

Nevada Air National Guard

Reno, Nevada

July 11, 2005

Notes of Visit by Commissioner Philip Coyle

George Delgado, J&CS – Industrial Analyst

Dean Rhody – Army Analyst

Meeting Attendance:

- BG Cindy Kirkland, Adjutant General, State of Nevada
- BG (Sel.) Mike Gullihur, Assistant Commander NVANG
- Col. Jon Proehl, Commander 152nd Airlift Wing NVANG
- Col. Frank Landes, Vice Commander 152nd Airlift Wing NVANG
- Lt. Col. Jim Cumings, ESSO, Nevada State HQ
- Lt. Col. Les Gonzalez, Commander, 152nd Intel Squadron, NVANG (Scathe View)
- Lt. Col. John Summers, Commander, Hawthorne Army Depot
- Lt. Col. Gary Turner, Commander 192nd Operations Support Flight Commander, NVANG
- Capt. Tom Funk 152nd Maintenance Squadron CRF?OIC, NVANG
- Mr. Giles Vanderhoof (via telephone), Director Nevada Homeland Security Department
- Mr. Nick Vanderpol, representing Nevada Congressman Jim Gibbons
- Mr. Scott Young, representing Nevada State Senator, Randolph Townsend
- Ms. Marily Mora, Deputy Executive Director, Reno/Tahoe International Airport

Meeting Notes:

- The Nevada Air National Guard (NVANG) contributes to the ground commanders a unique air intelligence capability with its “Scathe View” C-130s.
- A high degree of synergism exists in the collocation of the 152nd Air Lift Wing and the 152nd Intelligence Squadron in performing the “Scathe View” mission.
- The NVANG is the only unit in the Air Force flying the “Scathe View” modified C-130. Eight aircraft have been modified at a cost of \$500,000/aircraft.
- An informal check determined that 90% of NVANG members will not relocate if the mission and aircraft move out of the state.

- Homeland Security was not considered in the proposed relocation of the C-130s. The NVANG state mission was also not considered in the proposed relocation.
- The lack of clarity in the definition and application of military judgment by the Air Force in the proposed relocation of the Reno C-130s troubles the NVANG.

Mr. Vanderhoof

- Mr. Vanderhoof repeatedly emphasized his extreme concern at losing the C-130s based in Reno.
- The state of Nevada is listed as number 5 in the list of terrorism threatened states. Threat areas include the largest dam in the nation and tourism in Reno.
- The long distances in the state makes airlift a must have during large scale emergencies. Nevada sustains annual floods, large fires and contains major fault lines making the state prone to earthquakes.
- If the C-130s move out of Reno, the nearest airlift capability resides in Southern California and although Mr. Vanderhoof believes California would help Nevada in an emergency; this capability would be stretched very thin if simultaneous emergencies occurred in both states.

Ms. Mora

- Ms. Mora opined that it is good for the community to see the NVANG at the Reno/Tahoe Airport.
- The airport authority likes having them in the Reno/Tahoe Airport and both entities have established a very cooperative relationship.
- The partnership has brought upgrades and improvements to airport facilities, including three runways, one of which measures 11,000 feet in length.
- Additional ramp space for NVANG that would allow it to expand the number of aircraft up to 16 is in negotiations with the Reno/Tahoe Airport Authority. The NVANG would trade to the airport authority a portion of land it controls for the additional ramp space.