

Maryland Military Installation Council

Annual Report

2010

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Overview

In accordance with Maryland HB 1700, effective July 1, 2006, this constitutes the annual report of the Maryland Military Installation Council (MMIC). The MMIC met twice during 2010: May 24 and September 17. Meetings are chaired by the Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED) Secretary Christian Johansson and directed by MMIC Executive Director BGen Mike Hayes, DBED's Program Director for the Office of Military and Federal Affairs (OMFA). OMFA continued to provide direct support and coordinates all actions associated with the MMIC.

The Council continues to be a forum for community, military installation, business, state agency and elected official dialogue on issues associated with Maryland's bases. In the past few years the issues have focused on implementation of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) decisions, however the Council also provides a forum for non-BRAC related issues, including encroachment, public-private partnering and best practices. Reviewing encroachment issues and best practices associated with military facility interaction are specific HB 1700 reporting requirements. In 2010, with the continued threat to Department of Defense (DoD) budget cuts due to the struggling U.S. economy, the MMIC invited DoD officials to address and share with Maryland's military community how challenges at the national level may affect those military installations based in Maryland. The May 24th meeting featured keynote John Conger, Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Installations and Environment. The September 17th meeting hosted U.S. Navy Rear Admiral Patrick Lorge, Commandant of Naval District Washington and the Joint Force Headquarters National Capitol Region Deputy Commander.

Brief summaries of the two 2010 meetings are provided below. Detailed outlines are available by contacting DBED's Office of Military and Federal Affairs at 410-767-6321.

May 24, 2010 Meeting

The Maryland Military Installation Council (MMIC) met May 24, 2010 at the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) headquarters in Crownsville. The meeting was chaired by DBED Deputy Secretary Dominick Murray, with over 100 attendees including secretaries of state agencies, installation commanders, and congressional staff.

BGen Mike Hayes opened up by announcing that the past Maryland legislative session had voted in favor of extending the MMIC indefinitely. The first MMIC meeting of 2010 brought new members to the Council including Anna Johnson-Winegar, the new President of the Fort Detrick Alliance.

Opening comments by both BGen Hayes and Deputy Secretary Murray were followed by a Maryland Cyber update by DBED's Adam Suri. Mr. Suri gave an overview of the recommendations set forth in the Cyber Maryland report including the establishment of a national cyber center of excellence.

BGen Hayes introduced John Conger, Assistant Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Installations and Environment. Mr. Conger's address to the Council referred to the challenges and goals of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) 2005 round. Recognizing the economic challenges faced by the U.S. President and the Pentagon, the BRAC 2005 round had to focus on efficiencies within by aggressively eliminating overhead costs while maintaining a strong, growing and most capable force. Efficiencies beyond the stated realignment and closures include 30% energy reductions by 2015, joint basing and public works partnerships with local communities. Mr. Conger concluded his visit by fielding questions from the audience.

The Council then heard from 5 panels representative of the 5 BRAC-impacted installation communities in Maryland – Joint Base Andrews, Fort George G. Meade, National Naval Medical Center, Aberdeen Proving Ground and Fort Detrick. The Regional BRAC updates panel was followed by a panel discussion on the various Wounded Warrior programs associated with Joint Base Andrews and Fort George G. Meade.

The remaining time on the agenda was given to the presidents of the seven local military alliances and representatives from 9 State agencies including 4 Cabinet Secretaries. A Legislative Session review was provided by Maryland State Senator John Astle followed by brief updates from congressional staff.

September 17, 2010 Meeting

The Maryland Military Installation Council met September 17, 2010 at the DHCD headquarters in Crownsville. BGen Mike Hayes provided the welcoming remarks.

In his opening remarks, BGen Hayes thanked the uniformed and civilian military workforce here in Maryland. He spoke of their significance not only to the nation but to Maryland's economy. The impact on Maryland's military facilities would soon be unveiled by the Governor on 9/30 in a statewide economic impact study led by DBED's Office of Military and Federal Affairs.

MMIC Member Secretary Shari Wilson of Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) followed BGen Hayes' by mentioning EPA's work with the Naval Academy and MDE's continued efforts on the Chesapeake Bay restoration and the Clean Water Act.

Guest speaker Rear Admiral Patrick Lorge, Commandant of Naval District Washington (NDW) and Joint Force Headquarters National Capitol Region Deputy Commander, addressed the Council. He spoke on the NDW's Regional Integrated Master Plan and its impact on the 5 Maryland Navy bases which in total employ 32,000 individuals with an annual payroll in excess of \$2B.

The Council then heard from U.S. Congressman Dutch Ruppersberger who congratulated federal, state and local government and community representatives for their teamwork on bringing the BRAC 2005 success to Maryland. The Honorable Ruppersberger then focused on the work that still needs to be done to truly call it a success. He discussed Fort Meade in particular with their growing transportation needs as it relates to not only BRAC growth but NSA and cyber Command.

BRAC updates were given by each of the 5 BRAC-impacted installation commands and officials from their incoming BRAC organizations. Included in Aberdeen Proving Ground's (APG) update, they announced 2,514 C4ISR positions that have relocated to APG from Ft. Monmouth. Many commands briefed on their contracting dollar value to businesses. Joint Base Andrews in particular mentioned their efforts to increase the small and minority business requirement from 43% to 50%. BRAC construction at all 5 installations is on schedule for completion. Updates from the installation commands were followed by updates from BRAC coordinators representing 4 of the 5 BRAC regions – Anne Arundel, Harford, Montgomery and Prince George's Counties. Each coordinator spoke about issues impacting their respective areas. Local roads and transportation was an overriding concern.

The Military Alliance Presidents and/or their Executive Directors gave updates on activities involving their respective alliances. Following the Alliance updates, Maryland State Delegate Mary Dulany-James spoke on the need for quality retirement facility options for North

Eastern Maryland and how that need fits in with Maryland's attempt to attract the BRAC workforce and enhance the quality of life of those working in and around APG. She also mentioned the important work MDE and the Governor's office is doing to help fast-track priority projects.

The September meeting concluded with updates from representatives of 4 State agencies including Secretary Chow of Veterans Affairs who recapped their successful Veteran-Owned Business Conference this past June, mentioned an upcoming DVA conference focusing on cyber security and their active engagement with 11 state agencies for their joint work on behalf of Maryland veterans. Deputy Superintendent of Schools Mary Gable also provided a special report on the Interstate Compact Educational Opportunity for Military Children, of which Maryland is now a part of along with 35 other states.

