



THE CHAMBER
colorado springs

10 June 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR: All Defense Mission Task Force Members

FROM: Chairman, Defense Mission Task Force (DMTF)

SUBJECT: DMTF Minutes

1. **Place:** US Bank Conference Room (**6 S. Tejon St., Basement**)
2. **Date and Time:** Thursday, June 4, 2009, 7:30 a.m.
3. **Approval of Previous Minutes:** DMTF Meeting Minutes, 9 April 2009 were approved.
4. **Agenda:**
 - a. Welcome and Introductions – Larry Fortner
 - b. Attendees:
 - c. New Business:
 - i. Veterans Court Update – Larry Fortner/LTC Dean Dunham: the concept of a Veteran’s Court was established in Buffalo, NY, with several operating around the country. It provides an “intervention” in the arrest of veteran’s, where PTSD/TBI may have been a factor. The program is only for felonies, and after careful review, could put the case into a special court. This parallels other special courts that are in existence. Details still need to be worked out, but the program will have an executive director and board, and be funded through federal grants. A talking paper on the proposed procedure is attached. The Board is now in the process of selecting an executive director.
 - ii. Pinon Canyon Discussion: A lively discussion on the Pinon Canyon Maneuver site (PCMS) ensued between the DMTF and representatives of the offices of Senators Bennet and Udall and Congressman Lamborn. Our two State Senators appear to not yet be convinced of the need for a potential expansion of the PCMS. Colorado has clearly sent a message (through passage of HB 1317, and previous legislation) to other States and Washington that the State is presently not “military friendly” and fails to recognize the significant economic impact the second largest employer in the State has on the overall State economy. There is also a significant one time boost and recurring annual impact on the economy of southeastern Colorado with the Army’s proposal. Key to moving forward is not passing detrimental legislation in the House or the Senate that would tie the Army’s hand moving forward. Critical next step is the environmental impact study that needs to be done and will further answer questions, and provide the avenue for dialogue, that many in the opposition seem to want. Our delegation needs to take a leadership role in allowing the Army to move forward with the study. If it is clearly about property rights, then no one should be afraid of allowing the process to move forward. Any rancher, farmer, or the State, can decide for themselves whether to lease or sell. The Army has numerous times reiterated and committed to not using eminent domain, unless condemnation was specifically requested by the landowner. Fort Carson continues to reach out to the area reference contracting with the Army, identifying needs when units deploy to PCMS for training, and working with the communities to identify infrastructure needs.
 - d. Old Business
 - i. Cyber Command Update – Brian Binn: Although Lackland AFB, San Antonio TX was selected as the final location for 24th Air Force, Peterson AFB came in 2nd. An environmental impact study (EIS) will be conducted at both locations, but it is not expected that Lackland will have any problems with the EIS. Having the HQ mission of cyber as part of the AFSPC mission will bring about 100 additional military, government civilian, and contractors to the headquarters. This new mission for AFSPC should also help to spur some economic growth in the defense industry relating to cyber in the local area, similar to what happened to space industries when the space mission came to Colorado Springs.

ii. PTAC Update – Brian Binn: Colorado OEDIT is in the final stages of answering questions from the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) on the State’s proposal. The initial State office for the PTAC will be in Colorado Springs, co-located with the Chamber. There is the possibility of other locations being established as the PTAC grows. The State fully expects approval from DLA and to have the office up and running by the end of the year. The PTAC will be a 501c3 organization.

iii. Mountain Post Welcome/Fort Carson Growth Update – Brian Binn: The Community/Fort Carson trip to Fort Hood was a great success. There were approximately 2050 Soldiers and family members that came by during the 4 day event. The Soldiers were part of the final group of the 4th Infantry Division (HQ/1st BCT) transitioning to Fort Carson this summer. Soldiers and families are expected to arrive between late June and mid August.

e. Upcoming Events

- i. American Soldier Exhibit – 13 June – 13 September, Phil Long Expo Center
- ii. Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo Parade – 7 July, Downtown Colorado Springs
- iii. Pikes Peak or Bust Rodeo – 8-11 July, Norris-Penrose Event Center
- iii. Military Appreciation Parade – 29 August, Downtown Colorado Springs
- iv. Cripple Creek Honors America’s Armed Forces – 8-9 August
- v. Veterans Day Luncheon

f. Open Discussion

5. **DMTF Meeting Schedule:**

August 20, 2009
October 29, 2009

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Larry Fortner, Maj Gen (Ret), USAF
Chairman, DMTF