



**INFRASTRUCTURE ANALYSIS TEAM**  
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IAT/JAN  
3 December 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subj: MEETING WITH TEXAS MILITARY PREPAREDNESS COMMISSION

- Encl: (1) Brochure, "Texas Military Preparedness Commission Annual Report 2004-2005"  
(2) Handout, "Naval Aviation Training in the Texas Gulf Coast Area"  
(3) Handout, "Navy's Vision for a Surface Fleet in the Texas Gulf Coast"  
(4) Handout, "State Financial Commitments for Defense Transformation"

1. The Honorable Gordon R. England, Secretary of the Navy met with the Honorable Rick Perry, Governor of Texas, and members of the Texas Military Preparedness Commission, including Mr. Bill Ehrie, Chair, Texas Military Preparedness Commission; Mr. Michael Smith, Executive Director, Texas Military Preparedness Commission; and, in Room 4E562 at 0915 on 3 December 2004. In addition, CDR Scott Haywood, USN, Executive Assistant, ASN(RDA) and Capt James A. Noel, USMC, ODASN (IS&A) were also present.

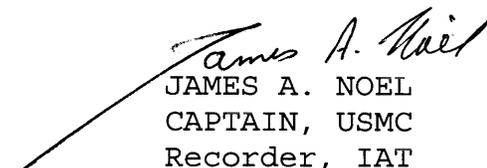
2. Mr. Perry thanked Mr. England for the opportunity to discuss the state of Texas' support for the military. He specifically referred to a recent tour of Ingleside and stated that Texas is a pro-active partner with military installations, noting that Texas offered to invest \$15 million towards infrastructure improvements if DOD relocates an additional 5,000 Servicemembers to Fort Hood, and that the state would do the same if additional personnel were relocated to Fort Bliss. Mr. Perry mentioned that significant work was conducted at Corpus Christi, including rail work. The Governor noted that long term plans include a transportation plan (the Trans Texas corridor) that will follow the present interstate, significantly reduce congestion and allow more rapid military movements. The delegation specifically discussed issues with NAVSTA Ingleside, noting that U.S. Coast Guard assets were being relocated there and discussed the state's willingness to invest in infrastructure improvements at Ingleside, and the beneficial cost of operations at Ingleside. They informed Mr. England that a bond has been approved to extend the runway at Corpus Christi. Mr. Perry noted that the state of Texas is currently working on a project

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to develop a major multi-use (air to ground, ground to ground) 46,000-acre range for DOD southwest of San Antonio. Lastly, he noted that the area in the vicinity of Corpus Christi represents the longest stretch of undeveloped coastal region in the United States (150 mile strip includes three ranches).

3. Mr. England noted that citizens of Texas comprise a sizable portion of the military (including himself) and recognized the state's strong support of the military. He provided a brief explanation, and current status, of the BRAC process. The Secretary stated that recommendations for closure or realignment had not yet been developed. He also noted that some installations and regions would gain activities from the BRAC process. Mr. England informed the Texas delegation that the best opportunity to weigh in on the process was to the BRAC Commission. He highlighted the joint aspect of the current BRAC process. Lastly, Mr. England presented to Mr. Perry a framed poster of the U.S.S. Texas, recently christened by Mrs. Laura Bush as a token of appreciation and reminded the delegation that it was important to follow the BRAC Commission.

5. The meeting concluded at 1005.

  
JAMES A. NOEL  
CAPTAIN, USMC  
Recorder, IAT

**TAB 1**

Encl: (1) Brochure, "Texas Military Preparedness Commission  
Annual Report 2004-2005"

Available in hard copy only

**TAB 2**

## **NAVAL AVIATOR TRAINING IN THE TEXAS GULF COAST AREA**

**FOCUS: The Navy's vision for future aviation training in the Texas Gulf Coast area as applied to NAS Corpus Christi and NAS Kingsville.**

### **FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION:**

- Texas's mild climate reduces requirements for infrastructure maintenance and increases the year-round availability for extensive air, sea and land training.
- The diverse workforce present in South Texas provides highly trained and skilled labor to fulfill the needs of the Department of the Navy's aviation training mission.
- A variety of resources is available to enhance the Naval Aviation training programs in South Texas, including superb weather, convenient availability to excellent land, sea and over water flight training ranges with minimal environmental and encroachment concerns.
- Location of important aviation defense industries in the South Texas area.
- Past successes of flight training on the Texas Gulf Coast.

### **Partnership Initiatives:**

- **Potential creation of 50,000 acre state of the art flight training, vehicle maneuver, and small arms training site in South Texas as a Joint Military Forces one stop combat training area.**

## **NAVAL AVIATOR TRAINING IN THE TEXAS GULF COAST AREA**

Prepared by the Texas Military Preparedness Commission  
Office of Governor Rick Perry

November 30, 2004

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**FOCUS – Determine to the extent possible, the Navy’s vision for future aviation training in the Texas Gulf Coast area. NAS Corpus Christi and NAS Kingsville have been proven key contributors to meeting joint service aviation training needs. The capability exists to do even more to meet future defense requirements.**

The Naval Aviator Training programs have a long and successful history in the Texas Gulf Coast. Corpus Christi and Kingsville host two Naval Air Stations that have worked together to produce top quality Navy, Marine and Air Force aviators. The geographic resources, such as a large volume of airspace, unrestricted open water areas and favorable flying weather, have contributed to the success of NAS Corpus Christi and NAS Kingsville training programs. These bases enjoy tremendous support from the defense communities.

### **Existing Naval Air Stations and their missions:**

- **NAS Corpus Christi** is a jet fighter training facility for the Navy, surrounded on three sides by water with a significant water buffer to air operations. The Navy has Primary Aviator Training (two squadrons) and Joint Advanced Maritime Aviator Training (two squadrons) for the Navy, Marines and Air Force. Training Wing Four includes two Primary Training Squadrons of T-34s and one Advanced Maritime Squadron of T-44s and TC-12s.
- **NAS Kingsville** is a jet aviation training facility for the Navy and Marine Corps. Supporting this mission are seventy-five T-45 aircraft used by Training Air Wing Two and the two Advanced Jet Training Squadrons VT-21 and VT-22. Its unencumbered air space is supported by four 8,000 foot runways at NAS Kingsville, two 8,000 foot at Naval Air Landing Field Orange Grove, and the McMullen Target Complex. (Headquarters for Chief of Naval Air Training Command (CNTRAC) is responsible for the training and readiness of all Navy aviation training).

### **Relevant Factors**

- Texas’ mild climate reduces requirements for infrastructure maintenance and increases the year-round availability of our extensive air, sea and land training.
- The diverse workforce present in South Texas provides highly trained and skilled labor available to fulfill the needs of the Department of the Navy’s training mission.
- A variety of resources are available to assist the Naval Aviation training programs in South Texas, including superb weather and convenient availability to excellent air, land and sea flight training ranges with minimal environmental and encroachment concerns.

### **Potential State – DOD Partnership Incentives**

- **Potential creation of a 50,000 acre state of the art South Texas Joint Forces Military Training Site. Development of a crew serve weapons level small arms training range in same general area offer one stop combat arms training opportunities for military commanders. South Texas terrain replicates Middle Eastern combat environment.**

**TAB 3**

**NAVY'S VISION FOR A SURFACE FLEET IN THE TEXAS GULF COAST**

**FOCUS: The Navy's vision for maintaining a surface fleet presence in the Texas Gulf Coast area. Recommend strong consideration be given to preserving NS Ingleside deepwater port via Navy and/or US Coast Guard presence.**

**FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION:**

- NS Ingleside has modern base infrastructure (base constructed in 1992).
- The NS Ingleside deepwater port offers a unique basing opportunity for Navy and/or Coast Guard vessels.
- Potential for base expansion, no encroachment.
- Texas's mild climate reduces requirements for infrastructure maintenance and increases the year-round availability of our extensive air, sea and land training.
- The diverse workforce present in South Texas provides highly trained and skilled labor to fulfill the needs of the Department of the Navy's training mission.
- A variety of resources are available to enhance the Naval surface training programs, including superb weather, relatively unrestricted sea training areas and immediate proximity to the Port of Corpus Christi, a major military deployment port.

**Partnering Initiatives:**

- **State and community commitments to finance existing "short" pier improvements**
- **Potential state and community commitments to partner in construction of "long" pier at NS Ingleside to accommodate larger Navy ships.**
- **Relocation of Coast Guard assets to NS Ingleside to preserve key deep water port asset and strategically important Homeland Security location for Gulf Coast.**

## **NAVY'S VISION FOR A SURFACE FLEET IN THE TEXAS GULF COAST**

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### **FOCUS – Determine to the extent possible, the Navy's vision for maintaining a surface fleet in the Texas Gulf Coast area.**

The deep water port of Corpus Christi is linked to the Gulf of Mexico by the Corpus Christi ship channel. Naval Station Ingleside is located on the north shore of the Corpus Christi Bay about 18 miles from Corpus Christi. It is a modern base, established in July 1992, and has a deep water port which can provide berthing for all existing Navy ships.

#### **Current Naval Station and their missions**

The primary mission of Naval Station Ingleside is to serve as the Navy's Mine Warfare Center of Excellence. To accomplish this mission, the base provides training, operations and maintenance support to the area's Mine Warfare Forces Center and the Fire Fighting Training Facility. Co-located at Ingleside as part of the "Mine Warfare Center of Excellence" are 10 Avenger Class Mine Countermeasures Ships and 10 Osprey Class Coastal Minehunter. In addition to the operating and training facilities, the private sector has established ship repair capability to perform all ship life-cycle maintenance for the Mine Countermeasures (MCM) and Coastal Minehunter (MHC) ships. The Fire Fighting Training Facility is one of only six in the Navy. US Coast Guard has a presence at Galveston and Corpus Christi.

#### **Relevant Factors**

- Modern base infrastructure, (base constructed in 1992).
- Potential for base expansion, no encroachment.
- Mild climate of Texas reduces requirements for infrastructure maintenance and increases the year-round availability of our extensive air, sea and land training.
- A diverse workforce present in South Texas provides highly trained and skilled labor available to fulfill the needs of the Department of the Navy's training mission.
- A variety of resources are available to assist the Naval Aviation training programs in South Texas, including a skilled workforce, superb weather, financial commitments from the State of Texas for expansion of missions and personnel.

#### **Potential Future State Partnership Initiatives**

- **Community commitments to finance existing "short pier" improvements.**
- **Potential state and community commitment to finance extension of short pier or construction of a long pier at NS Ingleside, which can accommodate larger Navy ships.**
- **Relocation of Coast Guard assets to NS Ingleside to preserve key deep water port asset and strategically important Homeland Security location for Gulf Coast.**

**TAB 4**

## **STATE FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS FOR DEFENSE TRANSFORMATION**

**FOCUS: Texas offers financial commitments to assist Texas' defense communities and bases receiving additional troops, missions and/or workload. The state also has established a \$250 million revolving loan fund to communities who desire to enhance the military value of their installation.**

**STATE FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS CURRENTLY TOTAL SOME \$60 MIL**

### **FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION:**

- Grant commitment totaling \$20.5 million to Fort Hood for building new roads and improving existing roads to support expanded DoD operations.
- Grant commitment totaling \$16.2 million to Fort Bliss for improvement of infrastructure, mobility and traffic flow on and around the base.
- Grant commitment totaling \$13 million to Red River Army Depot for infrastructure improvements to enhance highway access to the Depot.
- Loan of \$3.5 million to the City of Temple for a new helicopter maintenance facility at Temple Municipal Airport. The new facility will provide significant added capabilities for supplemental material and personal airlift in support of AMCOM and Texas National Guard.
- Loan of \$5.2 million to the City of Corpus Christi for transportation improvements throughout the city. Improvement of two existing roads in Corpus Christi (Waldron Road and Port Avenue) and the realignment of Flower Bluff Drive.

### **Partnership Initiatives:**

- **Additional commitments will be made to assist defense communities and installations receiving new or expanded missions, personnel or workloads. Nature of assistance will vary depending up type of support required and available state revenues.**
- **Potential expenditures for real estate to create military aircraft, combat vehicle and small arms training ranges in South Texas**

## STATE FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS FOR DEFENSE TRANSFORMATION

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### **FOCUS – The State of Texas commitment to military bases contingent upon the expansion of missions, troop strength and workloads at Texas military bases.**

Texas has committed some \$50 million in state revenues to military installations and defense dependent communities that anticipate the need for expansion of their facilities through defense realignment or transformation. These commitments have been in the forms of grants and loans and it is anticipated that further commitments will be made as the Department of Defense continues to announce additional force realignments and mission changes.

#### **Current Texas commitments (Grants)**

- **July 14, 2004:** Governor Perry announced a **\$20.5 million** commitment for infrastructure improvements at Fort Hood. The commitment – made through the Texas Department of Transportation – would be used to build new and improve existing roads and other infrastructure needed to support expanded operations if the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) decides to increase operations at Fort Hood.
- **August 09, 2004:** Gov. Rick Perry announced a **\$16.2 million** commitment by the State of Texas to improve infrastructure, mobility and traffic flow on and around Fort Bliss.
- **Sept. 29, 2004:** Gov. Rick Perry announced a **\$13 million** commitment by the State of Texas to provide infrastructure improvements to enhance highway access to the Red River Army Depot.

#### **Texas Military Value Revolving Loan Fund commitments**

- **City of Temple:** A new \$3.5 million, 45,000 square foot helicopter maintenance facility will be built at the Municipal Airport in Temple which will provide significant added capabilities for supplemental material and personal airlift in support of AMCOM and the Texas National Guard.
- **City of Corpus Christi:** The Corpus Christi project consists of three (3) major transportation improvements throughout the City. Improvement of two existing roads in Corpus Christi, Waldron Road and Port Avenue and the realignment of Flour Bluff Drive at a cost of \$18,654,193. The State has committed \$5,253,000 in support of this project.

#### **Future State Partnership Initiatives**

- **The Governor has announced he will make additional commitments for defense communities and installations receiving new, realigned or expanded missions, personnel or workloads.**
- **Potential expenditures for real estate to create military aircraft, combat vehicle and small arms training ranges in South Texas.**