG has functioned as an operational force for almost 8 years. I applaud the Congress for your continued support of and commitment toward the Army National Guard. Now I would like to address the status of our equipment.

Equipment and Critical Dual Use

The Army National Guard equipping levels for domestic missions had fallen from 70% in 2001 to as low as 40% in 2006. Several factors contributed to the decline of ARNG equipping levels: changing requirements, equipment destroyed during operations, and equipment left in theater for other units. Even at 2001 equipping levels, much of the Guard equipment was not interoperable with Active Army equipment. During FY09, the Army G8 released a new Army equipping strategy that establishes a goal of at least 80% equipment-on-hand for critical dual use items for all ARNG units, regardless of their position in the Army Force Generation (ARFORGEN) cycle.

Current equipment levels as of April 2010 are 77% equipment on hand and 83% of critical dual use equipment available for domestic response missions.

If the ARNG pursues HMMWVs (humvees) after reset it will be to replace older, less modern platforms within the fleet; we will have 100% fill of 48,712 HMMWVs authorized by the end of FY10. Currently the ARNG only has Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicles in our training sets at mobilization stations. If and when the Modified Table of Organization and Equipment (MTOE) changes to reflect MRAP procurement, Force Modernization will allocate the additional MRAPs.

Army National Guard equipment on hand levels are steadily increasing. Changing equipment authorizations associated with modularity keep the metric from reaching even higher levels, but the level of modernization is increasing in concert with equipment delivery. Department of the Army projects an increase in ARNG modernization from 61% at the end of FY08 to 65% at the end of FY10. Improvement in equipment on hand and modernization is most dramatic in two areas. First, the Soldier items that are needed in combat such as sights, lights, night vision goggles, and weapons have been issued to nearly meet the full requirement. The equipment issues since 2005 include 100,000 M4 carbines, 21,000 thermal sights, and 100,000 monocular night vision devices. Second is modern communications equipment so important to operations and survival in theater. Army fielded 20,000 SINCGARS radios and 2,000 more tactical satellite radios during that same time and improved the procurement and fielding of the critical Warfighters Information Network.

Deploying Army National Guard units are issued all the latest equipment required to do the mission and protect their people. Units in theater have most of

the heavy equipment and vehicles needed. Units are mostly taking basic Soldier equipment en route and drawing theater equipment as needed for assigned missions. While about 18% of our force is deployed, they have taken 27% of the pistols, 30% of the thermal sights, and nearly 40% of the M240B machine guns with them. The units at home station have enough of this Soldier equipment for training, but have ongoing shortages for their mobilization and domestic response missions. The non-deployed units must train for their mobilization and conduct domestic response missions. The newest equipment is made available to units as they approach mobilization providing them with opportunities to gain experience in operating deployable and armor-able systems.

Despite the very significant progress made in equipping the Guard with modern equipment and achieving interoperability, we continue to be challenged in modernizing light and medium tactical wheeled vehicle fleets, Blackhawks, and water distribution equipment.

National Guard and Reserve Equipment Appropriation

Congress has been very responsive to ARNG equipping requirements. The National Guard and Reserve Equipment Appropriation (NGREA) has been especially supportive in our pursuit of equipping the force. The Army National Guard via NGREA received $770 million for FY06, $1.1 billion for FY07, $1.3 billion for FY08, and $779 million for FY09. This funding has been used for critical dual-use items to support command and control, communications, aviation, force protection (including civil support teams), engineering, logistics,

maintenance, medical, security, and transportation – our "essential 10" capabilities.

Thanks to NGREA we will retire the M35 2½-ton trucks from our inventory next year (in FY11)—a vehicle first introduced in 1949 and manufactured in the 1950's.

Facilities (Modernized and Energy Efficient)

The Army National Guard operates approximately 3,000 U.S. readiness centers (armories) -- about 22% of the total inventory of Army facilities. The average age of these facilities is 41 years and many (approximately 300) are more than 70 years old. The ARNG has recently taken up the challenge to bring the older facilities "up to code" and make them energy efficient. Also, when the ARNG builds a new facility, the goal is to use innovative and sustainable building strategies.

Recent "green" accomplishments around the nation include energy saving initiatives along with the reduction of hazardous waste:

- The Arizona Guard is using the earth's natural insulation to heat and cool their 5,200 square-foot ECO-building. The building is burrowed into the ground within walls of recycled tires filled with compacted earth. The building also has an atrium that is designed to provide abundant natural light. The roof has cisterns to collect precious rain water. On the grounds, the facility has an array of 18-kilowatt photovoltaic solar cells and three 500-watt wind turbines. Arizona has a central energy control system that controls the indoor climate of the ECO building as well as many other public buildings across the state.

- The Michigan Guard revamped their re-painting facility to use non-toxic paints and paint-stripping processes. They switched from a solvent-based paint to a water-based paint and high-pressure water jets, thereby shifting from a hazardous working environment to one that is virtually pollution free for the environment and for the workers. By filtering and regenerating waste water (and eliminating the solvents), they reduced waste from over 100 pounds per vehicle to less than 3 pounds per vehicle.
- The Colorado Guard has a new Army Aviation Support Facility that was constructed primarily from recycled and locally-made materials. In addition, the facility is lighted almost entirely (over 90%) by sunlight during day time operations. The facility uses waterless urinals and captures roof runoff to irrigate drought-resistant plants. The facility also has a unique modular design that accommodates a full-time staff of 70 and "expands" to handle the drill weekend staff of 350 Soldiers.
- The Minnesota Guard has developed a new model for readiness centers focusing on federal, state, and community missions. Ten of Minnesota's 63 readiness centers are designed as "hybrid" training and community centers (TACCs). These hybrid centers have unexpected amenities such as ice rinks, gyms, banquet halls, and exhibition space. One great benefit of these shared centers is a link to the community that helps with recruiting, morale, and community relations.
- The Hawaii Guard has taken an interagency approach breaking ground with a new facility they will share with the United States Army Reserve and the

Hawaii Office of Veterans Services. This facility will use photovoltaic panels to help reduce energy usage and costs.

- The New Mexico Guard is building a 30-module 54-kilowatt photovoltaic solar farm. This solar project will not only reduce the amount of electricity bought from the service provider, but will also reduce the amount of green house gases generated by the consumption.
- The New Jersey Guard recently completed a 170-kilowatt photovoltaic car port. This car port takes underutilized space to provide shelter for parked vehicles and generates electricity for some of the Sea Girt National Guard Training Center facilities. The renewable energy produced will reduce approximately 165 tons of greenhouse gas emissions annually.

Facility Requirements

Facilities and infrastructure are especially important both for homeland mission support and as a home base for overseas contingency operations. The Presidential Budget for FY11 includes $874 million for ARNG construction. We want to highlight the $30 million appropriated last year in the Guard and Reserve Initiative—a military construction account similar to NGREA. That appropriation has already made a difference in the construction and energy saving improvements of key facilities.

The Army National Guard operated more than 56,000 facilities, including 3,087 readiness centers (armories) in FY09; 40% of ARNG facilities are over 50 years old. Sustainment, restoration, and modernization funding was key to the training, readiness, and mobilization of the ARNG. This program keeps Army National Guard facilities in good working order, including preventive maintenance, emergency work orders, and repairs and replacements to facility components. It also funds projects required to extend the useful life of the facilities and minor construction as needed. Our facilities requirements include basic operating expenses such as salaries; contracts; supplies and equipment leases; utilities; municipal services; facilities engineering services; fire and emergency services; and program management.

Facilities operations funding enables the Army National Guard to keep readiness centers in good working order, including preventive maintenance, emergency work orders, and repairs and replacements to facility components. It

also funds projects required to extend the useful life of the facilities, perform minor construction as needed, and complete energy savings improvements.

Aviation in Support of Domestic Operations

Army National Guard aviation facilitates the sourcing of aircraft and aviation personnel in support of the states and territories having aviation assets during crisis situations, national-level exercises, and national security events. ARNG aviation provides the mobility and flexibility for aerial movement of personnel and equipment, allowing the Army National Guard, as a whole, to provide an expeditious response to civil authorities in support of emergency operations.

During the spring of 2009, Army National Guard aviation assets supported North Dakota floods by providing aerial search and rescue, evacuation support, commodity distribution, and law enforcement support. Fourteen ARNG aircraft from five surrounding states augmented North Dakota's aviation assets during the Red River flood. Without ARNG aviation, the majority of outlying farmland would not have been accessible due to the flooding. Army National Guard aviation also supported engineer explosives personnel in breaking up ice dams.

ARNG aviation assets again provided wildfire support in California, Utah, South Carolina, and for isolated incidents in Hawaii. Army National Guard aviators provide governors and local civil authorities capabilities that would not be accessible under most state and local budgets. Moreover, the dual mission capabilities of ARNG aircraft enable air crews to provide or augment local

government and law enforcement capabilities as part of the Army Guard's defense support to civil authority.

Aviation Facilities

Army National Guard aviation units operated from a total of 104 facilities, including 96 ARNG Aviation Support Facilities and Operating Facilities, 4 Aviation Classification and Repair Activity Depots, and 4 ARNG Aviation Training Sites. Eighty-two of these facilities are located on civil airfields and 22 are located on federal or state military installations. In FY09 the Army National Guard began or completed 11 aviation facility construction projects with construction costs totaling $276 million. The Future Years Defense Plan 2010-2015 contains $385 million budgeted for 18 aviation facility construction projects to support aviation transformation, force modernization, new unit and equipment fielding for unmanned aviation systems, and legacy facility projects to enable support facilities and training sites to meet ARNG aviation training, maintenance, and mission requirements.

Depot Maintenance

The Army National Guard Depot Maintenance Program coordinates with various Department of Defense depots such as Tank-automotive and Armaments Command, Communications Electronics Command, Red River, USATA, and the Marine Corps Logistics Base, Barstow, to maximize ARNG sustainment with the best blend of equipment needs, product deliverability, and depot efficiency for our dollars. This delivers equipment our Soldiers need and our force needs to maintain readiness.

this equipment. As in the previous years, the process of the Army National Guard performing its own field reset allows for the equipment to be returned to the states' control and repaired in the most expeditious manner.

HMMWVs

The ARNG has an FY11 authorization for 48,712 HMMWVs with 46,649 on hand (96%). Although we are approaching 100% Equipment On Hand (EOH), only 10,464 or 21% of our authorized fleet is currently modernized and deployable to Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) or Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF). Based on Army Enterprise Equipping and Reuse Conference (AEERC) 12.0 projections, this number will grow only to 15,197 or 32% by the end of FY11 assuming scheduled deliveries are executed as planned. Additionally, the ARNG is critically short on certain HMMWV configurations that are essential to domestic and Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) as discussed below.

HMMWV ambulances are essential for Defense Support to Civil Authorities (DSCA) and other ARNG domestic operations and are considered a critical dual use (CDU) item. However, the ARNG currently has only 1,257 of its authorized 1,715 M997A2s, or 73% of these vehicles on hand, and they average over 20 years old. Because the M997A2 is no longer procurable, the ARNG recently signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the program manager for light tactical vehicles (PM LTV) to build a new M997A3 HMMWV ambulance variant which would consist of the legacy M997A2 litter compartment installed on a new M1152 HMMWV chassis. The planned purchase of 500 of these vehicles using NGREA funds will buy out the authorization to 100%. However, the older

M997A2 ambulances will eventually have to be recapitalized along with much of the rest of the fleet as discussed below.

The ARNG is authorized 656 tube-launched optically-tracked wire-guided (TOW) missile carrier HMMWVs, of which the older M996 and newer M1167 variants are both considered TOW carriers. While the ARNG has more than enough M996s to fill this authorization, the M996 variant is now considered obsolete and non-deployable to OIF/OEF. The ARNG does not currently have any M1167s on hand, but is programmed to receive a total of 416 from new production during FY10 and FY11. With the recent Army Leadership decision to stop purchasing HMMWVs for the Army after FY10, the planned delivery of 416 vehicles will allow the ARNG to achieve a modernization level of 63% for TOW carriers by the end of FY11. It appears that the ARNG will be stuck at this level for the foreseeable future, and will have to continue to install brand new TOW Improved Target Acquisition Systems (ITASs) on the obsolete and non-deployable M996 variant.

Overall, approximately 23,000 of the ARNG's on-hand HMMWVs are currently beyond their estimated useful life (EUL) of 20 years. With the Joint Light Tactical Vehicle (JLTV) not likely to reach the field in significant quantities until at least FY20, the recent decision to stop procuring HMMWVs for the Army after FY10 means that a significant portion of the ARNG fleet will have to be recapitalized in the near future. Although the ARNG is scheduled to receive an additional 5,081 new HMMWVs during FY10 and FY11, and will likely receive a number of cascaded HMMWVs from the Active Component over the next several

years, it is estimated that of the 23,000 on-hand vehicles over 20 years old, 13,000 will require induction into a recapitalization program.

The cost to recapitalize the ARNG fleet as suggested above is estimated to be $800 million and would satisfy training and domestic response capabilities, but the recapitalized legacy vehicles would still not be armor capable or deployable.

The recent Army decision to discontinue the procurement of HMMWVs for the Army after FY10 will result in the ARNG's HMMWV modernization level to remain at 32% based on current authorization (FY11). The Army National Guard needs a recapitalization program beyond FY11 in order to keep the HMMWV fleet modernized and interoperable with the Active Component.

Significant Achievements and Adequate Resources

The intensive use of the Army National Guard over the last eight years demonstrates the value-added role our Citizen Soldiers render in the defense and protection of our nation at home and the support of the nation's strategic missions abroad. In order to sustain the Army National Guard as an operational force, adequate air and land resources are required. Our current funding level enables us to move closer to Army Force Generation (ARFORGEN) readiness goals and provide the logistics train for maintaining and improving our infrastructure of buildings and equipment. In addition, the Army Equipping Strategy must ensure Soldiers operating within ARFORGEN have the right equipment amounts, types, and modernization to meet their mission requirements – whether in combat, training for combat, operating as part of the

Army's generating force, or conducting Homeland Defense and Defense Support to Civil Authorities (HLD/DSCA) missions.

As stewards of a 373-year militia tradition, we are privileged to uphold the institutions and maintain the infrastructure of our national readiness. The Army National Guard requests continued support from the Army to provide necessary improvements, including energy saving initiatives for our readiness centers and other facilities.

Closing Remarks

The Army National Guard will continue to focus on our equipping levels, especially for our critical dual use equipment, enhance our emphasis on energy efficiency in our readiness centers, provide a logistics train that supports the ARFORGEN cycle, and procure vehicles that meet our training requirements, as well as our domestic and contingency operations needs. The Army National Guard renders a dual federal and state role and provides unique support to our nation in a cost effective manner. Through adequate funding of resources and leadership engagement in equipment fielding and transparency, driven by ongoing support from Congress, the Army National Guard will continue to meet operational demands. I appreciate the opportunity to be here today and invite your questions and comments.

STATEMENT BY

LIEUTENTANT GENERAL HARRY M. WYATT III
DIRECTOR OF THE AIR NATIONAL GUARD

BEFORE THE

HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON AIR AND LAND FORCES

FIRST SESSION, 111TH CONGRESS

ON

ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD EQUIPMENT POSTURE

APRIL 22, 2010

NOT FOR PUBLIC DISSEMINATION
UNTIL RELEASED BY
THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

STATEMENT BY
LIEUTENANT GENERAL HARRY M. WYATT III
DIRECTOR, AIR NATIONAL GUARD

Chairman Smith, Ranking Member Bartlett and members of the subcommittee I wish to thank you for the opportunity to share information on the Air National Guard's equipment posture. As an integral and essential part of the Total Air Force, our units, along with the Air Force Reserve, have continued to be the best trained and equipped force of any of the Reserve Components. The Department of Defense and the Air Force are committed to ensuring no Airman goes to war ill-equipped or untrained. This level of commitment has allowed our Air National Guard to seamlessly integrate across the full spectrum of contingencies our Air Force supports.

America's Exceptional Force, Home and Away

The Air National Guard anchors the Total Air Force team, providing trained and equipped units and personnel to protect domestic life and property; preserving peace, order, and public safety; and providing interoperable capabilities required for Overseas Contingency Operations. The Air National Guard, therefore, is unique by virtue of serving as both a reserve component of the Total Air Force and as the air component of the National Guard.

Upon founding in 1947, the Air Guard served primarily as a strategic reserve for the U.S. Air Force. Increasingly and dramatically, the Air National Guard has become more of an operational force, fulfilling U.S. Air Force routine and contingency commitments daily. Since 9/11, over 146,000 Guard Airmen have deployed overseas. A snapshot of U.S. forces at any time shows Air Guard members in all corners of the globe supporting joint and coalition forces in mission areas such as security; medical support; civil engineering; air refueling; strike; airlift; and Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance.

By any measure, the Air National Guard is accessible and available to the Combatant Commanders, Air Force and our nation's governors. Currently, the nation has over 7,000 Air National Guard members deployed in Iraq, Afghanistan, and other overseas regions. At 16 alert sites, three air defense sectors, and Northern Command,

1,200 Guard Airmen vigilantly stand watch over America's skies. Amazingly, 75-percent of our deployed individuals are volunteers, and 60-percent are on their second or third rotations to combat zones. Percentages like these speak volumes about the quality and sense of duty of America's Air National Guard force!

The Air National Guard supports state and local civil authorities with airlift, search and rescue, aerial firefighting, and aerial reconnaissance. In addition, we provide critical capabilities in medical triage and aerial evacuation, civil engineering, infrastructure protection, and hazardous materials response with our Civil Support Teams and our Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, and high-yield Explosive (CBRNE) Enhanced Response Force Packages (CERFPs).

In the past year, Air Guard members helped their fellow citizens battle floods, mitigate the aftermath of ice storms, fight wild fires, and provide relief from the devastating effects of a tsunami. Early in the year, Guard members from Kentucky, Arizona, and Missouri responded to debilitating ice storms, which resulted in the largest National Guard call-up in Kentucky's history. Last spring, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Minnesota Air National Guard members provided rescue relief and manpower in response to Midwest flooding. In September, the Hawaii Air National Guard sent personnel from their CERFP, a command and control element, and a mortuary affairs team, to American Samoa in response to an 8.4-magnitude earthquake-generated tsunami. These are just a few examples of how the Air Guard provides exceptional expertise, experience, and capabilities to mitigate disasters and their consequences. Within the Total Force, the Air National Guard provides extraordinary value in terms of delivering the most immediately available capability for cost in meeting America's national defense needs. In its domestic role, the Air Guard provides capabilities to support local emergency responders with life and property saving capabilities and expertise in consequence management not usually found elsewhere in the Total Force.

Best Value in Personnel, Operations, and Infrastructure

During the past year, the Air National Guard has deployed 18,366 service members to 62 countries and every continent, including Antarctica. The Air National Guard provides a trained, equipped, and ready force for a fraction of the cost. We

provide a third of Total Air Force capabilities for less than seven percent of the Total Force budget. In all three areas – personnel, operations, and facilities – the Air Guard provides the "Best Value for America."

A key Air National Guard efficiency is the part-time/full-time force structure mix. The predominantly part-time (traditional) force can mobilize quickly when needed for state disaster response missions, homeland defense, or when we need to take the fight overseas.

We have the ability to maintain a stable force with considerably fewer personnel moves than the Regular Air Force, which is a critical factor in our cost-effectiveness. Traditional National Guard members cost little, unless on paid duty status.

The Air National Guard is an operational reserve with surge potential, with 2,200 mobilized and 5,700 volunteering per day. If this force were full-time active duty, the military personnel budget would be $7.62 billion. Air National Guard military personnel pay in FY09, including military technician pay, was $4.77 billion, for a yearly cost savings of $2.85 billion, or a daily cost savings of $7.8 million.

Whether compared to another major Air Force command, or even to the militaries of other countries, the Air National Guard is an extraordinary value. In direct comparison with the militaries of France and Italy, for example, our Air National Guard members cost only $76,961 per member, while the bills of those countries respectively run to $128,791 and $110,787 per member. Further, compared to the US Air Force, cost per Air Guard member is less than a fifth of that of the Regular Air Force. Comparisons such as these illustrate well the cost savings realized with an operational reserve possessing surge potential.

Operational savings are due to the Air National Guard's experienced force and lean operating methods. An examination of the Air National Guard's F-16 maintenance by Rand Corporation last year highlighted the ability of our maintenance personnel to generate double the amount of flying hours in a one-to-one comparison of full-time equivalents.

Current Air National Guard Equipping Levels & Distribution Plans

The ANG's modernization efforts are founded on capability requirements validated by the Air Force and Combatant Commanders. Critical capabilities are developed and vetted annually in an open and rigorous forum of warfighters, who are experts in their respective weapons systems, at the Weapons and Tactics Conference, and the Domestic Operations Equipment Requirements Conference. The capability requirements are translated into specific programs that rely on low-risk commercial or government-off-the-shelf equipment, and require only non-developmental integration into a weapons system. The process includes command and control, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance systems as well as fighter, airlift, reconnaissance, and tanker platforms. These capabilities and associated programs are documented and updated annually in modernization books for dual-use federal and domestic equipment. The Air National Guard uses this process to link strategy to resourcing. Our strategic planning system incorporates input from our Adjutants General, National Guard Bureau subject matter experts, and, Air Force and Defense Strategy experts. We understand the need to maintain modernization plans, equipment levels and a distribution plan that meets our responsibility for covering our dual federal and state roles. Because the preponderance of our capability to support the state role is a derivative of our federal responsibilities, we consider modernization and recapitalization of major weapons platforms supporting the Combatant Commanders directly linked to the Essential Ten capabilities we offer the governors.

The Air Force is in the midst of modernizing and recapitalizing its major weapons platforms and the Air National Guard is a full partner in this process. Our aging fleet of aircraft must be recapitalized concurrently and in balance with our Total Air Force partners in order to avoid near to mid-term "age out" of the fighter force our Guard Airmen operate. To that end, we support the Air Force's recapitalization plan and have been working diligently to ensure all force structure roadmaps are inclusive of the Air National Guard.

The National Guard Bureau is committed to the fundamental principle that each and every state and territory must possess ten core capabilities for homeland readiness.

Amidst the most extensive transformation of our Army and Air Forces in decades, we want to ensure that every governor has each of these Essential Ten capabilities:

- a Joint Force Headquarters for command and control
- a Civil Support Team for chemical, biological, and radiological detection
- public works and engineering assets
- communications
- ground transportation
- aviation
- medical capability
- security forces
- logistics
- maintenance

These Essential Ten capabilities will ensure the nation's Governors are well equipped to handle present and future domestic operations. We continue to leverage approximately 88-percent of the equipment within the Air National Guard as "dual-use" to make certain that these capabilities are available for not only the Combatant Commanders, but also the Governors.

Fiscal Year 2010 Budget Impact on the Air National Guard

Although our underlying equipping philosophy has not changed, significant mission and programmatic changes are underway. To support a Total Force approach in modernizing the combat air fleet of aircraft, the Air National Guard in concert with the Air Force has an ongoing effort to build associations in order to maximize effectiveness for the Air National Guard and Air Force. We anticipate more associate unit relationships with other Air Force components.

In response to your question regarding the status of Air National Guard equipment, we offer the following:

Approximately 88-percent of all Air National Guard equipment is categorized within the Essential Ten list and may be used to support both federal and state

missions. Our recent data indicates we have approximately 92-percent of this equipment on hand, 2-percent deployed in domestic and overseas contingency operations, and a fill rate approaching 95-percent. Despite the overall excellent equipment support provided by the Air Force, the Air Guard still has shortfalls in critical support areas. The advancing age of some Air Guard equipment could also be a barrier to our ability to support Domestic Operations. Some of the critically equipped areas include Logistics, Vehicles, and Maintenance.

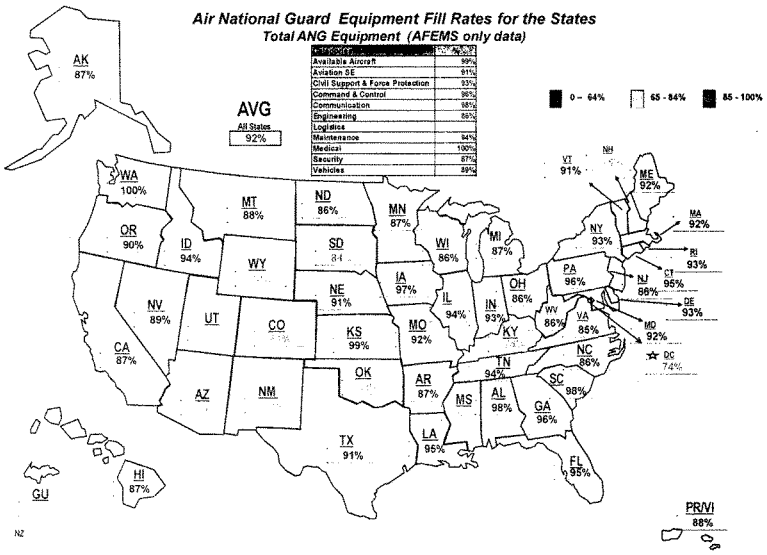
Logistics is critically short in the area of Personal Protective Equipment, specifically because of the limited domestic availability of gas masks and body armor Personal Protective Equipment. The Air National Guard is short approximately 60,000 masks due to the expiring shelf life, and is short approximately 15,000 body armor items. In order to mitigate the shortage of gas masks, the Air Force is working to transfer its excess masks to fill the Air National Guard requirements. Additionally, the Air Force is in the process of procuring these assets to fill Air Force and worldwide requirements, as well as preposition these items at locations in the area of operations for deploying personnel.

Legacy vehicles are expensive to maintain and prone to mechanical failure. Thirty-one percent, 4,440, legacy vehicles have reached or exceeded their expected utility (life expectancy). Ironically, such general support vehicles are those most in demand for domestic responses, so the aging vehicle fleet actually negatively impacts the domestic mission before affecting the federal mission. Currently, 33-percent of the fleet have exceeded or will soon meet the end of their useful economical life. Existing and future funding plans only cover 12.3-percent of the total Air National Guard requirements, which means the age of these vehicles used in Domestic and Title 10 responses will continue to age without replacements, causing a greater draw on scarce resources.

In the area of Maintenance, one support equipment shortage in the airlift area is limiting our ability to safely perform maintenance on our aircraft. Air National Guard C-5 and C-130 units are short Isochronal Inspection stands that are erected around the airframes during heavy maintenance actions. Maintenance is currently using out-dated equipment that is manpower intensive to assemble and does not meet the latest safety

standards. The use of this equipment increases the time needed for aircraft to be down for maintenance, limiting the time the aircraft are available to support a federal or domestic mission. The Air National Guard is taking all steps possible to acquire new stands and reconstitute existing stands to ensure safe, reliable and timely maintenance. However, ISO stands are in limited supply at all Air Force component bases and those that are in use are deteriorating due to excessive use.

In response to your question regarding Air National Guard Equipment On Hand by State and Territory the following chart is provided:



Visibility of Tracking Equipment Requirements

To meet the equipment transparency requirements the Under Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition Integration is creating new guidelines for development of the

Reserve Component President's budget exhibits. Additionally, the Expeditionary Combat Support System in concert with Individual Unit Identification is designed to improve warfighter capability by transforming Air Force logistics business processes and leveraging ongoing initiatives and capabilities that information technology can deliver. These initiatives will combine with other Expeditionary Logistics for the 21st Century (eLog21) initiatives to provide a single data source for equipment from source of supply to the use of the equipment at the unit level. The Expeditionary Combat Support System will be fully operational in fiscal year 2013 and will provide the required solution for the Air National Guard to link funding systems and trace equipment expenditures from procurement to delivery. Until the system is operational, National Guard Bureau staff personnel will use the new Under Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition Integration reports and current data systems to track the funding, procurement, delivery and use of Air National Guard equipment.

In response to your question regarding National Guard and Reserve Equipment Appropriation execution rates:

The Air National Guard is currently 65-percent obligated in fiscal year 2008 and 9-percent obligated in fiscal year 2009; including an additional fiscal year 2009 appropriation for Overseas Contingency Operations. Fiscal year 2010 funding should be available for obligation beginning 23 April 2010.

Our obligation rates reflect the variable nature of our modernization funding levels. The Air National Guard modernization programs are complex and take careful investment over multiple years to execute efficiently. Our approach to obligating funds allows us to avoid interruptions in the execution of our programs. This strategy of avoiding program breaks results in lower per unit costs, earlier deliveries and enhanced capabilities. Historically, our total obligation rates remain around 99-percent.

Future Air National Guard Equipment Needs

We modernize the Air National Guard and deliver the front-line capability needed to seamlessly integrate into the Air Expeditionary Force, as well as, offer a critical strategic surge capability. We try, through our modernization programs and working with

the Air Force, to provide the capability that allows our systems to fuse with and remain a relevant partner within the Total Air Force.

Air National Guard equipment readiness presents greater challenges as long-term costs in operating and maintaining older aircraft continue to rise due to more frequent repairs, fluctuations in fuel prices, and manpower requirements. The cost of aircraft maintenance continues to rise significantly as we struggle to extend the life of our aging fleet. These rising maintenance costs are not solely confined to aircraft.

One example would be the Air Support Operations community. These activities are in the beginning stages of modernization, but continue to experience incompatibilities and lag behind their active duty counter parts in critical mission areas. The continual technological advances in vehicles resistant to improvised explosive devices have made the selection of a standardized tactical vehicle extremely difficult and the lack of a decision has led to a non-standard fleet. Shortfalls with the primary communications system leave many units unable to fill all mission requirements in support of Army mission areas. Lastly, industry-wide shortages of approved body armor have all organizations scrambling to equip their Tactical Air Control Party airmen with the best available protective equipment before deploying.

Some of our most critical aircraft modernization needs continue to be improved voice/data communications for enhanced situational awareness, self-protection equipment (such as the Large Aircraft Infrared Countermeasures System), missile warning systems, upgrades to advanced targeting pods to give them fourth generation capabilities, and radar systems to distinguish small targets from friendly aircraft in a dense air traffic environment.

For example, to maintain the F-15's air-to-air advantage in the beyond-visual-range arena, we are modernizing the fleet with the Active Electronically Scanned Array radar to provide the capability to detect, track, and kill asymmetric threats, such as drones. This state-of-the-art radar is flexible enough to be continuously upgraded, allowing the Air National Guard operated F-15s to meet future threats and new mission sets that were not previously possible. The Active Electronically Scanned Array radar completed flight test, and fielding has begun; the first operational Air National Guard operated aircraft flew at the beginning of April. This upgrade allows Air National Guard

units to provide constant 24/7 Homeland Defense vigilance, while simultaneously seamlessly integrating into the Air and Space Expeditionary Force construct to meet wartime and Combatant Commander taskings.

Effect of Aircraft Retirements on Air National Guard Force Structure

Our Air National Guard aircraft are on average 29-years old (F-15/30-years, C-5/37-years, and the KC-135/49-years). Many of the aircraft are much older than the Airmen who fly and maintain them. Aircraft retirements are a necessary fact of life for our Air Force to be able to afford needed recapitalization. General McKinley and I are working closely with General Schwartz and Secretary Donley to ensure the Air Force's recapitalization plans include and minimize the impact on the Air National Guard.

During the past year, we have worked with the Adjutants General to develop an Air National Guard Flight Plan which includes viable options for the Air National Guard. The principles contained within the Air National Guard Flight Plan enable us to enter deliberative planning meetings with the full knowledge of what our Adjutants General view as future options for Air National Guard force structure. This process has allowed us to substantially improve the communication between the Air Force and Air National Guard. In the end, our goal is to ensure all plans are proportional and balanced for the entire Total Force.

Closing Remarks

I appreciate the opportunity to appear before you today, on behalf of the men and women of the Air National Guard I thank you for the cooperation and support you have provided in the past and look forward to working with you as we meet the challenges of the 21st century.

Thank you.

STATEMENT BY

LTG Jack Stultz

CHIEF, U.S. ARMY RESERVE

BEFORE THE

HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE

ON

AIR AND LAND FORCES

SECOND SESSION, 111TH CONGRESS

22 APRIL 2010

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
UNTIL RELEASED BY
THE HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE

1 Against the backdrop of the second longest war in our nation's history and the longest
2 ever fought by an all-volunteer force, the Army Reserve continues to be a positive return on
3 investment for America. The FY 2009 $8.2 billion Army Reserve appropriation represented only
4 four percent of the total Army budget, yet we supply the Army seven to eight brigade-size
5 elements. Since September 11, 2001, the Army Reserve mobilized 183,144 Soldiers, and now
6 has 29,000 deployed in support of Army missions. We supply the Army with 87 percent of its
7 Civil Affairs capability, 65 percent of its Psychological Operations, and 59 percent of its Medical
8 support - to highlight a few of our top contributing specialized functions. Compared to the cost
9 of expanding the full-time force, the small investment in the Army Reserve provides security at
10 home and fights terrorism abroad. We respond to domestic disasters and participate in security
11 cooperation operations while protecting national interests around the globe. In support of
12 contingency operations, we foster stability in underdeveloped nations where conditions are ripe
13 for terrorists to gain a foothold.
14
15 The events of September 11, 2001 forever changed the way in which the Army Reserve
16 provides combat support and combat service support to the Army and to the Joint Forces.
17 Operational demands for Army Reserve support have been heavy and enduring.
18 The reality is, current operations are consuming Army Reserve readiness as fast as we can
19 build it, but Congress' support for the Army Reserve in recent years has gone far toward both
20 meeting current demands and reshaping the Army Reserve for future national security
21 requirements.
22
23 As sustained operational demands on the Army Reserve became heavier after 9/11, it
24 became ever apparent we could no longer function as a part-time strategic reserve. Based on

1 the operational requirements outlined for the Army Reserve in the 2010 Quadrennial Defense
2 Review, and while fighting two wars, we continue our efforts to fully transition from a strategic
3 reserve to an operational force, based on current resourcing and mission requirements. An
4 operational Army Reserve is a good return on investment for America because now we are in a
5 stronger position to provide the Army with predictable, trained, equipped, and ready forces to
6 meet global and contingency requirements. What remains is an ongoing effort to sustain an
7 operational posture, with a fully functioning Army Force Generation model - that receives full
8 funding.
9
10 Thanks to Congress' leadership, we have made great progress in a number of initiatives
11 required to complete Army Reserve transformation. We have re-organized operational
12 commands to better support theater requirements, opened new training centers, and
13 restructured training commands to support the total force. Through Base Realignment and
14 Closure, we have closed scattered facilities in favor of more efficient, multi-service reserve
15 centers. Through the Army Reserve Enterprise process, we are restructuring our strategic and
16 operational efforts to maximize productivity, efficiency, and responsiveness in four Enterprise
17 areas: Human Capital, Materiel, Readiness, and Services and Infrastructure.
18
We have identified "Five Imperatives" to facilitate Army Reserve continued transformation to a stronger and more capable operational force. They are Shaping the Force, Operationalizing the Army Reserve, Building the Army Reserve Enterprise, Executing BRAC, and Sustaining the Force.
19
20

Shaping the Force

As we look ahead, we know that building the right force is crucial for success. In 2010, we will leverage human capital management strategies to better *shape the force* into a more affordable and effective Army Reserve capable of supporting national security objectives and our combatant commanders' war-fighting needs. We are developing a more precise human capital strategy to meet our nation's future military needs by ensuring the *right* people, with the *right* skills, in the *right* units, are in place at the *right* time.

In today's competitive recruitment environment, incentives matter because they allow the Army Reserve to sustain and shape the force. We achieved our FY 2009 end strength due to the hard work and dedication of our recruiters and our Soldiers. We also attribute this success to the recruiting and retention initiatives that support the Army Reserve's manning strategy. These include the Army Reserve Recruiter Assistant Program that promotes strength from within by recognizing and rewarding those Soldiers, Family members, and Department of the Army Civilians working for the Army Reserve who bring talent to the team. The second is enlistment bonuses, which help us recruit the critically short/high demand Military Occupational Specialties. In FY 2009, our focused incentives increased Army Reserve End Strength. As we met the objective, it became evident that not all of our new Soldiers possessed the skill sets needed to support the Army Reserve structure while also fulfilling our wartime requirements.

Successful recruiting added an abundance of Soldiers in the lowest three pay grades, but recruiting new Soldiers as privates and second lieutenants cannot fill the thousands of mid-grade noncommissioned and commissioned officer vacancies that currently exist. Despite excellent retention results, these shortages continue.

1 United States Army Reserve authorizations for Medical Corps, Dental Corps, and the
2 Specialist Corps have not changed much materially for 2000-2009 (2614 vs. 2572), but the
3 inventory has decreased dramatically from 165% of authorized end strength in 2000 to the
4 current 89% in 2009. This attrition has come predominately at the expense of its senior
5 providers with more than 20 years of clinical experience in a military environment who now
6 represent only 9% of Medical Corps inventory, 17% of Dental Corps inventory and 11% of the
7 current Specialist Corps inventory. In the coming year, we must do more to retain these
8 uniquely qualified medical providers and seek to build a system that incentivizes these most
9 skilled clinicians.
10
11 Our recruitment efforts will focus on more prior-service recruits who are slightly older and
12 bring more experience than most first-term Soldiers. These experienced Soldiers can fill
13 shortages among mid-level commissioned and noncommissioned officers. Targeted incentives
14 have been crucial to rebuilding our end strength and addressing critical shortages in some
15 grades and job specialties. Continuing these incentives allows the Army Reserve to shape the
16 force to better meet the requirements of our national security strategy and to give Soldiers,
17 Families, and Employers stability and predictability.
18
19 Ensuring a Continuum of Service (COS) is a human capital objective that seeks to
20 inspire Soldiers to a lifetime of service. Active (full-time) and reserve (part-time) military service
21 are two elements of valuable service to the nation. Continuum of Service provides Active and
22 Reserve Components some of the means necessary to offer Soldiers career options while
23 maintaining capability for the operational force. COS also recognizes the tremendous cost of
24 accessing and training each service member and seeks to avoid unnecessary replication of

1 those costs. To reach our objective, it is our intention to work with Army to propose
2 recommended changes t current statutes and policies that will ease restrictions on statutes
3 limiting Reserve Component Soldiers from serving on active duty.
4
5 Operationalizing the Army Reserve
6 Our status as an operational force means that the Army Reserve is no longer a force in
7 waiting – we are an operational force in *being*. We can continue providing that positive return
8 on investment to the nation when the Army Reserve is given the proper resources to succeed.
9
10 The Army Reserve plays a vital operational role in overseas contingency operations and
11 will for the foreseeable future. Since 9/11, 185,660 Army Reserve Soldiers have mobilized in
12 support of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF); 33,754 have
13 mobilized more than once. In 2009, the Army Reserve mobilized 39,150 Soldiers to support
14 Combatant Commanders' requests for forces. We execute a readiness strategy to deploy
15 highly ready units and Soldiers to support OIF and OEF requirements. This readiness strategy
16 synchronizes those strategic planning and resourcing actions necessary to generate sufficient
17 manning, training, and equipping levels to meet combatant commander mission requirements.
18 The Army Force Generation process allows for a structured progression of increased unit
19 readiness over time, and provides the Army recurring access to Army Reserve trained, ready,
20 and cohesive units, which translates to predictability for Soldiers, their Families, and Employers.
21 In effect, ARFORGEN drives the battle rhythm of the Army Reserve.
22
23 ARFORGEN works for the Army Reserve. It has enduring qualities that have been
24 apparent in providing support to emergencies such as Hurricane Katrina and the Haiti

earthquake relief efforts, for training Soldiers in Afghanistan, to supporting the African Contingency Operations Training and Assistance Program with training and equipment for selected militaries engaged in humanitarian or peace operations. The Army Reserve seeks continued support from Congress to be an effective responder to missions such as these.

Within the transformation process, we realigned our force structure to meet the Army's global mission requirements in both the Operational and Generating Force categories. The Army Reserve is ready to take on additional missions as the Department of Defense and US Army validate emerging requirements. Authorized growth in end strength will enable the Army Reserve to activate validated units to meet these emerging requirements and maintain the number of units we have in our ARFORGEN process. Plans reflect an increase of 1,000 to 205,000 spaces of Authorized End Strength (ESA) to provide the Army Reserve capability to meet emerging mission requirements within our ability to operate the force.

Full-time support personnel comprise a select group of people who organize, administer, instruct, recruit, and train our people; and who maintain supplies, equipment, and aircraft. They also perform other functions required on a daily basis to maintain readiness in support of operational missions. Without these critical Soldiers and Civilians, the Army Reserve could not function as an operational force.

Although resourced to the Department of the Army "High Risk" funding methodology (meets minimal acceptable risk in support of a strategic reserve force), it is imperative that future planning ensure full-time support is fully resourced as an operational reserve.

Adequate resourcing is critical in meeting the readiness requirements of the Army Force Generation (ARFORGEN) model.

The current full-time support model remains a strategic reserve legacy. Key legislative and policy modifications are required to change personnel support processes. Manpower models and programming processes require review and modifications to provide flexibility and rapid response adjusting resources amid changing priorities across the ARFORGEN process.

Our Active Guard Reserve (AGR) and Military Technician (MT) programs provide the bulk of full-time support at the unit level. They provide the day-to-day operational support needed to ensure Army Reserve units are trained and ready to mobilize within the ARFORGEN process. The AGR and MT programs are vital to the successful transition to - and sustainment of - an operational reserve. The Army Reserve requires added flexibility in its hiring practices to sustain its commitments to ARFORGEN. We must take action to create a new category of Non-Dual Status Technician, which allows retention and direct hire of personnel from outside the Selected Reserve. This new capability will allow us to support non-mobilizing/deploying organizations while authorizing Dual Status Military Technicians to meet conditions of employment with a military assignment anywhere within the Selected Reserve. We are working with Army to relax legacy fulltime support policies in order to provide flexibility in the reallocation of resources within AFORGEN cycle.

As an operational force, the Army Reserve must have the most effective and sustainable equipment for Soldiers and units at the right place and at the right time. The Army Reserve

supports the Army Equipping Strategy of Cyclical Readiness, which means all units are equipped based on their position in the ARFORGEN process and their mission – regardless of Component. The Equipment Readiness levels increase as units move through the ARFORGEN process from the RESET to the Available Phase. Those units that are within the RESET phase will have a chance to reintegrate Soldiers and Families, then organize, man, equip, and train as a unit. As the units move to the Train/Ready phase, they will be resourced from 80% growing to 90%; and once the units enter the Available Phase, they are resourced to ensure 90% plus equipment readiness. To maximize collective and individual training opportunities for our units in the ARFORGEN process on high demand/low density systems, the Army Reserve must address the challenge with small pools of current generation systems. Additionally, while the Army Reserve units in the Reset Phase should have minimal specific equipping expectations; the Army Reserve is identifying equipment requirements that a unit can properly maintain at a Reserve Unit Home Station while sustaining Soldiers and training readiness. We are thankful to Congress for helping us meet this goal with National Guard and Reserve Equipment Appropriation (NGREA) funding. These funds greatly add toward operationalizing the Army Reserve by supporting Army Modularity, Homeland Defense/Homeland Security, and the Army Force Generation cycle with a fully modern and interoperable force. With continued NGREA funding, we will be able to train our Soldiers on the latest combat equipment *before* they deploy into harm's way.

Sustaining the Force

The Warrior-Citizens of the Army Reserve and their Families embody a lasting commitment to serve America. The Army Reserve recognizes the strain of this era of persistent conflict on Soldiers and Families. We know Family readiness is inextricably linked to mission

1 readiness, recruitment, and retention. Operationalizing of the Army Reserve creates a
2 requirement for an enduring level of support. As the Army Reserve transforms, so must Family
3 Programs. Our way ahead includes realignment actions to: support the Army Reserve
4 Enterprise management approach, sustain services to Soldiers and Families in the
5 expeditionary force, standardize existing programs and services across the Army Reserve, and
6 build partnerships with Army Families and communities. Our end state is to optimize programs
7 and services to connect Soldiers and Families to the right service at the right time.
8
9 The cornerstone of our planning effort is to ensure the integration of Family Support
10 services with the ARFORGEN process. By doing so, we ensure that our Warrior-Citizens and
11 their Families have solid programs that are ready for execution any time during the training and
12 deployment cycle. Appropriate resourcing will allow us to assess structure requirements,
13 staffing needs, and develop effective processes that ensure the consistent delivery of programs
14 and services that meet the needs of ARFORGEN and especially for those of our geographically
15 dispersed customers.
16
17 The Army Reserve Family Programs Virtual Installation Program is an exciting new
18 initiative that ensures the same services provided to active component Soldiers are available to
19 all service members and their Families not living close to a military installation. Leveraging
20 assets we have on hand is allowing us to test the program through a series of pilots located in
21 selected communities. Funding for this priority will allow us to expand Virtual Installation within
22 Army Strong Community Centers around the country and overseas.
23
24 We must continue to increase the quantity and quality of support for Army Reserve
25 children and youth. We can increase opportunities for youth to develop leadership skills and

strategies for coping with separation. Teen panels provide forums for our youth to propose solutions for concerns that affect their lives during mobilization and deployment. Additional online teen deployment classes support youth living in the "new normal" of repetitive deployments. With additional resources, we will work with our community partners to expand childcare for geographically dispersed Families and respite care for mobilized Families.

This year we provided new opportunities for children of Army Reserve Families to attend camps. While the Department of Defense (DoD) "Purple Camps" were a great initiative, they distributed opportunities among all military communities in DoD. This resulted in fewer opportunities for Army Reserve children than needed. Additionally, Army Reserve children are usually unable to travel, and require activities located in areas near their homes. By operating our own camps, we increased these opportunities to Army Reserve Families in their communities and tailored them to our communities. The goal of the program is to prepare Army Reserve Soldiers and their Family members for mobilization, sustain Families during deployment, and reintegrate Soldiers with their Families, communities, and employers upon release from active duty. The Army Reserve Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program (YRRP) provides information, services and support, referral, and proactive outreach to Army Reserve Soldiers and their Families through all phases of the deployment cycle. The program includes information on current benefits and resources available to help overcome the challenges encountered with Army Reserve mobilization and reintegration.

The Army Reserve successfully launched its Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Program. We have coordinated with other military agencies, federal/state/local government agencies, community organizations, and faith-based organizations to provide robust, preventive, proactive

1 programs for Soldiers and their Families. Elements of the program include promoting
2 preparedness through education, conducting effective Family outreach, leveraging available
3 resources, and supporting the All-Volunteer Force. During FY 2009, the Army Reserve
4 executed more than 250 Yellow Ribbon events, serving some 12,000 redeploying Soldiers and
5 12,000 Family members. In interviews conducted by the Office of the Secretary of Defense,
6 Soldiers and Family members reported positive experiences with the Army Reserve Yellow
7 Ribbon Reintegration Program.

8 The challenge to the Army Reserve remains to develop, improve, and sustain the
9 mental, spiritual, and emotional health that fosters resilient Soldiers and Families.
10
11 We are moving out aggressively to mitigate the effects of persistent conflict and build a
12 strong, resilient force. Multi-symptom conditions including those signature wounds not visibly
13 apparent (for example: Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Traumatic Brain Injury
14 (TBI), exist for Soldiers with military service in Southwest Asia. We will work with Health Affairs
15 and the other Services to continue to provide the care necessary for the wounds from the
16 current conflicts.
17
18 We appreciate the resources that Congress has provided to date to further programs
19 such as the new GI Bill and TRICARE. The benefit of TRICARE Reserve Select provides our
20 Soldiers and Families peace of mind knowing that if a Soldier decides to better him/herself
21 career-wise with the skills gained while deployed, medical care will not be a worry if he or she
22 decides to change careers.
23

We are teaming with civilian industry to shape the Army Reserve into America's premier reservoir of shared military-civilian skills and capabilities through our Employer Partnerships programs. Through these mutually beneficial alliances with businesses that share our valuable human capital, we can strengthen Soldier-employees, Families, employers, and communities.

We seek to identify locations where our Soldiers can simultaneously add value to both the civilian workforce and the Army Reserve. This effort ties into our objective of achieving a continuum of service for Soldiers who want the option to transition from active and reserve components, and vice versa, to provide Soldiers flexibility with their career objectives, while allowing the Army Reserve to retain the best talent and critical skills capability.

Enterprise Transformation

Using an enterprise approach to managing our internal processes, we add value to the Army by applying a holistic approach to managing our resources and shape the force into what is beneficial for the Army Reserve and supports the needs of the Army. By "shape the force," I mean taking a fresh approach to how we recruit and retain the best and brightest, and positioning them in the right place, in the right job, and at the right time.

The Army Reserve Enterprise consists of four core management areas: Human Capital, Readiness, Materiel, and Services & Infrastructure. To optimize the enterprise we must: Attract and retain the very best Warrior Citizens to serve our nation (Human Capital), Prepare, train, and equip Soldiers (Readiness); provide our Soldiers with the latest mission ready modular force equipment, (Materiel); provide for the well-being of our Soldiers, Families, Army Civilians, and employers while providing training and unit facilities and secure, redundant communications

(Services & Infrastructure). Working together, these core management areas enable the Army Reserve enterprise to realize its ultimate goal: predictable, trained, and ready units - the essential components that define CAPABILITY.

BRAC

We have facility responsibilities at more than 1,100 Reserve Centers and the installations of Fort McCoy, Fort Buchanan, and Fort Hunter-Liggett installations. We also are responsible for significant training areas at Jolliet, Devens Reserve Forces Training Area, and Parks Reserve Forces Training Area. Moving toward completion of the current BRAC cycle of 2005, the Army Reserve military construction priority is to complete the remaining projects budgeted at $357 million for FY 2010. In addition to BRA C, we will implement 26 construction projects at a cost of $318 million supporting the transformation of the Army Reserve from a Strategic Reserve to an Operational Force. Our construction effort supports the realignment of the field command organizations into Operational Supporting Commands. In FY 2011, the Regional Support Commands will invest $577 million in base operations and $344 million in maintenance and repair of facilities that allows mission accomplishment for the Operational Commands.

We are committed to minimizing turbulence to Soldiers and their Families while providing the most effective and efficient trained and ready units and forces to meet world-wide requirements. We must maintain current levels of predictability while making plans to increase it. The Army Force Generation process allows for a structured progression of increased unit readiness over time, and provides the Army recurring access to Army Reserve trained, ready, and cohesive units. While our commitment in Iraq may draw down, the requirement for forces to

commit to other global missions will only increase. In 2010, we will work with Congress to ensure we obtain the necessary resources to sustain a viable Army Force Generation cycle that supports global commitments and new missions.

Thank you.

United States Air Force

Testimony

Before the House Armed Services Committee, Subcommittee on Air and Land Forces

Army and Air Force National Guard and Reserve Component Equipment Posture

Statement of
Lieutenant General Charles E. Stenner, Jr.,
Chief, Air Force Reserve

April 22, 2010

Army and Air Force National Guard and Reserve Component Equipment Posture

April 22, 2010

Mr. Chairman and distinguished members of the Committee, I appreciate the opportunity to appear before you today and discuss the state of the Air Force Reserve.

The 21st Century security environment requires military services that are flexible -- capable of surging, refocusing, and continuously engaging without exhausting their resources and people. Moreover, the 21st Century fiscal environment is becoming ever-more constrained as threats by rising nations and pressing national interests compete for limited resources.

In this challenging environment, the Air Force Reserve has never been more relevant. Reserve Airmen continue to support our Nation's needs, providing superb operational capability around the globe. We have sustained this operational capability for nearly twenty years -- at high operations tempo for the past nine years. The Air Force Reserve is accomplishing this while still providing a cost-effective Tier 1 ready force to the Nation available for strategic surge or ongoing operations.

Speaking of ongoing operations, U.S. Air Force C-130 aircrews were among the first U.S. military to respond to the earthquake disaster in Haiti, on the ground in Port Au Prince within twenty-four hours of the earthquake. This quick response was not simply fortuitous, but the result of planning, preparedness, and readiness. This rapid-response capability is available 24/7, 365 days a year through OPERATION CORONET OAK.[1]

Since 1977, the OPERATION CORONET OAK mission has been manned primarily by Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard crews who rotate every two weeks, year-round. Crews from the Regular Air Force now perform about 1/3 of the mission. These OPERATION CORONET OAK crews are postured to respond within three hours of notification to any crises requiring airlift support within the U.S. Southern Command Area of Responsibility (AOR).

[1] In addition to Haitian relief support through OPERATION CORONET OAK, Air Force Reserve ISR personnel provided exploitation support to assess the damage and focus relief while Air Force Reserve airlift crew saved lives with much needed medical, water and food supplies flown into Haiti. Air Force Reserve members in fact planned, commanded and exploited Global Hawk derived exploitation missions in order to provide situational awareness on infrastructure status and guide relief efforts during one of the worst earthquakes to hit Haiti on over 200 years. The professional expertise and capabilities of these seasoned Citizen Airmen demonstrates the flexibility and service inherit in the men and women of the Air Force Reserve as they shifted from supporting combat operations to humanitarian relief.

This predictable-rotational mission allows Reservists to perform real-world operational missions and still meet their obligations to their full-time civilian employers. And, like Air Expeditionary Force (AEF) rotations, this operation leverages the Tier 1 readiness of Air Force Reserve Airmen in a way that works for the Combatant Commander, and the Reservist. Equally important, when Air Force Reserve Airmen are not training or performing an operational mission – they are not being paid; yet they remain ready to respond to any crisis within seventy-two hours should they be called upon. In this resource-constrained environment in which manpower costs are placing downward pressure on our budgets, I believe this full-time readiness/part-time cost is a great use of taxpayer dollars.

This next year brings new challenges and opportunities. Air Force Reserve Airmen are being integrated into a wider variety of missions across the full spectrum of Air Force operations. Indeed, the Department of Defense (DoD) is considering using Reservists from all services to perform missions utilizing their unique civilian skill sets.

The challenges we face are not unique to the Air Force Reserve or the Air Force as a whole. Each of the military services is being asked to shift capability and capacity across the spectrum of conflict--including irregular warfare--and to resource accordingly. Each has been asked to shift focus away from major weapon systems acquisitions and to the current fight.[2]

To do so, all three components of the Air Force must continually strive to improve the capability provided to the warfighter. Each service component must examine its existing business practices and explore new processes to make optimal use of personnel, platforms, and monetary resources. The Air Force Reserve is helping lead the way in improving Air Force capability as we approach Fiscal Year (FY) 2011 and beyond.

As the Nation looks for ways to strengthen its organizations and integrate all of the untapped resources it will need in facing the challenges of the 21st Century, we submit that a model by which ordinary people, dedicated to serving their country in ways that meet both their

[2] In Operations Enduring and Iraqi Freedom, Reserve C-130 crews flew over 9,800 hours in FY 2009; Reserve F-16 and A-10 crews flew over 5,400 hours. The Air Force Reserve provides 24 crews and 12 fighter aircraft to USCENTCOM in their regularly scheduled rotations for the close air support mission.

needs and the needs of the Nation, is already manifest in the US Air Force every day -- in the extraordinary Americans of the Air Force Reserve.

I'm proud to serve alongside these great Airmen and as Chief and Commander of the Air Force Reserve, I have made a promise to them that I will advocate on their behalf for resources and legislation that will allow them to serve more flexibly in peace and war with minimum impact to their civilian careers, their families and their employers. I will work to eliminate barriers to service, so that they can more easily serve in the status that meets their needs and those of the Air Force. And, I will work to efficiently and effectively manage our Air Force Reserve to meet the requirements of the Joint warfighter and the Nation.

Recruiting and Retention

Over the last nine years, the Air Force Reserve has exceeded its recruiting goals and is on track to meet FY 2010 recruiting and end-strength goals. Our success in great part has been due to the accessions of experienced Active Component members upon completion of their active duty commitments. Indeed, recruiting highly trained individuals is essential to lowering the training costs for the Air Force Reserve. For some of our most critical specialties, affiliation and retention bonuses have provided a greater return on investment versus recruiting non-prior service Airmen. However, due to lower Regular Air Force attrition rates, we no longer have the luxury of large numbers of experienced Airmen leaving Active service.

As the Air Force Reserve builds end strength to meet the needs of new and emerging missions, we are facing significant recruiting challenges. Not only will the Air Force Reserve have access to fewer prior-service Airmen; but, we will be competing with all other services for non-prior service (NPS) recruits. In fact, our non-prior service recruiting requirement has nearly doubled since the end of FY 2007. To improve our chances of success, we have increased the number of recruiters over the next two years.

Air Force Reserve retention is solid with positive gains in all categories in FY 2009, after rebounding from a slight annual drop from FY 2006-FY 2008. Both officer and enlisted retention are up; enlisted retention has returned to the FY 2006 rate. Career Airman retention is at its highest level in the last five years.

Some of this success can be attributed to implementing several retention-focused initiatives such as developing a wing retention report card tool and General Officer emphasis on retention during base visits. With Air Force Reserve retention at its best for the last three years, this renewed focus on retention is expected to ensure that rates continue on a positive trend.

We can't take all the credit for this success. Congress has generously responded to our requests for assistance with improved benefits such as the Post-9/11 GI Bill, inactive duty training (IDT) travel pay, and affordable TRICARE for members of the Selected Reserve.

To date, under the conditions of the Post-9/11 GI Bill benefit, the Air Force Reserve has processed over 4,400 transferability requests impacting nearly 7,000 dependents. Under the Individual Duty Training travel pay benefit, more than 5,100 Air Force Reservists have received this benefit. This has helped us address those critical duty areas where we have staffing shortages.

Since October 2007 when the three-tier TRICARE plan was eliminated, the Air Force Reserve has seen an increase in covered lives from 4,541 to 14,982 through January 31, 2010, equaling a 330 percent increase in program usage. The current coverage plan has made TRICARE more accessible and affordable for members of the Selected Reserve at a critical time when healthcare costs are rising. In addition to these new benefits, the Air Force Reserve has taken advantage of the many tools that you have provided us including the bonus program, the Yellow Ribbon Program, and our Seasoning Training program.

The Bonus program has been pivotal to recruiting and retaining the right people with the right skills to meet Combatant Commander warfighting requirements. The Air Force Reserve uses the Bonus Program to fill requirements on our "Critical Skills List." Those skills are deemed vital to Air Force Reserve mission capability. Development of these skills usually requires long training courses and members who have these skills are in high demand within the private sector. We are able to offer a wide menu of bonuses for enlistment, reenlistment, affiliation, and health professionals.

Our Yellow Ribbon Reintegration Office is up and running and fully implementing Department of Defense directives. Our program strives to provide guidance and support to the

military members and their families at a time when they need it the most, to ease the stress and strain of deployments and reintegration back to family life. Since the standup of our program from August 2008 to December 2009, we have hosted 113 total events across 39 Wings and Groups. 4,515 Reservists and 3,735 family members attended these events reflecting a 67 percent program usage rate for members deployed during this timeframe. From event exit surveys and through both formal and informal feedback, attendees indicated positive impressions, expressing comments about feeling "better prepared, (and) confident following events."

Designed to build a "ready force," our Seasoning Training Program allows recent graduates of initial and intermediate level specialty training to voluntarily remain on active duty to complete upgrade training. The results have been a larger pool of deployable Reservists at an accelerated rate through this program. As a force multiplier, seasoning training is ensuring the Air Force Reserve maintains its reputation for providing combat-ready Airmen for today's joint fight. The Seasoning Training Program is also proving beneficial for recruiting, training, and retaining members in the Air Force Reserve. This program is a success story and one that we will build on in the next year.

The Air Force Reserve is working hard to increase Reservists' awareness of benefits and incentives associated with their service. Reservists are taking advantage of these programs because they are having their intended effect. These programs are helping to create the sustainable and predictable lifestyle that our members need to continue to serve in the Air Force Reserve.

I am confident that as we act on not only our Air Force Reserve priorities, but also on those of the Air Force and the Department of Defense with the continued support of this Committee and Congress, we will be able to continue to meet the needs of Combatant Commanders and the Nation with a viable operational and strategic Air Force Reserve.

Maintain a Strategic Reserve while Providing an Operational, Mission Ready Force

The Air Force Reserve is first and foremost a strategic reserve leveraged to provide an operational, mission ready force in all mission areas.[3] Air Force Reserve Airmen accomplish this by training to the same standards and currencies as their Regular Air Force counterparts. As indicated at the outset, Air Force Reserve Airmen continue to volunteer at high levels and

[3] Airmen of the Selected Reserve are mission-ready, capable of performing ongoing operations. Collectively, they have met the operational needs of the Air Force for decades--largely through volunteerism, but also through full-time mobilization. Between 1991 and 2003, Reservists supported the no-fly areas of Operations Northern and Southern Watch. Since the attacks on 11 Sept 2001, 54,000 Reservists have been mobilized to participate in Operations Enduring Freedom, Noble Eagle, and Operation Iraqi Freedom—6,000 remain on active duty status today. It is a fact that the Air Force now, more than any other time, relies on members of the Reserve and Guard to meet its operational requirements around the globe.

The Air Force Reserve maintains 60% of the Air Force's total Aeromedical Evacuation (AE) capability. Reserve AE crews and operations teams provide a critical lifeline home for our injured warfighters. Our highly trained AE personnel fill 43% of each AEF rotation and augment existing USEUCOM and USPACOM AE forces in conducting 12 Tanker Airlift Control Center tasked AE channel missions each quarter--all on a volunteer basis.

In 2009, the men and women of our Combat Search and Rescue (CSAR) forces have been heavily engaged in life saving operations at home and abroad. Since February, Airmen of the 920th Rescue Wing at Patrick Air Force Base, Florida, and their sister units in Arizona and Oregon, flew over 500 hours and saved more than 200 U.S. troops on HH-60 helicopter missions in support of U.S. Army medical evacuation operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. While mobilized for 14 months in support of combat missions abroad, the 920th continued to provide humanitarian relief in response to natural disasters at home, as well as provide search and rescue support for NASA shuttle and rocket launches. In addition, the 39th Rescue Squadron (HC-130s), also at Patrick AFB, flew rescue missions in Africa and provided airborne CSAR support during the rescue of the Maersk Alabama's Captain from Somalian pirates.

The Air Force Reserve provides 100% of the airborne weather reconnaissance (hurricane hunting) capability for the Department of Defense. Throughout the year, the Citizen Airmen of the Air Force Reserve's 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron "Hurricane Hunters", a component of the 403rd Wing located at Keesler Air Force Base in Biloxi, Mississippi fly over 1,500 operational storm hours. The Hurricane Hunters have 10 WC-130J Super Hercules aircraft that are equipped with palletized meteorological data-gathering instruments. They fly surveillance missions of tropical storms and hurricanes in the Atlantic Ocean, the Caribbean Sea, the Gulf of Mexico and the central Pacific Ocean for the National Hurricane Center in Miami. The unit also flies winter storm missions off both coasts of the United States and is also used to perform advanced weather research missions for the DoD and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The life-saving data collected makes possible advance warning of hurricanes and increases the accuracy of hurricane predictions warnings by as much as 30%.

In addition to our hurricane mission, the Air Force Reserve provides 100% of the aerial spray mission in support of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Centers for Disease Control, and state public health officials. Air Force Reserve aircrews and C-130s from the 910th Airlift Wing, Youngstown Air Reserve Station, Ohio, sprayed more than a million storm ravaged acres of land with pesticides to control the spread of disease.

Our intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance professionals are providing critical information as they answer the nation's call to service. Since Sep 11, 2001, 1,079 intelligence personnel have deployed in support of world-wide contingency missions to include Afghanistan and Iraq. For the foreseeable future, Reserve intelligence professionals will continue to be deployed throughout the Combatant Command theaters, engaged in operations ranging from intelligence support to fighter, airlift, and tanker missions to ISR operations in Combined Air Operations Centers and Combined/Joint Task Forces as well as support to the National Command Authority, such as, Defense Intelligence Agency, National Security Agency and National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency.

These are but a few examples of the dedication and contributions our Air Force Reserve Airmen have made and will continue to make around the clock, around the world, each and every day.

provide superb operational capability around the globe, serving side by side with the joint team. These Airmen provide the insurance policy the Air Force and the Nation need: a surge capability in times of national crises. In fact, the Air Force Reserve is currently mobilizing our strategic airlift resources and expeditionary support to assist surge requirements in Afghanistan.[4]

The Air Force Reserve is a repository of experience and expertise for the Air Force. Air Force Reserve Airmen are among the most experienced Airmen in the Air Force. Air Force Reserve officers average roughly 15 years of experience, and enlisted members average 14 years of experience, compared to 11 years and 9 years for Regular Air Force officers and enlisted, respectively. In fact, roughly 64 percent of Air Force Reserve Airmen have prior military experience.

Reserve Airmen are a cost-effective force provider, comprising nearly 14 percent of the total Air Force authorized end-strength at only 5.3 percent of the military personnel budget. Put differently, Air Force Reserve Airmen cost per capita is 27.7 percent of that of Regular Air Force Airmen, or roughly 3.5 Reserve Airmen to one Regular Airman.[5]

However, we cannot take for granted the high level of commitment our Reservists have thus far demonstrated. We must do our best to ensure their continued service. Accordingly, we are undertaking enterprise-wide actions to make Air Force Reserve service more predictable.

In the Air Force Reserve, we are revising our management structures and practices to eliminate redundancies associated with mobilizing and deploying Reservists to meet Combatant Commanders' requirements. The intent is to create an integrated process that will be more responsive to the needs of Reservists, provide them greater predictability, make participation

[4] Our Reserve community continues to answer our nation's call to duty with large numbers of volunteer Reservists providing essential support to Combatant Commanders. 46% percent of the Air Force's strategic airlift mission and 23% of its tanker mission capability are provided by Reserve Airmen. We currently have over 450 C-17, C-5, KC-135, and KC-10 personnel on active duty orders supporting the air refueling and airlift requirements.

[5] FY 2008 Budget, figures derived from ABIDES (Automated Budget Interactive Data Environment System), the budget system currently in use by the Air Force and recognized as the official Air Force position with respect to the Planning, Programming and Budget Execution (PPBE) system. Inflation data used for any constant dollar calculations were based on average Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) rates for the past ten years: roughly 2.6% average annual rate of inflation. Medicare Eligible Retirement Health Care (MERHC) is an accrual account used to pay for health care of Medicare-eligible retirees (age 65 and beyond). Cost per capita figures were derived dividing cost of Selected Reserve program by Selected Reserve end-strength. When MERHC figures are included, the cost of Air Force Reserve Airmen to Regular Air Force Airmen increases to 30.4%.

levels more certain, and ultimately provide Combatant Commanders with a more sustainable operational capability. This is still a work in progress.

At the Pentagon, the Air Force Reserve is examining its processes to improve Reserve interaction among the Air Force Headquarters staff to better support the Chief of Air Force Reserve, the Chief of Staff of the Air Force, and the Secretary of the Air Force in discharging their service responsibilities. Through the Air Reserve Personnel Center, the Air Force Reserve is also taking action to improve Reserve and Air National Guard personnel administrative and management capabilities. Collectively, these actions will contribute to the overall health of the strategic reserve and improve the sustainability of the Air Force Reserve and the Air Force operational capability required by the warfighters in this new century.

Preserve the Care and Viability of the Reserve Triad

Reservists have relationships with three basic entities: family, civilian employer, and military employer--what I like to call "The Reserve Triad." Helping our Airmen preserve these relationships is critical to our sustainability. In this Year of the Air Force Family, our policies and our actions must support the viability of these relationships--especially the one Reservists have with their families. Open communication about expectations, requirements, and opportunities will provide needed predictability and balance among all three commitments.

To that end, we are now consistently and actively surveying Reserve and Regular Airmen to better understand why they come to serve and why they stay. We are continually learning and gaining a better understanding of attitudes toward service and issues associated with employers and family. From their feedback, I can better advocate for benefits that help us recruit and retain Airmen for the Air Force Reserve.

Military services must be flexible: capable of surging, refocusing, and continuously engaging without exhausting resources and people. That is sustainability. Approaching FY 2011 and beyond, it is imperative that we preserve the health of our strategic Reserve and improve our ability to sustain our operational capability. Going forward, we need to continuously balance capabilities and capacity against both near-term and long-term requirements.

Clearly, in a time of constricted budgets and higher costs, in-depth analysis is required to effectively prioritize our needs. We must understand the role we play in supporting the warfighter and concentrate our resources in areas that will give us the most return on our investment. Optimizing the capability we present to the warfighter is a top priority, but we must simultaneously support our Airmen, giving them the opportunity to have a predictable service schedule and not serve more than they can sustain.

Broaden Total Force Initiative Opportunities

As weapons systems become increasingly expensive and more capable, their numbers necessarily go down. Aging platforms are being retired and not replaced on a one-for-one basis. The Air Force is required to make the most of its smaller inventory. To this end, the Air Force Reserve, Air National Guard, and Regular Air Force are integrating across the force, exploring associations wherever practical. The Air Force is aggressively examining all Air Force core functions for integration opportunities.[6]

[6] The Air Force uses three types of associations to leverage the combined resources and experience levels of all three components: "Classic Association," "Active Association," and "Air Reserve Component Association."

Under the "Classic" model, so-called because it is the first to be used, a Regular Air Force unit is the host unit and retains primary responsibility for the weapon system, and a Reserve or Guard unit is the tenant. This model has flourished in the Military Airlift and Air Mobility Commands for over 40 years. We are now beginning to use it in the Combat Air Forces (CAF): our first fighter aircraft "Classic" association at Hill Air Force Base, Utah, attained Initial Operational Capability in June of 2008. This association combined the Regular Air Force's 388th Fighter Wing, the Air Force's largest F-16 fleet, with the Air Force Reserve's 419th Fighter Wing, becoming the benchmark and lens through which the Air Force will look at every new mission. The 477th Fighter Group, an F-22 unit in Elmendorf, Alaska, continues to mature as the first AFR F-22A associate unit. This unit also achieved Initial Operating Capability in 2008 and will eventually grow into a two-squadron association with the Regular Air Force.

The Air Force Reserve Command is establishing its first Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance Group Association at Langley AFB, VA, this year. This Group and assigned Intelligence Squadrons of Reserve Airmen will partner with the Regular Air Force to provide operational command and control of units delivering real-time, tailored intelligence to combat forces engaged in missions in Iraq and Afghanistan, with data derived from theater Predator/Reapers, Global Hawks and U-2s, in partnership with the Total Force team. The Air Force has also programmed additional associate intelligence squadrons for Beale and Langley Air Force Bases for distributed support to global ISR operations to include USEUCOM, and USPACOM theaters. Once these units have reached full operational capability, Air Force Reserve exploitation and analysis surge capacity of Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPAs) will be approximately 10% of the Air Force's capability based on 65 orbits. Additional Command and Control Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance capability is being stood up with an AFRC associate Air Forces Forces Command (AFFOR) unit at Beale AFB, CA, to support USPACOM and one at Hurlburt AFB, FL to support USSOCOM global Special Operations Forces. These new capabilities create a strategic reserve force ready to respond to the call of our nation, capable of being leveraged as operational crews ready and willing to support the

Over the past 40 years, we have established a wide variety of associate units throughout the Air Force, combining the assets and manpower of all three components to establish units that capitalize on the strengths each component brings to the mix. We recently partnered with Air Mobility Command to create three more active associate flying squadrons in 2010 and beyond. About 500 Regular Airmen will associate with Air Force Reserve flying units at Keesler AFB, MS (C-130J); March Air Reserve Base, CA (KC-135); and Peterson AFB, CO (C-130H) by 2012.[7]

But associations are not simply about sharing equipment. The goal is to enhance combat capability and increase force-wide efficiency by leveraging the resources and strengths of the Regular Air Force, Air National Guard, and Air Force Reserve while respecting unique component cultures in the process. To better accommodate the Air Force-wide integration effort, the Air Force Reserve has been examining its four decades of association experience. With Regular Air Force and Air National Guard assessment teams, we have developed analytical tools to determine the optimal mix of Reserve, Guard, and Regular forces in any given mission. These tools will give the Air Force a solid business case for associating as we go forward.

Regular Air Force in everyday missions around the world. This model has proven itself and is the basis for the growth of associations over the last five years.

[7] Under the "Active" model, the Air Force Reserve or Guard unit is host and has primary responsibility for the weapon system while the Regular Air Force provides additional aircrews to the unit. The 932nd Airlift Wing is the first ever Operational Support Airlift Wing in the Air Force Reserve with 3 C-9Cs and 3 C-40s. Additionally, the Air Force Reserve will take delivery of an additional C-40 in FY 2011, appropriated in the FY 2009 Consolidated Security, Disaster Assistance and Continuing Appropriations Act. This additional C-40 will help to replace the 3 C-9Cs, which are costly to maintain and fly. To better utilize the current fleet of C-40s at the 932nd, the Air Force created an Active Association. We also are benefitting from our first C-130 Active Association with the 440th AW at Pope AFB.

Under the "Air Reserve Component (ARC)" model, now resident at Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station (ARS) in New York, the Air Force Reserve has primary responsibility for the equipment while the Guard shares in the operation of the equipment and works side by side with the Reserve to maintain the equipment. The Air National Guard has transitioned from the KC-135 air refueling tanker to the C-130, associating with the 914th Reserve Airlift Wing. The 914th added four additional C-130s, resulting in 12 C-130s at Niagara ARS. This ARC Association model provides a strategic and operational force for the Regular Air Force while capitalizing on the strengths of the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve. Additionally, in this case it provides the State of New York with the needed capability to respond to state emergencies.

The Air Force Reserve has 9 host units and is the tenant at 53 locations. There are currently more than 100 integration initiatives being undertaken by the Air Force and Air Reserve Components.

Air Force Reserve Manpower

The Air Force is balancing Reserve forces across the full spectrum of conflict. We are leveraging the experience of Reservists to alleviate stressed career fields. And we are improving our ability to retain experienced Airmen by providing them a means to stay in the service following any life-changing decisions they make regarding full-time participation. Over the next decade, the Air Force Reserve will grow into many new mission areas, including nuclear enterprise, intelligence, surveillance, reconnaissance, unmanned aerial systems, space, and cyberspace.

However, rebalancing a force can take time, and the fight is now. To meet the more pressing needs of the Air Force, such as easing strain on stressed career fields and taking on new mission sets, the Air Force Reserve is growing by 2,100 Airmen in FY 2010. This will bring Air Force Reserve authorized end-strength to 69,500. By FY 2013, Air Force Reserve end-strength is planned to grow to 72,100.

These manpower increases are placing a premium on recruiting highly qualified and motivated Airmen and providing them the necessary training. The Air Force Reserve recruiting goal for FY 2010 is 10,500. While we met our goal of 8,800 new Airmen for FY 2009 in August, nearly two months before the end of the fiscal year, our forecast models indicate we will continue to face challenges in both recruiting and retention.

Each of these measures—Total Force Integration (TFI), expanding into new mission areas, rebalancing of forces, and, where needed, increasing manpower--will help the Air Force more closely align force structure to current and future DoD requirements, as well as provide increased capability to the combatant commanders.

Air Force Reserve Modernization

The Air Force Reserve is an organization of extraordinary working people, wedded to the fabric of our great Nation. Our Citizen Airmen support all Air Force mission areas in air, space, and cyberspace. They are trained to the same standards and readiness as their Regular

Component peers and are among the most highly-experienced members of the United States Air Force.

A number of trends continue to influence dependence on Air Force Reserve forces to meet the strategic and operational demands of our nation's defense: sustaining operations on five continents plus surge efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan and the resulting wear and tear on our aging equipment; increasing competition for defense budget resources; and increasing integration of the three Air Force components.

The Air Force leverages the value of its Reserve Components through association constructs in which units of the three components share equipment and facilities around a common mission. Increasing integration of all three Air Force components requires a holistic approach be taken when modernizing. To ensure our integrated units achieve maximum capability, the precision attack and defensive equipment the Air Force Reserve employs must be interoperable not only with the Guard and Regular Component, but the Joint force as well.

As Chief of the Air Force Reserve, I am dedicated to ensuring that Air Force Reservists have the training and equipment available to them required to provide for our Nation's defense. I appreciate the attention and resources provided to the Reserve thus far, and I ask for your continued support.

The National Guard Reserve Equipment Account (NGREA) appropriation has resulted in an increase in readiness and combat capability for both the Reserve and the Guard. For FY 2010, the Air Force Reserve Command received $55 million in NGREA appropriations. This resulted in the ability to purchase critical warfighting requirements for Reserve-owned equipment including critical upgrades to targeting pods, aircraft defense systems for C-5s and C-130s, and personnel protective equipment like security forces tactical weapons. These new capabilities are directly tied to better air support for our Soldiers and Marines in Iraq and Afghanistan. NGREA funding has helped the Air Force Reserve to remain relevant in today's fight as well as the ability to remain ready and capable in future conflicts. We truly appreciate and thank you for your support with this critical program.

Military Construction (MILCON) and Infrastructure Modernization

Along with challenges in modernizing our equipment, we face challenges modernizing our infrastructure. During the FY 2011 budget formulation, both the Regular Air Force and the Air Force Reserve took risk in military construction in order to fund higher priorities. Over time, this assumption of additional risk has resulted in a continuing backlog exceeding $1 billion for the Air Force Reserve. I would be remiss if I didn't take this opportunity to sincerely thank you for the $112 million that we received in last fiscal year's military construction authorization and appropriation. This allowed us to address some of the most dire needs that exist in our backlog.

We will continue to work within the fiscal constraints and mitigate risk where possible to ensure our facilities are modernized to provide a safe and adequate working environment for all of our Airmen.

Conclusion

Mr. Chairman and members of this Committee, I am excited to have these roles as Chief of the Air Force Reserve and Commander of the Air Force Reserve Command. I take pride in the fact that when our Nation calls on the Air Force Reserve, we are trained and ready to go to the fight. As a strategic reserve, over 68,500 strong, we are a mission-ready reserve force serving operationally throughout the world every day with little or no notice.

As we approach FY 2011 and beyond, it is clear the Air Force Reserve will play an increasingly vital role in meeting national security needs. The actions we initiated in 2009 and those we advance in 2010 will preserve the health of the Air Force Reserve but also help Congress address the more pressing issues we will face as a Nation in the years to come.

I sincerely appreciate the support of this Committee for the authorization and legislation it provides to our readiness and combat capability. I desire to continue working with each of you on the challenges facing the Air Force Reserve, the Air Force, and Our Nation. Thank you.

QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY MEMBERS POST HEARING

April 22, 2010

QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY MR. SMITH

Mr. SMITH. Please describe the progress that has been made on improving visibility of tracking equipment requirements through budget preparation and review, appropriations, funding allocation and ultimately in the distribution of new equipment.

General CARPENTER. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

Mr. SMITH. What mechanisms are in place to ensure that when Congress provides additional funding for National Guard and Reserve equipment that the Army and Air Force actually follows through on executing the funding and providing the equipment?

General CARPENTER. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

Mr. SMITH. What is the total investment required to adequately resource an "operational reserve"? And, are the National Guard and Reserve Components organized and capable of maintaining and managing this increase in equipment inventory through the out years?

General CARPENTER. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

Mr. SMITH. Background: The Department of Defense's 2010 report on its Quadrennial Defense Review recognized the contributions of the National Guard and reserves in ongoing operations. In addition, the report noted that challenges facing the United States today and in the future will require employing the National Guard and reserves as an operational reserve while providing sufficient strategic depth. However, the Department did not specify actions it would take to support the reserves in their operational role.

- The QDR report noted that an incentive structure must be used to create easier access to reserve component capabilities that are routinely in high demand. What kind of incentive structure do you think is needed to accomplish both creating easier access to reserve component capabilities for the Army and Air Force and implementation of a rotational deployment model that meets deployment tempo goals?
- The QDR reported asserted that the reserve component has untapped capability and capacity. Could you comment on the type and quantity of untapped capability and capacity you see in the National Guard now?

General CARPENTER. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

Mr. SMITH. As you are aware, the Army has indicated the acquisition objective for new production Utility and Up-Armor Humvees is complete and the Army now plans to transition from new production Humvees to focusing on "recapping" those in current inventory and those returning from Iraq. What is the Army National Guard's position toward the Army's new acquisition strategy for Humvees?

General CARPENTER. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

Mr. SMITH. What is the status of the payback plans the Army is required to provide the reserve components? If the Army has not provided payback plans, what do the units who left the equipment overseas use for training?

General CARPENTER. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

Mr. SMITH. Does the Army National Guard have the full time support needed to ensure that the increased training and equipment maintenance activities needed to increase readiness are completed before mobilization?

General CARPENTER. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

Mr. SMITH. Please describe the progress that has been made on improving visibility of tracking equipment requirements through budget preparation and review, appropriations, funding allocation and ultimately in the distribution of new equipment.

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General WYATT. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

Mr. SMITH. We understand that the Air National Guard operates 16 of 18 Air Sovereignty Alert (ASA) sites, and that by 2013, retirements of F–16 aircraft will affect 10 of 18 ASA [A–S–A] sites. Are plans in place to replace the retiring force structure for all of the Air National Guard's ASA sites?

General WYATT. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

Mr. SMITH. The recent Mobility Capabilities Requirements Study identified an overmatch in C–130 tactical airlift force structure. How will future reductions affect Air National Guard units? Have you, the Adjutants General, and Governors been consulted on potential future force reductions?

General WYATT. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

Mr. SMITH. Please describe the progress that has been made on improving visibility of tracking equipment requirements through budget preparation and review, appropriations, funding allocation and ultimately in the distribution of new equipment.

General STULTZ. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

Mr. SMITH. What mechanisms are in place to ensure that when Congress provides additional funding for National Guard and Reserve equipment that the Army and Air Force actually follows through on executing the funding and providing the equipment?

General STULTZ. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

Mr. SMITH. What is the total investment required to adequately resource an "operational reserve"? And, are the National Guard and Reserve Components organized and capable of maintaining and managing this increase in equipment inventory through the out years?

General STULTZ. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

Mr. SMITH. Background: The Department of Defense's 2010 report on its Quadrennial Defense Review recognized the contributions of the National Guard and reserves in ongoing operations. In addition, the report noted that challenges facing the United States today and in the future will require employing the National Guard and reserves as an operational reserve while providing sufficient strategic depth.

However, the Department did not specify actions it would take to support the reserves in their operational role.

- The QDR report noted that an incentive structure must be used to create easier access to reserve component capabilities that are routinely in high demand. What kind of incentive structure do you think is needed to accomplish both creating easier access to reserve component capabilities for the Army and Air Force and implementation of a rotational deployment model that meets deployment tempo goals?
- The QDR reported asserted that the reserve component has untapped capability and capacity. Could you comment on the type and quantity of untapped capability and capacity you see in the National Guard now?

General STULTZ. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

Mr. SMITH. The average non deployed unit has about 65 percent of its authorized equipment needed to conduct training, participate in future deployments and respond to domestic missions. The Department of the Army has a plan to adequately address this equipping shortfall but not until 2019. Is this timeline sufficient and what risks are inherited in this plan of resolving this most critical issue so late for the Army Reserve?

General STULTZ. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

Mr. SMITH. What is the status of the payback plans the Army is required to provide the reserve components? If the Army has not provided payback plans, what do the units who left the equipment overseas use for training?

General STULTZ. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

Mr. SMITH. Please describe the progress that has been made on improving visibility of tracking equipment requirements through budget preparation and review, appropriations, funding allocation and ultimately in the distribution of new equipment.

General STENNER. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

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General STENNER. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

Mr. SMITH. The recent Mobility Capabilities Requirements Study identified an overmatch in C–130 tactical airlift force structure. How will future reductions affect Air Force Reserve units?

General STENNER. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY MS. GIFFORDS

Ms. GIFFORDS. As many on this subcommittee know, the Air National Guard is very important to me. The 162d Fighter Wing in my home town of Tucson, is the largest Air Guard unit in the country and the international training unit for F–16s.

A year ago we held a very similar hearing on the Air Sovereignty Alert mission. Since 9/11, we have scrambled jets 2,350 times to meet potential threats. Sometimes the threat proved more real than others but let's not forget it only takes one aircraft getting through the net to make us understand very clearly the consequences of failure.

A year ago, both Congressman LoBiondo and I spoke of the precipice that our fighter fleet was quickly approaching.

In 7 years, roughly 80% of the Air Guard will have aircraft on that have passed their acceptable service life.

Last month the Secretary of the Air Force announced that Initial Operating Capability for the Joint Strike Fighter would slip further. That can only exacerbate the growing fighter gap within the Air Guard. We hear a lot about the Navy's gap of 200 or so aircraft but that truly pales in comparison to the 800 fighter shortfall we face in the Air Force in coming years.

1. Last year we thought we had solved some of the problems with getting airframes into the Guard with the "concurrent and proportional" fighter basing language. If the JSF slides further, won't there still be a number of Guard bases that end up getting aircraft late-to-need?

General WYATT. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

2. Many of us have seen the chart showing the fighter waterfall that will hit the Air Guard over the next 7 years. Can you please address the consequences of an 80% reduction in capability, and its negative impact on our National Military Strategy?

General WYATT. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

3. Over the last year and a half I have been on the record advocating for a small interim buy of Generation 4.5 aircraft to offset the fighter gap and also exploring a Service Life Extension Program, concurrently. Are you aware of any steps toward doing a Service Life Extension Program and do you know of any studies yet completed that indicate it is a safe solution for Guard F–16s?

General WYATT. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

4. Are you aware of plans for the Air Force to conduct a full scale review of Operation Noble Eagle—the program that provides for the ASA mission?

General WYATT. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

5. Is the current budget request sufficient to fully protect America's ten major cities and the other high value assets identified as critical under 'Noble Eagle'?

General WYATT. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY MR. MILLER

Mr. MILLER. How will the shift to Afghanistan affect equipping for domestic missions?

General CARPENTER. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

Mr. MILLER. What is the status of the payback plans the Army is required to provide the reserve component?

General STULTZ. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

Mr. MILLER. In regard to the 919th SOW, I understand the wing's MC–130 Talon I will be retiring in the next couple of years, what is the planned follow on mission for the 711th SOS? Do you anticipate the size of the wing changing as a result of the new mission for the 711th?

General STENNER. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

Mr. MILLER. Does the Air Force intend to relocate the 2nd SOS from Creech to Eglin or Duke?

General STENNER. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

Mr. MILLER. The QDR calls for a plus up in small aircraft for the AFID (Air Foreign Internal Defense), I know the 5th SOS is associated with the AFSOTC (Air Force Special Operations Training Center) at Hurlburt, will that unit need to grow to accommodate the additional training that will be required?

General STENNER. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

QUESTIONS SUBMITTED BY MR. COFFMAN

Mr. COFFMAN. General Carpenter, how long does the Army National Guard plan to fly the C–23 Sherpa? What modifications do you plan for the C–23? Will the C–27J replace the C–23 Sherpa? When?

General CARPENTER. [The information referred to was not available at the time of printing.]

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