

Base and Installation Commanders' Meeting, February 5, 2001
Governor Jeb Bush Discusses Issues with Florida's Military Leaders
U. S. Southern Command (SOUTHCOM) Headquarters, Miami

Military Attendees:

General Peter Pace,
CINC, SOUTHCOM
Major General Ronald Harrison,
Adjutant General of Florida
Major General Michael Kostelnik,
Commander, Air Armament Center, Eglin
AFB
Major General Larry Arnold, Commander,
Headquarters First Air Force, Tyndall AFB
Major General Jeff Lambert,
Director of Operations, Programs, and
Policy, U.S. Special Operations Command
Major General Dennis Jackson,
Director of Logistics, U.S. Central
Command
Rear Admiral Jan Gaudio,
Commander, Navy Region Southeast
Brigadier General Donald P. Pettit,
Commander, Patrick 45th Space Wing
Rear Admiral Thad Allen,
Commander, 7th Coast Guard District
Brigadier General Stephen Seay,
Commander, STRICOM
Captain Stephen Turcotte,
Commander, NAS Jacksonville
Captain Dovard W. Nelms,
Commander, NAS Whiting Field
Colonel Christopher Kauffman,
Commander, Blount Island
Colonel Rick Ales, Commander,
Air Force Agency for Modeling &
Simulation
Captain Donald Gagnon,
Commander, Naval Air Warfare Center
Training Systems Division
Colonel Joseph F. Buranosky,
Director of Marine Corps Training
Simulation Programs
Captain Christopher Roum,
Commander, NAVDEP Jacksonville
Captain Lawrence Cotton,
Commander, NAS Key West
Lieutenant Colonel Charles Golden, Chief,
Plans and Training Division, Camp
Blanding

Colonel David Scott, Commander, 16th
Special Operations Wing, Hurlburt Field
Colonel Keith Keck, Deputy Commander,
Support Group, 6th Air Refueling Wing,
MacDill AFB
Colonel Worth Carter, Commander, 325th
Support Group, Tyndall AFB
Captain Frank Sweigart, Director of
Installations and Logistics, Naval Education
and Training
Colonel William Comber, Commander,
Support Group, Homestead ARB
Commander Bob Harned, Executive Officer,
Coastal System Station
Commander Kerry Shanaghan, Executive
Officer, NAS Pensacola
Commander Fred Berley, Executive Officer,
Naval Station Mayport
Captain James Stark, USCG, Commander,
Coast Guard Group Mobile
Colonel J. Vaughn, Post Commander, Camp
Blanding
Lieutenant Colonel Edward Lorenzini,
Chief, Commanders Action Group, Eglin
AFB
Lieutenant Colonel Earle Thompson, Chief
of Wing Plans, Avon Park
Mr. Robert Arnold, 46th Test Wing
Technical Advisor, Eglin AFB
Mr. Richard Wolff, Director, Manpower and
Organizational Programs, Navy Region
Southeast
Mr. Michael Rhodes, Advisor to the
Commander in Chief, SOUTHCOM
Ms. Sandra Reinhart, Advisor to the
Commander in Chief, SOUTHCOM

State Agency Attendees:

Dr. Pamella Dana, Executive Director,
Governor's Office of Tourism Trade and
Economic Development
Mr. John C. Anderson, President/CEO,
Enterprise Florida, Inc
Ms. Kellie Jo Kilberg, Director, Florida
Defense Alliance/Senior Director of Partner
Relations for Economic Development and
Defense, Enterprise Florida

(cont.) State Agency Attendees:
Ms. Kathy Ward, Program Manger, Florida Defense Alliance, Enterprise Florida, Inc.
Ms. Marla Gillman, Special Assistant to the Director on Space and Defense, Governor's Office of Tourism Trade and Economic Development
Ms. Marilyn Davenport, Program Manager, Partner Relations, Enterprise Florida, Inc.

Ms. Mollie Palmer, Deputy Chief of Staff, Department of Environmental Protection
Dr. Janet Matthews, State Historical Preservation Office, Department of State
Mr. William Buckey, Governor's Washington D.C. Office
Mr. Thomas McGurk, Director, Agency for Workforce Innovation

Executive Summary: Governor Jeb Bush and the Commanding Officers of military bases, installations, and major commands throughout Florida met on February 5, 2001 to discuss how Florida could continue to contribute to the effectiveness and efficiency of the military within the state. Attendees at this meeting included representatives from every military service, every installation, two unified commands, one specified command, and the Florida National Guard.

U.S. Southern Command's Issues and Update: General Pace opened the meeting with an overview of SOUTHCOM's mission. The Commander-in-Chief described the economic impact of this command's area of responsibility as exceeding the combined impact of Japan and Europe by the year 2010.

State of Florida's Progress: Governor Bush reviewed the progress, which has occurred since the last Commanders' meeting, which was held on August 25, 2000.

- Florida Power and Light waived the requirement to bring the electrical wiring up to code in housing units that the Air Force is considering demolishing.
- Eglin's water bodies have been added to the DEP's "prohibited/restricted harvest areas list" so that logging will not be permitted within base boundaries.
- DEP staff is resolving a soil contamination issue with the staff at NAS Whiting Field.
- DEP issued a permit in November 2000 to allow the dredging at Carrabelle on behalf of Tyndall AFB and the Coast Guard.
- Even though the Title Loan Act was passed, there has been an increase in the number of licenses for Payday Loan/Check Cashing operations, which target junior base personnel. Bills have been filed in both the Florida Senate and House to address Payday Check/Loan operations.
- A non-legislative approach is being worked with banks and credit unions to extend credit to those that cannot secure credit through normal processes, which would benefit junior military personnel, who need immediate check cashing services.
- Division of Elections has found no credible evidence that any absentee military voter was illegally disenfranchised. To support overseas military personnel, Florida plans by 2002 to have user-friendly, Internet voting procedures.
- The state is taking measures against a coming drought that might require a 50% cutback in water consumption.
- The state is transforming its growth management policies so that they will be driven by infrastructure needs that are tied to increased input from local governments.

Installation Updates (Installations are listed in alphabetical order)

Air Force Agency for Modeling and Simulation (AFAMS)

- Renovations have been completed at the facilities located on UCF property.

Camp Blanding/Florida National Guard

- Working issues involved with weapons of mass destruction.
- Developing a cultural resource plan, which includes the Native American community's concerns for cultural protection.
- Continuing to work with the homeowners' association on water/sewer hook-ups.

U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM)

- Enjoys MacDill location, which employs approximately 1500 at the headquarters.
- Working with the base commander to expand the physical headquarters.

Chief Naval Education and Training (CNET)

- Looking to expand Navy Junior ROTC by over 200 schools.
- Concerned that military personnel, who are leaving the military and who are interested in teaching in Florida's public schools, are discouraged by the state's pay scale.
- Navy just undertook a major review of training policies and expects no major changes at CNET.

Coast Guard 7th District

- Air Station Clearwater supported an oil spill clean-up operation off the Galapagos Islands.
- Coordinated the emergency management of the freighter, which struck Miami's 5th Street Bridge.
- Operation RIVERWALK is continuing to use the Miami River to conduct searches in coordination with Customs and the National Guard in order to stem the Haitian drug traffic. This operation will be an intense 6-month event that continues 3 previous years of investigative operations.
- Helicopter detachment will be permanently stationed at Cecil Field in Jacksonville.

Coast Guard Group Mobile

- Operating three stations in Florida.
- Cutter operations have saved seven lives recently.
- USAF is going to establish an operating headquarters.

Director, Marine Corps Programs

- Simulation operations have transferred from Quantico to Orlando.

Eglin Air Force Base

- Navy Battle Group's re-deployment from Puerto Rico to the Gulf is good for Florida. This presence has been extensively coordinated with community partners.
- Feels the increased use of the range will help during Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) reviews because Eglin is now more of a joint-use facility.
- Environmental programs include successful partnering with the state on shoreline restoration.

- Partnered with the City of Niceville on the use of Eglin property to hold and dispose of treated water from city's wastewater treatment plant. The water will be used for irrigation by creating a six-and-half acre lake in an existing sandpit on the Falcon Golf Course. The city will pay an estimated \$890,000 in costs.
- Escribano Point is continuing to work encroachment issues and pushing for fair land value. Receiving support from the Navy on the land purchase because of proximity to Choctaw Field.

Homestead Air Force Base

- Awaiting re-utilization decision.
- USAF is keeping the airfield and wants to expand it operations.
- Meetings continue on establishing boundaries.
- A water and sewer pipeline has been completed to the Florida Guard.

Hurlburt Air Force Base

- F18 and helicopter operations are accelerating to support joint integrated training, which places air space at a premium.

MacDill Air Force Base

- Increased "fly-up" missions.
- The Super Bowl Show, which was televised from a MacDill hanger, was a success.
- There is legislative support to appropriate \$12M to fix the runways. Work might start in September.
- Appreciated the support during the clean-up effort after the F-16 crash.

Navy Region Southeast

- Provided a special presentation on payday loans to include the underlying issues.
- Working with Jacksonville area credit unions to implement a signature, short-term loan program for military personnel.
- Reported an increase of car title loan activity in the Kings Bay area just across the Georgia-Florida border.
- Believes the impact of Vieques will bring increased usage of domestic ranges, which could result in more missions in Florida.
- Initiated semi-public-private venture to provide single sailor housing.

Naval Air Station (NAS) Jacksonville

- Pine Castle EIS is going well and final meeting is scheduled in two weeks.
- Working with the city on some encroachment issues.

NAS Key West

- Key West is handling the impact that the Navy Battle Group had and seeing increased use of the base.
- Designation as a Naval Air Field as of July 1, 2001.
- Florida Guard is supporting hurricane operations.
- New Coast Guard station is forthcoming.

NAS Pensacola

- Supports Navy Battle Group's presence in the Gulf and may ask DEP's help to obtain expedited timeline and permits for dredging to facilitate deep draft vessels.

NAS Whiting Field

- Recommend that Florida realtors show flight paths on realtors' maps. Working with the county on this issue to show potential buyers the AICUZ.
- Unlike other states, Florida's housing rental contracts do not carry a standard military clause that allows the contract to be terminated when the military issues moving orders to the military renter.
- Serious encroachment issues continue.

Navy Air Warfare Center/Training Support Division (NAWC/TSD)

- Simulation convention at the Orlando Convention Center in November showed the military and civilian worlds what the simulation industry in Orlando accomplishes.
- Working with Legislators to show through simulation the effects of decision-making under stress.
- Planning a Military Appreciation Day for 12 May in Orlando.
- Partnering with the University of Central Florida and moving into the new facility this summer. Working on funding for Phase II.

Naval Station Mayport

- Thanks for the Florida Defense Infrastructure Grant.

Patrick Air Force Base

- Boeing will make its first Delta 3 launch during the 1st Quarter, 2002.
- Range modernization is progressing slowly.
- Florida Army National Guard is working on protecting shuttle operations.
- Projects worth over \$70M are in progress.
- Beach restoration is underway.
- Commercial launches are down.
- Studies are complete on how to organize space organizations and legislation may result from them. Sees a role for SFA.
- Offered support for Ed Gormel's selection as Executive Director of Spaceport Florida Authority.

STRICOM

- No issues and appreciates Florida's support.

U.S. Special Operations Command (SOCOM)

- Planning to open a Joint Special Operations University at MacDill.
- SOCOM envisions investing \$50M over the next 10 years in Florida.

- The availability of ranges is both a national and strategic issue.

First Air Force Headquarters and Tyndall Air Force Base

- Planning joint exercises, which will involve emergency management coordination with the state and the military participants.
- Anticipates \$40M in projects and the locating of the F-22.
- Partner agreements with the city are securing detached housing.
- Planning the next Base Commanders Meeting on August 27th and a social on August 26th.

USMC Blount Island

- Transportation has improved thanks to a completed rail loop.
- Currently the USMC pays \$11M in yearly rent and is working on appropriations for Phase I of the long-term purchase of the land for \$40M. Phase II is not budgeted.

Handouts

- Governor's Announcement of New Initiatives to Promote Recruitment and Retention
- Chart Listing Overseas Absentee Ballots by County
- DEP's Update for Governor's Military Leadership Advisory Council
- Office of the Comptroller's Letter on Payday Loans a/k/a Check Cashing and Title Loans
- Power Point presentation on Payday Loans/Check Cashing

Next Meeting:

August 27, 2001

9:00-11:00 a.m. Tyndall AFB