STATEMENT
OF THE
NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES (NGAUS)

ON

THE ROLE OF THE NATIONAL GUARD IN HOMELAND SECURITY

PROVIDED TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

PRESENTED BY
RICHARD C. ALEXANDER
MAJOR GENERAL (Ret.)
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Major General Richard C. Alexander was appointed the Executive Director of the National Guard Association of the United States in January 1999.

Until his retirement on 31 December 1998, General Alexander served as the Adjutant General of Ohio. His responsibility as the Adjutant General was the military preparedness of the Ohio Militia. The organized militia consists of the Ohio Army National Guard, Ohio Air National Guard, Ohio Military Reserve, and Ohio Naval Militia, totaling over 18,000 militia personnel. General Alexander supervised four flag officer heads of these components and one deputy director in the day-to-day operation and management of the fiscal, personnel, equipment, and real property resources of these militia organizations and state agencies.

General Alexander was born June 26, 1935, in Cleveland, Ohio. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1954, and was honorably discharged in the rank of Sergeant in December 1958, with a concurrent assignment to the Marine Corps Reserve. He then enlisted in the Ohio Army National Guard on June 30, 1960, in Battery C, 1st Missile Battalion (Nike-Hercules), 137th Artillery. With an honorable discharge on May 5, 1965, and he entered the National Guard State Officer Candidate School on May 6, 1965.

From May 1965 to July 1971, he served as a Platoon Leader and Battery Commander, Battery C, 1st Missile Battalion, 137th Artillery. In July 1971 to September 1973, he worked as the Program Analysis Officer and Assistant Finance and Accounting Officer at Headquarters Ohio ARNG.

In September 1973 to October 1977, General Alexander was the Race Relations/Equal Employment Officer at Headquarters Ohio. Starting in October 1977 through July 1979, he went to the Ohio Military Academy as Operations and Training Officer and Director of Instruction. Leaving the Military Academy, he became the Deputy Brigade Commander and Topographic Engineer, 16th Engineer Brigade until July 1984.

General Alexander graduated from the US Army War College, Corresponding Studies Course in 1983. In 1986, he received his Bachelor’s degree in Business Administration from Franklin University, Columbus, Ohio.

As Director of Personnel and Administration, at Headquarters, he then became Chief of Staff, State Area Command, Ohio ARNG where he stayed until he was promoted to Adjutant General in December 1987. He served as Adjutant General until 31 December 1998.

General Alexander was elected President of NGAUS, in September 1996.
STATEMENT OF THE
NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES (NGAUS)
To the
Senate Committee on Appropriations

The National Guard in Operations Enduring Freedom & Noble Eagle

On September 11th, 2001, the National Guard — already heavily engaged with the 29th Infantry Division ready to rotate into Bosnia and the 7th and 8th Air Expeditionary Force serving abroad — became more decisively engaged in fulfilling its dual role as defenders of the homeland.

The Air National Guard (ANG) was the “first responders” over America’s skies with the immediate launch of Air Defense Units and general-purpose fighters from four separate sites. Within hours, 34 fighter and 18 tanker “dual-missioned” units were flying or supporting Combat Air Patrols over the United States as part of a Total Force effort — including Presidential Escort. Numerous alerted strategic and tactical lift units (C-130, C-5, and C-141) began transportation of blood, organs, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI), medical personnel, Civil Support Teams, and heavy equipment.

Thousands of force protection and combat support requirements were identified and generated in the first hours to include more than 70 security forces units, hundreds of civil engineers, 88 command and control centers in all 54 states and territories, services support for 35 dining and alert facilities, Chaplains, communicators, and air traffic controllers.

Nearly 3,800 members of the National Guard were on duty in New York by September 13th. State authorities in Virginia, Maryland and the District of Columbia mobilized roughly 1,200 Guardsmen were by within hours after the attack on the Pentagon.

Today 170 New York and 150 New Jersey National Guardsmen are still on state active duty at Ground Zero and providing security enhancements on the Hudson River bridges.

Since that time, more than 10,000 members of the Army National Guard (ARNG) and over 23,000 members of the Air National Guard have joined their Army and Air Force Reserve (AFR)
counterparts in being called to active federal service as part of Operations Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle. For the Army National Guard this means providing security at key facilities here in the United States and in Europe. For the Air National Guard this has meant flying Combat Air Patrols over American cities, and performing in-flight refueling, flying cargo and countless other missions at home and abroad. And, it is particularly important to note, both Army and Air National Guardsmen are also participating in diverse operational aspects of the war on terrorism in the Continental United States.

In addition to that, however, many thousands more have been called to active duty under the command and control of their governors. There are over 7,000 members of the National Guard providing airport security. This Title 32 mission was created and authorized by the President and is being properly carried out by the governors. In addition, over 4,000 members of the National Guard from several states bolstered security at the Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City. Over 2,000 members of the National Guard are on duty providing security at National Guard armories and other key facilities. And finally, an additional 2,000 are on state duty, on orders and pay from state governors to help meet the security or other requirements of the states.

The National Guard took on its newest six-month mission in homeland defense in early March providing 1,500 troops, from the Army Guard, to assist U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service and U.S. Customs Service officials in eight states along the Canadian border and in the four states along the Mexican border.

Maine, Vermont, New York, Michigan, North Dakota, and Washington state Guard aviators also began conducting surveillance flights along the Canadian border.

**Transforming the National Guard**

The National Guard, in accordance with its long-standing integration with federal, state and local civil authorities, uniquely connects every police station and firehouse to the Pentagon and every state house with the White House. While there may be a need for selected units and personnel to be dedicated primarily or even exclusively for homeland security, that mission can be most effectively and efficiently accomplished as a dual mission that complements, enhances and draws its essential strength from the National Guard’s continued combat force structure, training and experience. To provide for a common defense, we must reinforce the authority and increase the homeland security response capability of the Governors of the several states.
Current studies are ongoing within the Army to transform a portion of the National Guard structure to accommodate emerging homeland security missions. It is envisioned that significant portions of National Guard structure will be dual-missioned and apportioned to a soon to be appointed Commander in Chief (CINC) of Northern Command (NORTHCOM). It is desirable that this structure be dual-missioned to accommodate warfighting requirements of additional CINCs. This transformation will require significant resourcing and the National Guard Association looks forward to working with this committee in this endeavor. It is anticipated that this transformation within the National Guard will make available additional units of the type that are being called upon continuously and, as a result, reduce the level of operations tempo for the limited number of units being called upon time and time again to perform missions at home and abroad.

The National Guard Association of the United States (NGAUS) request the Congress where necessary, to authorize, support, equip and fund the National Guard to assume significant homeland security responsibilities. These responsibilities must be recognized as an important mission but not the sole or primary mission of the National Guard. Although there may be a need for selected units and personnel to be specially missioned or resourced for these purposes, homeland security can be most effectively and efficiently accomplished as a dual mission that compliments, enhances and draws its essential strength from the National Guard's continued combat force structure, training and experience.

Specifically, the NGAUS urges implementation of the following key tenets of a successful homeland security strategy:

The National Guard and its relationship with the states

Congress should authorize and fund a program for National Guard execution of a Governor's Plan for Homeland Security.

Program oversight and resourcing would be provided by the National Guard Bureau based on the decade-long National Guard counter-drug program model in which each state's Governor adopts and administers a program of full-time National Guard support (AGRs) for law enforcement agencies. Within prescribed national standards and guidelines enforced by the Bureau, the Governor's Plan for
Homeland Security for each state and territory would marshal Guard resources to best meet the unique needs of each state and territory. The Army and Air National Guard must be authorized to participate in activities in support of local, state and federal homeland security vulnerability assessments, planning, implementation of defensive counter-measures, and participation in exercises designed to evaluate preparedness, as prescribed in the approved Governor's Homeland Security Plan in each state. Army and Air National Guard forces should explicitly be authorized to engage in interstate support consistent with the objectives of the sending and receiving states' Governor's Homeland Security Plan (this would encourage regional and interstate mutual aid arrangements).

**Congress should authorize and fund a program for organizing, training and equipping National Guard units for dual mission Homeland Security support for first responders.**

Oversight of these homeland security missions should be provided by the National Guard Bureau based on the long-standing Garden Plot model in which National Guard units are trained and equipped to support civil authorities in crowd control and civil disturbance missions. The program should also authorize and fund National Guard training with civil authorities, to include local first responders, to assure a heightened state of collective preparedness for consequence management of domestic Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear or high yield Events (CBRNE) events.

**Congress should support the establishment of a joint state task force in each state, territory and the District of Columbia that is staffed appropriate to each mission and which is:**

- Scalable in organizational structure and personnel in modular units with a variable command structure dependent upon the size of the task force; and
- Staffed by Army and Air National Guard soldiers and airmen and the Emergency Preparedness Liaison Officers from other federal reserve components and the Coast Guard; and
- Commanded by a National Guard officer (in Title 10 ADSW status if necessary to exercise command and control of Title 10 military personnel who are added to the task force). The grade of the National Guard task force commander should be determined by the size and composition of the Task Force; and
- Under the tactical control (TACON) of the Adjutant General and, in turn, the Governor in order to assure unity of command and unity of purpose.
- Supportive of the state and federal response plans.
- The National Guard Plans, Operations & Military Support Officer (POMSO) Office would provide the nucleus, planning and exercise functions for the standing task force element.

**The National Guard and its relationship with the federal government**

Make the Chief of the National Guard Bureau (CNGB) a member of the Federal Interagency Task Force. This group supports the integration of the various federal agencies supporting homeland security. The CNGB, serving as a conduit between the state adjutants general and the Department of Defense, should included as member of the Federal Interagency Task Force in order to best convey what assets are available within the National Guard.

Congress should increase full-time support to the National Guard military support offices of each state, territory and the District of Columbia. Increase full-time National Guard homeland security staffing at the National Guard Bureau and Joint Forces Command / CJTF-CS to enable planning and execution of military support to the broad band of civilian authorities that have a role in the homeland security mission within the states.

WMD-CST is an important part of the homeland security mission, however, the rapidly emerging missions require a full time staff to address the strategic issues surrounding the Homeland Security and Defense mission and the National Guard's role. Congressional funds and increased authorizations for AGR positions to staff the National Guard Bureau and a full time staff within each State and Territory is absolutely essential to maintain a viable role in this important mission.

**Bridging the Relationships**

The statutory charter of the National Guard Bureau should be amended to reflect its unique role as a channel of communications between the states and national security authorities. The Bureau is the official channel of communications between the several states and the Department of the Army and Department of the Air Force. (10 USC 10501(b)). The charter should be amended to
also make the Bureau the channel of communications for homeland security between the several states and the supported CONUS CINC, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Secretary of Defense and the Assistant to the President for Homeland Security.

Congress should authorize the National Guard to prioritize standardized equipping of state contingency stocks with CBRNE equipment, and the equipping of state task forces with modern National Guard communications and transportation assets. Each state and territory should have self-contained National Guard aviation assets capable of airlifting civilian and military homeland security personnel and equipment within and outside the state or territory.

Land Mobile Radio equipment should be fielded through the National Guard Bureau to facilitate homeland security-related interagency communications. The Chief, NGB should also be delegated authority to approve National Guard telecommunications cooperative agreements to serve as mechanisms for collecting local, state and federal agency funds for the purpose of enabling such agencies to utilize Military Interdepartmental Purchase Requests (MIPR) through the United States Property and Fiscal Officer.

Dual missioned National Guard forces should be authorized to acquire and maintain homeland security mission equipment from either military or commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) sources, whichever is more effective and interoperable with other emergency responders.

Support the development and funding of a program to increase and sustain the duty MOSQ of the ARNG to the Army minimum standard (currently 85%). Cost efficiencies can be realized when on the job training, credit for civilian acquired skills and credit for skills acquired from previous MOSs can be factored into the awarding of Military Occupational Specialties for members of the National Guard.

The National Guard should be authorized to develop regional training sites for integrated homeland security and domestic emergency civil-military training and exercises. The ability for the National Guard to expand its long established relationships with civil agencies is greatly enhanced when training is integrated. Successes have already been demonstrated in this concept with the
National Guard’s counter drug program. The creation of regional training centers as a local schoolhouse for innovative education and sustainment training will benefit both the Guard and local authorities in their response capabilities to a homeland security mission.

**Fiduciary Responsibilities**

The homeland security missions of the National Guard must be established as multi-year funded programs to ensure continuity and sustained support for the CONUS CINC and local, state and federal emergency responders. A program should be established for the National Guard and NGB should be authorized to bi-annually submit a separate POM for all missions falling within the National Guard’s homeland security responsibilities. Congress should appropriate funds for that purpose directly to the National Guard Bureau rather than indirectly through the Army or Air Force.

Currently there is a shortfall of funding of Title 32 missions as a result of domestic homeland security missions being performed across the country. The lack of funding will have a direct impact upon the ability to have a prolonged presence supporting homeland security missions. Many states are paying for missions with funding dedicated for training, thus impacting unit readiness. A mechanism needs to be emplaced to ensure funding is either available, or available for their immediate acquisition for the National Guard.

**Calling up the National Guard**

Mobilization of the National Guard is dependent upon the mission requirements. The three distinct legal authorities available to mobilize the National Guard provide an important tool for the Governors and the Department of Defense. United States Code (USC) Title 10, often referred to as active duty, is federal active duty under command and control of the President of the United States. USC Title 32 is federally funded active duty “in the service of the United States”, but where command and control remains with the Governors and Adjutants General. The third authority, state active duty, allows the Governor to utilize the National Guard with state funding for state specific events.

The events of September 11th caused a national re-affirmation of the principle that the first responsibility of government is to defend and secure the lives of its citizenry. While the conduct of national defense outside our nation’s borders has long been the exclusive province of the federal
government, the mission of defending the homeland in the future will require the integration across the spectrum of local, state and federal government. Critical to this integration is the role of the Governors, who best know what resources are available, within their respective states, to address homeland security.

Use of the National Guard as a primary fusion agent in executing a balanced, integrated national domestic security strategy preserves the constitutional role of the sovereign states and assures that governors and other state and local civil authorities remain responsible and accountable for the public safety and security of their state, territory or local jurisdiction. Use of the National Guard in state active duty status and in federal pay status under Title 32, USC permits military forces under the control of the governor to assist civil authorities in executing all laws, federal, state and local, without violating the Posse Comitatus Act. Any attempt to repeal or substantially amend the Posse Comitatus Act would be met by a firestorm of resistance from the nation's governors and state and local civil authorities.

The National Guard, with its unique dual mission, provides a flexible link between the states and the federal government. This link is best maintained when the National Guard is activated under U.S. Code Title 32. This past December, Governor Gary Locke, in his testimony before the subcommittee on Treasury and General Government, expressed the advantages of calling up the National Guard under a Title 32 status.

“In asking the President to assign these missions to the National Guard in Title 32 status, the Governors were also mindful that for more than a decade thousands of National Guard soldiers and airmen have been performing virtually indistinguishable duties in Title 32 status. I refer, of course, to the National Guard Counter-Drug Program in which Guard soldiers and airmen, with the consent of the Governors of the several states, have been actively augmenting the operations of the Border Patrol, Customs, and INS. The proposed missions at northern border crossings and ports of entry, for the most part, are an expansion of the same operational functions, albeit with a refined focus on terrorism instead of the current drug interdiction focus.

Using the National Guard in Title 32 status, instead of federalizing individual Guard volunteers in Title 10 status, also ensures significant Air Force as well as Army participation in border security. Because of the joint nature of each state’s National Guard command structure, we have been able to execute airport security missions with both Army and Air National Guard personnel, thus minimizing the impact on the wartime operational readiness of both federal military services. The Governors stand ready to execute expanded border crossing and port of entry missions in the same Title 32 multi-service manner. Using current Title 10 forces or Guard members in
Title 10 status would diminish the contributions of the several states in support of national security, disproportionately impact the Army and the readiness of its units for overseas missions, and place federal military personnel on a collision course with the proscriptions of the Posse Comitatus Act – an Act, by the way, that is as relevant and compelling today as when it was enacted.”

The National Guard Association urges the Congress to re-affirm the vital role of the nation’s governors in meeting the challenge of securing and defending the American homeland by establishing a policy of employing Army and Air National Guard units and personnel in a Title 32 status for missions that involve augmenting non-Department of Defense federal agencies within a state’s borders. Furthermore, we request the Congress to support amending Title 32 U.S.C. 502(f) to clarify the definitions of "other duties" as including, but not limited to, homeland security duties, counter drug duties, military support to civil authorities (MSCA), disaster assistance and other missions identified in the approved Governor's Homeland Security Plan, as well as any mission in which use of National Guard forces in Title 32 status "in the service of the United States" is authorized and accepted by the Secretary of the Army, the Secretary of the Air Force, the Secretary of Defense or the President of the United States.

Statutes governing ARNG and ANG federal technicians and AGRs must also be amended to permit full time National Guard personnel (1) to perform duties in support of the federally approved Governor's Homeland Security Plan, and (2) to perform duties in support of any emergency directive by the Governor in preparation for or effectuation of a National Guard activation for a state emergency. By prohibiting the use of full time staff (AGR and/or federal technician), the Adjutant General loses his continuity of day-to-day functional operations. The potential for error is greatly increased and could possibility hamper the overall mission. The full time staff has the daily working knowledge of the coordination effort to ensure the other state, federal, and law enforcement agencies do not duplicate efforts with the "train-up" period of using traditional Guardsmen.

Command & Control Relationships
There is a need to delineate the command and control structure of military forces supporting state and local officials. Under current Department of Defense policy, the Adjutant General is not authorized to assume tactical control, to enable the tasking for missions, of Title 10 soldiers or airmen.
This potentially creates command and control challenges during events where timely and disciplined response is necessary to restore normal civic functions and support the needs of the state and local communities, as witnessed during the consequence management of Ground Zero.

*The NGAUS urges the Congress to support the modification of the Code of Federal Regulations to authorize Guard tactical control of all US military forces that are assigned in the several States in support of disaster recovery operations.*

**Full Time Manning**

The men and women of the National Guard continue to be a ready and able force. Their ability to contribute to state and federal missions is heavily dependant upon the full-time force comprised of military technicians and Active Guard / Reserve (AGR) personnel. They are essential to unit readiness and the overall successful operation of the National Guard. These full time members fill vital positions in areas that support a unit’s administrative, payroll, supply, training and maintenance needs. Without them, unit readiness and soldiers’ quality of life suffers severely.

For years, the Army National Guard has been operating with an unacceptable low percentage of its full-time force requirements as validated by the U.S. Army. Significant increases in military technicians and AGRs, provided by the Congress, are leveling off what was a downward spiral for the Army National Guard and its overall readiness.

The Army has validated a plan to bring Army National Guard full-time personnel to an “acceptable risk level” of 71% of its required force by 2011. This requirement, assessed against deployment criteria, does not meet the operational needs of the National Guard.

*The National Guard Association of the United States gratefully acknowledges the actions taken by the Committee to correct the shortfalls in full time manning for the National Guard. However, there is still a critical shortfall that needs to be addressed. The National Guard Association urges the Congress to support a level of funding consistent with or greater than fiscal year 2002 funding for full time manning for the Army National Guard in order to achieve the validated high-risk level by 2007 and assure the zero risk level by 2012.*

**Civil Support Teams**

In response to a state or national emergency, the National Guard’s Civil Support Teams (CSTs) provide a well-trained assessment team to support the state response as a lead element for the National
Guard in the event of a CBRNE incident. Their knowledge of the emergency management system, expertise in emergency response operations, and technical capabilities may provide tremendous assistance to the local Incident Commander. CBRNE terrorism requires rapid response to a suspected or actual terrorist attack. The CSTs, available for rapid deployment, provide assessment of the damage, consultation on logistics, medical, chemical and biological defense, and transmission of the situation to higher headquarters to facilitate follow-on military forces.

As of 26 Mar 02, 26 of the 27 two tier phased teams have been certified by OSD. The five new CSTs, located in Alabama, Kansas, Michigan, Tennessee and West Virginia, were established 15 Nov 02, and are currently in the process of hiring, equipping and training members. The NGB, at the request of the Chief of Staff, Army, has developed an accelerated plan to train, equip and prepare these teams for certification by the end of the calendar year 2002.

Since September 11th, the CSTs have performed 333 operational missions at the request of civil authorities. These responses can be separated into three different operational categories: “Response,” “Standby” and “Liaison.” A Response mission occurs anytime a CST deploys to sample a known or suspected hazard. CSTs have performed 133 Response missions, most of which consisted of sampling an "unknown white powder," most often suspected to be anthrax. A few of the response missions were to sample an unknown liquid or a suspicious piece of mail. Two CSTs conducted sampling at the World Trade Center to detect any hazard that resulted from the attack. A Standby mission occurs when a CST deploys to provide CST expertise to a community event or for the visit of a VIP. This includes National Security Special Events (NSSE), other events identified by the state chain of command, and VIP Protective Details (including presidential and gubernatorial protective details). CSTs performed 51 Standby missions, supporting the World Series, Super Bowl, Mardi Gras, 2002 Winter Olympics and the Paralympics. To date CSTs have performed 149 Liaison missions providing technical expertise and advice, and participating in conferences that focus on the response to a CBRNE attack with the U.S. Secret Service, Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI), Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), U.S. Navy, U.S. Coast Guard, the American Red Cross, various state emergency management agencies, state and local law enforcement agencies, hospitals and health departments.

The National Guard Association of the United States joins the National Emergency Managers Association (NEMA), the International Association of Emergency Managers (IAEM)
and the Council of State Governments in recommending that the Congress complete the fielding a minimum of one National Guard Civil Support Team in each state and territory.

**Retention Incentives for Civil Support Team Members**

The CSTs are being negatively impacted by the high OPTEMPO and the high salaries offered by civilian companies seeking highly trained hazardous material technicians, also trained in WMD. Within the CST community is a Personnel Working Group (PWG), an open forum for all of the CST’s to discuss personnel issues. This issue is the number one priority for the group.

Each member of the team undergoes a rigorous eighteen-month training program, above the normal required military training; 600 hours are specialized training in chemical, biological and radiological agents. When these members are fully trained, civilian companies are seeking out these individuals by offering high salaries because they do not have to send them to training.

*The National Guard Association of the United States recommends that National Guard Civil Support Teams members be provided Special Duty Assignment Pay at a level of SD-5 as an incentive to remain on the Civil Support Team and to compensate them for the rigorous OPTEMPO required to maintain readiness and to help bridge the gap between the civilian and military salaries.*

**Security Forces**

There is a need to address the personnel shortages in the Air National Guard Security Forces career field. ANG security forces are responsible for defending the ground battle space for 72 ANG installations. Due to the overall Air Force shortage in trained security force personnel, we are defending our bases with over 1100 security augmentees each day. This ability to effectively use augmentees is currently being threatened by the Air Force Personnel Directorate by their reluctance to allow these volunteers to serve for more than 270 mandays in a fiscal year.

**MOBILITY ISSUES**

**Army Aviation**

Army National Guard aviation plays a critical role in Total Army aviation and in response to state requirements related to domestic emergencies. The terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001 have placed the highest priority on the Army National Guard’s need to stand ready to fight our nation’s...
wars, perform emerging missions for homeland security, defend our nation against weapons of mass
destruction and provide disaster relief support. Performing these missions will require increased
reliance on Army National Guard MEDEVAC and utility helicopter assets. Accordingly, we must
modernize our helicopter fleet sooner than the Army’s current procurement plans.

The ARNG aviation force suffers from the lack of a consistent modernization program,
turbulence within the force and poor aircraft reliability, availability and maintainability of older
aircraft. This neglect has gone on far too long. ARNG aviation is severely hindered and requires
immediate attention if it is to recover and support both its state and federal missions.

ARNG utility aviation comprises roughly 50 percent of the Total Army’s aviation without the
addition of homeland security responsibilities. Currently, the National Guard’s UH-1 fleet is scheduled
to be retired in 2004. If the bulk of the ARNG UH-1 fleet is retired without sufficient replacements, it
will be unable to respond to operations within the individual states and around the globe.

The National Guard Association of the United States urges Congress to authorize and
appropriate additional monies to the Aircraft Procurement, Army budget line of the FY 2003
Defense Budget. This funding would support the procurement of an additional H-60 helicopters
and the modernization of the Theatre Airlift Aircraft for the Army National Guard. Request that
Congress direct language requiring the Army to field these systems to the Army National Guard.
The procurement of significant equipment necessary to support the homeland security mission such
as the Life Support for Trauma and Transport (LSTAT) and rescue hoist systems provide a valuable
force multiplier for the National Guard.

Ground Mobility Assets

The High Mobility Multi-Purpose Wheeled Vehicles (HMMWV) provides the backbone of the
light transport vehicles. Used as troop carrier, cargo carrier, armament carrier, shelter carrier, TOW
Missile carrier, ambulance, and Scout vehicle, the HMMWV can travel off-road where often only
tracked vehicles can go. The HMMWV’s off-road and inclement weather capabilities are unparalleled
and provided a valuable resource in the aftermath of September 11th.

In addition to the HMMWV assets, at both the Pentagon and Ground Zero, the use of the M-
Gator proved to be a vital mobility asset in areas where the HMMWV could not operate. Currently in
use by the 10th Mountain Division, the 101st Airborne Division and the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit
MEU have used M-Gators in Afghanistan and the supporting area of operations. The M-Gator provides a flexible tool for mobility in homeland security and the warfight.

The National Guard Association of the United States urges the Congress of the United States to authorize and appropriate an additional funding to the Other Procurement, Army budget line of the FY 2003 Defense Budget. This funding would support the procurement of HMMWVs and the M-Gator. We request that Congress direct language requiring the Army to field these systems to the Army National Guard.

COMMUNICATIONS ISSUES

The hard lessons learned from September 11th demonstrate a vital need to enhance the communications capability of the National Guard to ensure interoperability with civilian authorities during a homeland security mission and while supporting the active component. Out of date FM communications systems, which utilize line of site capability, lost significant capabilities in the urban canyons of New York City. The National Guard, along with the civilian authorities, was dependant upon donated commercial systems provided by companies like Verizion and NEXTEL. The lack of interoperable radios forced many individuals to carry three different devices to communicate with military and civilian authorities.

The Combat Air Patrols conducted by the Air National Guard taught some valuable lessons for communication. Equipping Air National Guard F-15s and F-16s with VHF radio capability will allow communications with commercial airliners. At present time, communications from military to commercial planes have to be relayed down to the ground and back up. The ability to communicate directly saves much needed time, especially if a commercial plane is suspected of being under hostile control.

The NGAUS urges Congress to support the enhancement of communications equipment within the National Guard by providing
- A reliable interoperable communication system to allow first responders and National Guardsmen the ability to effectively communicate;
- Combat Net Radios including funds for Single Channel Ground and Airborne Radio Systems (SINCGARS); and
- VHF radios capabilities for Air National Guard F-15 and F-16 fighter jets.
F-15 / F-16 Fighter Modernization

The operations tempo for Air National Guard (ANG) F-15 and F-16 fleet increased significantly following the attacks of September 11th. Furthermore, the ANG continued to participate as equal partners in sophisticated threat areas throughout the world as part of the Expeditionary Air Force (EAF) employment concept. Lack of a capable and robust electronic identification capability, in these aircraft, severely degrades the combat capability and survivability of the aircraft in both homeland defense and contingency operations. By fiscal year 2004, the current Air-to-Air Interrogator/Identify Friend or Foe (AAI/IFF) system will be unsupportable. Air defense of the United States is an immediate and essential concern of the National Command Authority (NCA). The ANG F-15 A/Bs and F-16s, along with other active duty aircraft, are the primary air defense assets employed for combat air patrols.

The ANG currently operates 100 percent of the F-15A/B fighter aircraft in the Air Force inventory. The ANG will be required to remain a viable, supportable, combat capable and ready force flying these aircraft well into the 21st Century, even though it possesses 126 of the earliest models of these fighters.

The Precision Attack Targeting System program fills a critical need for precision strike capability for the ANG and the Air Force Reserve. Adding targeting pod capability to the ANG F-16 fleet addresses the immediate shortfall in the Block 25/30/32 aircraft, which account for over 35% of the overall combat Air Force’s F-16 fleet. The Litening II targeting pod meets this requirement. The ANG joined efforts with the USAF to procure the next generation Advanced Targeting Pod (ATP) to finish out the remaining ANG shortfall. The ATP is “plug and play” technology, with state-of-the-art capability, allowing full weapons exploitation and comprehensive Air Reserve Components participation in homeland security missions and contingency operations worldwide.

The NGAUS urges the Congress to authorize and appropriate funding to:

- Procure a new state-of-the-art IFF for the ANG F-15 fleet;
- Upgrade the F-15A/B with a new AAI system;
- Procure next generation Advanced Targeting Pods.

Resourcing of Distance Learning & shared usage
With the major roles that the National Guard has taken on in homeland security, weapons of mass destruction, civil support, counter drug, and national missile defense, as well as the increased reliance on the National Guard to augment the active component through contingency operations mobilization, the National Guard has increased its requirements for updated Information Technology.

There is an increased requirement for modern decision support systems backed by real time, accessible, accurate information that will provide improved command and control, training, and family and employer support.

Congress has urged the National Guard to share the usage of their facilities and infrastructure with other Federal Agencies, such as the Veterans Administration and other agencies and response organizations in our local communities.

There is a shortage of time, money, and classroom seats for National Guard members to receive required training.

The Distance Technology Training Program (DTTP) has increased the National Guard communications and training capability and has assisted states with the development of synergistic higher education programs designed to leverage the technology investment in DTTP for shared community use at the state and local levels.

The DTTP allows training to be conducted via Internet, computers, videocassette recordings, compact discs, and satellite video teleconferencing. Such technology is highly cost effective, promotes the knowledge, skills and abilities of National Guard members, and ultimately contributes to a higher retention of qualified service members.

This same technology provides a command and control capability, as well as distributed training in support of the homeland defense, weapons of mass destruction, counter drug operations, partnership for peace initiatives, and information operations initiatives. For example, the DTTP recently provided command and control capabilities for the response to the World Trade Center tragedy.

Additionally, there is an urgent need to accelerate the Army’s capability to develop readiness-producing courseware to be distributed to National Guard units.

**The NGAUS urges the Congress of the United States to:**

- Provide funding solely for the operation, maintenance, upgrade and extension of the DTTP in order to provide electronic command, control and coordination connectivity
between National Guard forces and emergency responders before, during and after terrorist attacks and other domestic emergencies.

- Provide adequate funding for the information technology infrastructure of the National Guard so that it may continue to support the various missions of the National Guard and for the expansion to all Guardsmen, access to information, training and communications anytime, anywhere. This infrastructure should be interoperable with state and federal agencies to the greatest extent possible to assist with civil emergencies and WMD events and serve as part of an integrated national domestic security communications strategy.

- Ensure the National Guard network and the DTTP program remain as National Guard programs and under the operational control of the National Guard Bureau.

- Provide funding increases to the Army to expedite conversion of Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) courseware into distributed training format.

Modernization of Regional/Sector Air Operations Centers

Hawaii, Alaska, Florida, New York and Washington have aging Regional Air Operations Centers (RAOCs) whose command, control, computer and communications centers support air sovereignty and air defense of United States. The air sovereignty/defense mission continues to be of importance today and in the future. Currently there is no modernization program for any Regional/Sector Air Operations Centers (R/SAOC).

The R/SAOC system was designed for approximately a 20-year life span (1983-2003). These Command and Control C2 computers are 1970s-vintage C2 computers and are maintenance intensive and lag in technology (COTS replacement estimate unknown). The present R/SAOC computer system also lacks the needed capabilities for Joint Tactical Information Distribution System (JTIDS)/Link 16 technologies to communicate with other C2 platforms and Link 16 capable Air National G F-15s.

The NGAUS urges Congress to authorize and appropriate funding to modernize regional/sector air operations R/SAOC for replacement and upgrade of the C 2 and Link 16 joint tactical information distribution (JTIDS) systems; and procure an interim system to ensure mission accomplishment.
Aircraft Rescue And Fire Fighting Vehicles For the Air National Guard

The United States Air National Guard has more than 230 Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting Vehicles (ARFF), which range in age from 1-to-11 years more than their expected life of 12 years. In order to begin replacement of these overage trucks; additional funding is required in the Department of Defense Budget. To further substantiate the need for these vehicles, in all cases they are the primary support vehicles for the civilian airports on which they are stationed.

The ANG must also have the latest ARFF vehicles in the Air Force inventory for operational and maintenance training of the 1,814 Traditional Guard Fire Fighters to meet wartime readiness requirements. Any loss of assets from the aging, outdated vehicle fleet by the ANG could lead to serious reductions in critical fire fighting and rescue capabilities for both the military air crews and civilian aircraft they serve as well as significantly degrade the contingency and wartime readiness of United States ANG fire fighters.

The NGAUS urges the Congress of the United States to authorize and appropriate funding for replacement of Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting Equipment (P-19 Fire Trucks) for the Air National Guard.

Views from the National Guard Commander, and his soldiers, on the ground performing duties after the attack on the World Trade Center

Recently I had the pleasure of talking with Major General George C. Garrett, the Commanding General of the 42nd Infantry Division of the New York ARNG. He and his soldiers have identified critical areas where attention is needed to preempt future challenges that relate to arming, equipping, feeding, clothing, and sheltering our soldiers and airmen. Their comments included the need for:

♦ Man portable power devices and tactical generators to charge cell phones, light sets and radios;
♦ Alternative fuel vehicles need to be given consideration as diesel & gas are targets and can cripple mobility;
♦ Electronic tracking tags on issued equipment to maintain accountability;
♦ Inclement weather gear – while many soldiers purchased inclement cold weather gear not yet issued, a great many more were unable pay out of pocket to procure this same necessary gear;
♦ A mechanism for immediate fund site for personal clothing needs to be available;
♦ The National Guard needs to be provided with 9mm service pistols, adequate training and ammunition, to support homeland security missions; and

♦ Many soldiers were forced to sleep in corners of the Lexington Avenue armory. This armory was in use as a rallying point for victims and their families, while it also serves as a shelter for the homeless. Many soldiers were afforded quarters aboard one of a Navy hospital ship

On a side note, MG Garrett wanted me to express his thanks and gratitude from the 42nd Infantry Division to the first responders with whom they worked and continue to work.

**CONCLUSION**

On behalf of the National Guard and our soldiers and airmen, I thank the committee for allowing me the opportunity to express those areas that need to be addressed to improve our ability to support the firefighters, EMS, police and other first responders. The National Guard will continue to work side-by-side with state and local and federal authorities in time of need. Our relationships are strong, primarily because of our permanent community ties. However, there are many enhancements that can be emplaced to better allow the National Guard to remain dual missioned as the first military responder and as the main combat reserve to the warfighting mission.