

Florida Defense Alliance Meeting, May 22, 2001

Encroachment Working Group Update – Chair, Bob Arnold

- This working group met on May 21st to re-establish lines of communication between key base representatives and state agencies, which is the key to sharing lessons learned and disseminating resources to combat encroachment.
- Major concerns continue to be population growth/urbanization, expanding environmental regulations, increased air ops & DOD special-use airspace, higher buildings & towers, noise and live-fire training & unexploded ordnance.
- Military has been very proactive in protecting endangered species, both on land and in the sea.
- A chart of the Eglin/Gulf Test Range was discussed, which depicted the proposed oil exploration lease area and where the USAF objects to encroachment (easterly portion of the range).
- The working group is creating a resource list of federal, state, and local grants that are available for encroachment projects.

Infrastructure Working Group Update – Chair, Van Goodloe

- The communities' appeal to their legislators was instrumental in obtaining State funding for Community Defense & Defense Infrastructure Grants. The Alliance appreciates the \$6 million approved by the legislators (\$5 million for Infrastructure and \$1 million for Community Defense Grants). The majority of the Infrastructure Grants was encumbered with a \$2.5 million offset for Highway 123 Improvements (Okaloosa) and \$860K offset for Homestead's Water System Project (Miami-Dade), leaving a balance of \$1.64 million for 2001 / 2002 Infrastructure Projects.
- Should the Governor veto the encumbered projects, this funding would return to the state's general fund and would not be available for infrastructure improvements this year.
- This working group will have a late June conference call to discuss the project listing. Off-line discussions suggested the following criteria be used to evaluate the 2001 / 2002 Defense Infrastructure Grant applications.
 - Select from the projects that offer a large/medium benefit at the lowest cost.
 - Achieve a geographic distribution for projects selected, where possible.
 - Give priority to projects that offer some form of leveraged, local leveraged funding.
 - Communities can update or send in new projects for consideration.
- No SPECTRUM Group update required at this time due to limited funding. A better time for consulting services would be following the 2002 / 2003 budget cycle.

Family Transition Working Group Introduction – Chair, Mike Rhodes

- As announced by Governor Bush during the last Base Commanders' Meeting, the Florida Defense Alliance is establishing a new working group to address Family Transition. The initial focus will be on transition issues affecting Military Youth and Schools. The average military youth will attend five schools before graduating from high school. Easing this transition between states and different state requirements deserves our attention.
- If a base desires to participate, the Base Commanders' representatives should provide a base POC's contact numbers/e-mail address to Mr. Maurice Tricarico (305) 437-1069 or tricaricom@hq.southcom.mil.
- This POC should be able to effectively represent the views of the installation and should keep their Commander informed. Initially the POCs will collect inputs from their installation to determine school transition issues impacting their youth (both in-coming and out-going), as well as suggestions to mitigate the issue. These issues may include transfer of credits, graduation requirements, access to extra-curricular activities, or differing GPA methodologies. Most meetings will take place via teleconference so travel should be minimal. After initially defining issues and recommended courses of action, the working group will bring with local and state officials as necessary.
- LTG(Ret.) Pete Taylor (ptaylor03@aol.com) offered the working group the support of the non-profit, Military Child Coalition and recommended CENTCOM's Mrs. Tommy Franks as one of the Association's members, who can support this working group from MacDill Air Force Base.

Florida Delegation Update

- Communities should notify Bill Buckey, Governor's Office in DC, of their schedules and agendas when they come to DC so he can assist the communities in their planning.
- Senator Nelson's military aide, Bill Sutey, urged the communities to keep coming with their issues.

Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development Update (OTTED)

- Issues raised to the Governor at the last two meetings with the Base Commanders have led to the following:
 - Pay Day Loan Protection, which legislates the maximum interest charged to service members and other low income Floridians

- Rental agreements will include a “Military Clause” to protect the service member from penalties for rotating earlier than expected
- Military Voters Protection Act will allow ballots to be counted that are dated regardless of postmark.
- Press releases will be available at myflorida.com, as the legislation becomes law with the Governor’s signing.

Enterprise Florida Update

- Enterprise Florida announced the following schedule for administering the 2001 / 2002 Community Defense Grants:
 - Draft RFP June 15, 2001
 - Final RFP July 1, 2001
 - Applications due July 31, 2001
 - Panel Evaluates August 14, 2001
 - Award Notifications August 27, 2001
 - Governor’s Meeting with Base Commanders
 - Contracted September 10, 2001

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- Dr. David Goetsch, Okaloosa-Walton Community College, facilitated the updating of the 1998 Florida Defense Alliance Strategic Plan. Working group’s draft will be staffed with the Alliance as a whole before going final.

- Off-line discussion reviewed the need to update the military’s economic impact within Florida. The Fishkind Report (1997) estimated that the military bases and installations (salaries, goods, and services) produced a \$20B impact on Florida’s economy. The additional combined impact of the defense industry (not aligned with a base or installation), retirees, Reserve / National Guard forces, and federal educational benefits is estimated at \$10B for a total impact of \$30B. The U.S. Army Simulation, Training, and Instrumentation Command alone will generate contracts valued at \$4B over the next 8 years, a figure that is not tied to a base or installation.

- Hurlburt Field is still awaiting letters from the U.S. Air Force granting permission to accept “gifts” that were bought through the Defense Grant Program.

Coming Events State of Florida

- Alliance proposed conducting the annual defense day in Tallahassee around February 7th: “D-Day 2002: A Florida Defense Team of One!” The Rotunda, 2nd and 3rd floors, and courtyard will be reserved on this day for communities, bases/installations, defense industries, Junior and College-level Reserve Officer Training Corp (ROTC) programs, military college programs, and other defense associations to display their capabilities and issues to the legislators and Governor.
- NAS Pensacola is hosting the high-level, Iwo Jima (LDH7 amphibious ship) Commissioning Ceremony on June 30th. Community is raising \$130K from private donors for the gala.

Next Meeting:

TBD: October (vicinity of Columbus Day weekend) Pensacola

(cont.) Florida Defense Alliance Meeting, May 22, 2001

Attendees:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-mail</u>
Kathy Ward	Enterprise Florida	(407) 316-4615	kward@floridabusines.com
Lorin Krueger	Dept. of Transportation	(850) 419-4922	lorin.krueger@dot.state.fl.us
LCDR P. Odenthal	NAS Whiting Field	(850) 623-7268	paul.odenthal@cnet.navy.mil
Capt Ferd Salomon	NAS Whiting Field	(850) 623-7121	ferd.salomon@cnet.navy.mil
Larry Sassano	EDC Okaloosa	(850) 651-7374	larrys@florida-edc.org
Bob Black	Cong. Scarborough	(850) 664-1266	bob.black@mail.house.gov
Dave Stone	45th Space Wing, PAFB	(321) 494-7402	david.stone@patrick.af.mil
Vann Goodloe	Pensacola Area Chamber	(850) 432- 2837	vgoodloe@pensacolachamber.com
Paul Hirsch	Madison Gov. Affairs	(202) 347-1223	pjhmg@aol.com
Bob Arnold	Eglin AFB	(850) 8823614	robert.arnold@eglin.af.mil
Mollie Palmer	DEP	(850) 488-1554	mollie.palmer@dep.state.fl.us
Mike Rhodes	U.S. South Com	(305) 437-1069	rhodes@hq.southcom.mil
Tom Ballasch	16 CES, Hurlburt	(850) 884-4488	thomas.ballasch@hurlburt.af.mil
Richard Wolff	CO, Navy Region SE	(904) 542-2949	wolffr@cnrse.navy.mil
Relf Crissey	Nat'l Center, Simulation	(407) 384-6111	relf@simulationinformation.com
Larry Dantzler	Bay Defense Alliance	(850) 769-5082	larrydantzler@knology.net
Tom Neubauer	Bay Defense Alliance	(850) 785-1551	tom@panamacityera.com
CMDR D.Kennedy	NAVSTA Mayport	(904) 270-5202	lagaqua@bellsouth.net
CMDR F. Berley	NAVSTA Mayport	(904) 270-5202	fberley@nsmayport.spear.navy.mil
Marla Gillman	Governor's Office	(850) 487-2568	marla.gillman@myflorida.com
Mike McDaniel	Dept. Community Affairs	(850) 487-4545	mike.mcdaniel@dca.state.fl.us
Kevin Gartland	NAS Jacksonville	(904) 542-2717	gartlandke@nasjax.navy.mil
Wes Smith	Tyndall AFB	(850) 283-3065	william.smith@tyndall.af.mil
Ed Manning	Tyndall AFB	(850) 283-3226	lawrence.manning@tyndall.af.mil
John Criswell	Dept of Juvenile Justice	(850) 921-6343	john.criswell@djj@state.fl.us
Mark Trammell	Dept of HW Safety MV	(850) 487-0629	trammell.mark@hsmv.state.fl.us
Walt Turner	FDLE Mutual Aid	(850) 410-8397	waltturner@fdle.state.fl.us
Jim Brodie	Agency for Health Care	(850) 921-1087	brodiej@fdhc.state.fl.us
Lt. Damian Gomez	NAS Pensacola	(850) 452-4671	ltdamian.gomez@cnet.navy.mil
Bill Sutey	Office of Sen. Bill Nelson	(202) 224-8715	bill_sutey@billnelson.senate.gov
Bill Buckey	Fla Gov Office, D.C.	(202) 624-5885	buckeyw@sso.org
Sharon Rodriguez	45 SW/JXA PAFB	(321) 494-7233	sharon.rodriguez@patrick.af.mil
Robert McGill	Coastal Systems Station	(850) 234-4915	mcgillrd@ncsc.navy.mil