



Meeting Summary  
Governor's Military Council  
May 17 and 18, 2016  
Sacramento

May 17<sup>th</sup>

**Council Business Meeting**

A quorum was established by the Chair with the following members in attendance: MG Astafan; VADM Breckenridge; Assemblymember Chavez; Mr. Coyle; Mr. Giacchi; LTG Hanlon; Secretary Imbasciani, M.D.; Assemblymember Irwin; MG Jackson; MG Kenneally; Senator Nguyen; VADM Oliver; MG Regua; Senator Roth; RADM Slaght; LTG Tattini.

Discussion with Governor Brown

The Council received Governor Brown for a discussion on the Council. Chair Tauscher provided opening remarks encapsulating the Council's mission, the importance of California to the nation's defense and the effectiveness of the Council to leverage relationships in Washington DC. Assemblymember Chavez commented on the significant economic impact California derives from having such a large national defense footprint in the state. LTG Tattini identified 3 military mission areas that overlap with the California economy by bringing and maintaining intellectual capital with the state: aerospace; cyber; and remotely piloted vehicles. LTG Hanlon highlighted the need for more focus by the state on retaining the valuable human capital that transitioning servicemembers represent. MG Kenneally underscored the fact that California is a critical part of an integrated training complex spanning the southwest United States, known as the Southwest Defense Complex that is not found anywhere else in the nation. VADM Oliver highlighted the unique installations in the Monterey area that many other areas of the country would like to have based on the justification that the mission can be executed more cheaply elsewhere. RADM Slaght advocated a more active strategy for bringing more missions to California and identified the national defense strategy of focusing on the Pacific region as an opportunity to acquire more missions in California. MG Regua underscored the necessity for being proactive in guarding against a future BRAC and described the initiative of the Council to create a "non-aggression" pact with the other western states to protect national defense assets. Senator Nguyen raised the issue that California has 1.3 million veterans many with significant needs and advocated for focusing on veteran's issues as the state budget process moves forward. MG Astafan stated that the Council's efforts are not going unnoticed in the Pentagon and thanked the Governor for his support of the Council's efforts. Mr. Coyle provided his perspective in the context of a former BRAC Commissioner and stated that work of the Council is important as states that prepared for previous BRAC rounds fared much better than those that did not. Mr. Giacchi highlighted the uniqueness of California geography and the land and sea ranges afforded by that. Furthermore, that the Council must be vigilant on impacts that have the potential to affect missions in California.

The Governor provided comments by stating that budget picture for California is challenging. The Governor continued by recognizing the important role that the military plays in the California economy and that California's technology ecosystem which is the envy of the nation and world was started by DoD initiatives. Governor Brown voiced his appreciation for the Council's work and highlighted that the job of the Council is to knit disparate issues together and voice one message to Washington DC. Through executing that work, California can be an example for the nation of how to work together.

After the Governor's departure, the Council unanimously approved administrative and operational documents. The bylaws, 2016 workplan, and schedule for Q3 and Q4 meetings were all approved.

#### Briefing from the Services on Environmental Regulatory and Other Challenges

The Council received a brief on the combined environmental priorities of the services from Chris Stathos with Navy Region Southwest. The brief highlighted significant mission impacts resulting from the legal and regulatory environmental framework in the state. In response to a question posed by LTG Hanlon on what defines a significant impact, Mr. Stathos confirmed that it meant delays or cancellations of training or testing. A discussion ensued in response to the service's legislative priorities on whether the Council may weigh-in on legislation. The Chair recommended that consideration of legislation should be the purview of the legislative members of the Council and that it would not be appropriate for the full Council to take legislative positions as it is an advisory body to the Governor. Senator Roth stated that the elected members can affect the process in their legislative roles.

#### Closed Session

The Council moved into closed session to receive a federal update from Andreas Mueller, Executive Director which included federally classified information.

The Council moved into open session without taking any action in closed session and adjourned the meeting.

#### Meet and Greet with CalVet

The Council conducted a brief meet and greet with Deputy Secretary Keith Boylan, California Department of Veterans Affairs and received an overview of initiatives and operations of the department.

#### Reception

The Council moved to a reception hosted by the San Diego Economic Development Corporation, Los Angeles Economic Development Corporation, Beale Military Liaison Council, China Lake Alliance, and the Solano County Economic Development Corporation in the Medal of Honor Room at the California Department of Veterans Affairs.

**May 18<sup>th</sup>**

**All California Defense Summit**

The Council held the inaugural gathering of installation commanders and civilian support organizations with over 90 attendees. Over half of the installations in California were represented by senior leaders and a majority of the civilian support organizations attended. The Summit was conducted in a panel format addressing issues relevant to the military community: the role of support organizations; energy; water and drought planning; land use and development; and education and transitioning servicemember opportunities. The panels consisted of Pentagon officials, service representatives, support organizations, local officials, installation commanders, and state officials.

**Plenary Session #1: Role of Installation Support Organizations** - The installation support organization panel was moderated by Matt Borron, Chief Operating Officer, Association of Defense Communities who provided an overview of national trends with how states support military installations. He outlined four national trends related to community military partnership organizations: communities engaging at unprecedented levels; state military support organizations being fully funded and staffed; states making direct investments into military installations; states conducting SWOT analysis; stated that a number of states provide state funds to address on-base infrastructure issues and highlighted a defense contractor tax of .01% on each employee that funds a military infrastructure account in Oklahoma.

- Janie Nall, Chair, Beale Military Liaison Council, provided remarks on best practices to include how critical it is to have a relationship with the installation commander, benefits of being a 501C3 organization and advocacy efforts.
- Randy Bogle, Executive Director, San Diego Military Advisory Council, underscored the fact that the San Diego region houses the largest concentration of military in the United States and the importance of the organization in supporting the mission. In executing its mission Randy outlined the importance of the organization's advocacy efforts locally and in DC, its annual regional military economic impact study utilized as a resource by decision makers and its recognition program for efforts in supporting the military mission and military supporting the community.
- Brigadier General Edward Banta, Commanding General, Marine Corps Installations West, described his relationship to surrounding communities and the critical activity of engaging those entities to maintain open lines of communication through various methods such as serving on local governing bodies and community events. He also described how support organizations may advocate for military equities in instance where it may not be appropriate for the installation leadership to conduct such advocacy efforts.
- Brigadier Nathaniel Reddicks, Commander, Joint Forces Training Base Los Alamitos, California National Guard highlighted the importance of community engagement to proactively address community/installation issues that will arise and to take advantage of opportunities for mutual use of facilities. Maintaining relationships is important due to the length of time that projects take to complete which usually will extend past a single commander's tenure.
- Chair Tauscher recommended creative thinking to leverage footprint to create a regional pool of funds in the absence of MILCON funding to address deferred maintenance issues on installations and requested Assemblymember Chavez to research options with his legislative colleagues. BG Banta stated MCI West has been effective in creating partnerships to address energy goals and supported the Chairs recommendation for researching options for additional resources to fund infrastructure projects. COL Fellingner, Commander Presidion of Monterey, highlighted the effectiveness of Inter Service Governmental Agreements to partner with the City of Monterey.
- Wade Crowfoot asked how the state can support the work of the local support organizations. Randy Bogle stated the Summit is a great first step and to educate local areas about the importance of the military to a region. Also, a devoted effort focused on supporting the military in the state. Looking at additional state resources to address infrastructure issues and educate the broader California

legislative members who do not have information on the significant economic impact that the military has on the State.

- A need was identified to create more dialogue among the support organizations in order to create one advocacy voice for the entire military in the state.

**Plenary Session #2: Energy** - The energy panel was moderated by Ned McKinley, California Director of Government Affairs, Marine Corps Installations West who recommended that commanders should have an energy strategy that takes advantage of opportunities that are available outside the fence line.

- Michael Wu, Special Assistant to the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Installations, Environment, and Energy highlighted the Air Force's focus on mission assurance through energy assurance for its installations with the establishment of the Office of Energy Assurance being stood up. Three core principles drive the vision - resilience, cost effectiveness, and cleaner power. Support infrastructure which gets limited funding in the current fiscal environment must be viewed as part of the weapons systems that they support.
- David Hochschild, Commissioner, California Energy Commission, stated that the Commission is focused on creating partnerships with the military through opportunities to incubate new technologies on installations. Highlighted the opportunities for on-base renewable energy projects.
- Sue Kately, Chief Consultant, California Assembly Utilities & Commerce Committee stated that there is a challenge to balancing policy with impacts. State must ensure ratepayers are receiving value for the ratepayer funds being provided to finance energy projects. SB 83 allowed military to implement larger on-base energy projects, however, fix is still needed. There is a possible opportunity for installations to receive resources for improving energy efficiency through AB 802 that was recently passed. Highlighted that energy projects must be designed not to burden grid. There is an urgency to getting projects reserved under the net metering rules for installations.
- Cal Hendrix, Deputy Base Civil Engineer, Beale Air Force Base, outlined agreement with Western Area Power Administration that will require a renewable energy project and the increase of personnel with the basing of KC 135 tankers at Beale. Base utilizes diesel generators as back-up power with limited supplies of diesel.
- In response to RADM Slaght's question regarding similar energy strategies across the services, Ned responded that he did not see any consistency across DoD.

**Plenary Session #3: Water and Drought Planning** – Wade Crowfoot moderated the panel and provided context to the services water issues with an overview of the California drought. California is experiencing its fifth year of drought with last year's snow pack, which supplies a third of water supplies for the state, being the worst in 500 years. The drought has resulted in the fallowing of several hundred thousand acres of farmland and the state has provided over 1.3 million emergency food supplies to families suffering economically from the loss of agriculture production. Over 10,000 families have lost drinking water supplies that relied on shallow domestic wells. Significant environmental impact is also occurring. Drought is not a unique occurrence in California however, summers and winters are getting warmer which results in less snow pack. The water conveyance system is outdated as it was designed to capture melting snowpack. The recently passed water bond provides opportunities as well as the new groundwater legislation to address the effects of the drought. The state has saved 25% with recent emergency water restrictions which is driving permanent state wide regulations. The military has been proactive in improving water conservation and efficiency and re-doubled efforts during the drought. Water security is a key issue for the military operating environment. State is focused on ensuring infrastructure is capable of delivering water within the changing environment. State goal is to price water more realistically to encourage investments and efficiencies.

- Brigadier General Russell Muncy, Commander, March Air Reserve Base provided an overview of risks facing the installation. Installation is prone to flooding and will initiate a mitigation project that has been a collaborative effort with the surrounding communities for a number of years. Affordable

water availability is a challenge and could be a factor in a future BRAC. Reduction of 25% has been achieved with a goal of another 25%. Aging water infrastructure and complexity is another challenge. Rising groundwater is affecting installation infrastructure. Neighboring water agencies will need indemnification for proposed wells in the area due to proximity to super fund site on the installation.

- Jack Connell, China Lake Alliance, highlighted how China Lake is suffering from the prolonged drought in the state and its reliance on groundwater as the water table receives 15,000 acre feet per year and withdrawals of 25,000 acre feet. China Lake Alliance utilized its credibility to partner with the County and support implementation of the new groundwater management act to bring the basin into balance which will be a benefit to the installation. To limit the water intense land uses, the County through its zoning activity has taken a significant portion of unused agriculture land and re-zoned it for other purposes. Water is a critical resource that affects mission and related issues should be viewed as an encroachment issue that can threaten missions at an installation.
- Brigadier General Frank Emanuel, Director Facilities and Engineering, California Military Department, described the department as a community based entity that shares local resources and has a footprint that spans the state. CMD policy is to be a responsible water manager. To meet goal the Department initiated a strategy of assessing needs and use, then implemented low-flow, water efficiency and drought tolerant measures which reduced water usage 59% since 2010. Key to conservation is metering. Department has been asked to add to the Guard civil support mission of diverting water for wastewater uses for 3 counties reaching capacity in their facilities.
- Rich Juricich, California Department of Water Resources provided an overview of the landmark groundwater management act and the potential impact that it may have on military installations. Federal agencies have the opportunity to participate in establishing groundwater management entities as stakeholders and resources for information related to factors affecting groundwater supplies. DWR and military has a good working relationship in developing mapping tool that identifies installations located in impacted water basins.
- COL Taylor, Installation Commander, Ft. Irwin, described how they reduced consumption 20-40% with the introduction of mock billing in housing units and when the program moves to actual billing of water usage, Ft. Irwin will be the first Army installation in the nation to bill residents for water usage.

**Plenary Session #4: Land Use Development** – Steve Chung, Navy Region Southwest moderated the panel and underscored that development can be pursued in proximity to installations and training ranges if it is compatible.

- Scott Morgan, Governor's Office of Planning and Research indicate that it is important to know your audience and tailor message when speaking about land use issues to different groups. Scott identified a number of issues to work on from the panel: work with Ft. Irwin to add training area; Western Regional Partnership will provide information on military assets in the southwest; research Office of Economic Adjustment grant for renewable energy; improve the online mapping tool for land use planners; update current land use handbook for planners.
- CAPT William Doster, Commanding Officer, Naval Air Facility El Centro described the environment around El Centro as conducive to executing his mission with perfect weather and close proximity to training air space. Underscored the need to protect current training ranges and that any degradation would negatively impact the training of F-35 pilots. Recognizes the fact that surrounding area needs to develop to improve economic vitality, although must be in a compatible manner. Sees a need for additional resources to implement the recommendations from Joint Land Use Studies. Must be cognizant of impacts of renewable energy projects, geothermal has impacts to tools and weapons.
- Tom Freeman, Chairman, Defense & Military Services Commission, Riverside County, stated that there are currently 15 development projects in the pipeline that represent encroachment risks to

March Air Reserve Base. Recommended commanders proactively engage community and stakeholders outside fence line.

- COL Taylor, Garrison Commander Ft. Irwin, stated that increased advocacy needs to be done for consistent DoD funding. Ft. Irwin wants to expand training area by 87,000 acres and active advocacy will be important in moving issue forward.

**Plenary Session #5: Education and Transitioning Servicemember Opportunities** – Deputy Secretary Lindsey Sin, California Department of Veterans Affairs moderated the panel and provided an overview of the new transition program to be implemented by the Department.

- Brigadier Carl Schaefer, Commander, Edwards Air Force Base
- CPT John Herringer, Work For Warriors, provide overview of California National Guard employment program that recently expanded to include all veterans. Program works directly with employers to place unemployed and under-employed veterans.
- Sean Mahoney, Executive Director, Zero8Hundred, provided overview of transition program being operated on a number of installations in the San Diego region.
- Kate Wren Gavlak, Superintendent, Travis Unified School District, provided local, state and national perspective on education issues related to children of military families. Travis Unified works closely with Travis AFB to accommodate the installations military children.
- LAAFB Installation Commander, COL Turner, identified a problem with implementation of legislation allowing military families to choose the school district of their choice. School districts are interpreting the legislation differently and there is a need for clarification from the state. MCI West Education Liaison has met with California Department of Education on the issue and there may be a need for a legislative fix.

The Council provided time for public comment at the conclusion of the Summit and receiving none, the Council meeting was adjourned.