



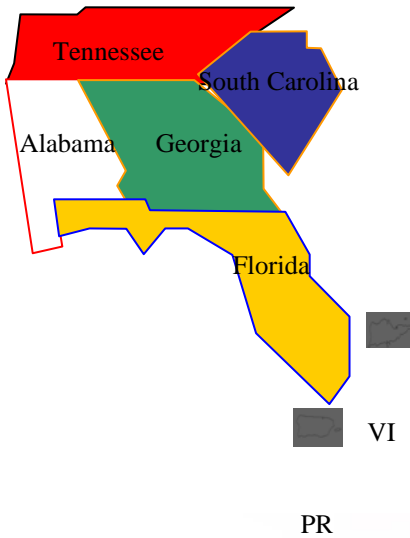
# THE SOUTHERN DRAWL

VOLUME 12. NO. 14

SPECIAL ISSUE

2007 MAY

## AREA III

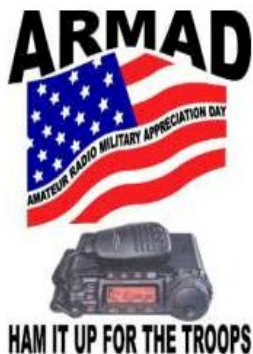


## NATIONAL MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH - MAY 2007



**May** is National Military Appreciation Month—  
Ways to Support Our Military

- FLY THE FLAG ON YOUR HOUSE, CAR, or BUSINESS DURING MAY
  - 2 SEND AN EMAIL OR LETTER OF THANKS THROUGH A MILLION THANKS
  - SEND A CARE PACKAGE TO A SOLDIER THROUGH USOCARES
  - ORGANIZE AN EVENT IN YOUR OWN COMMUNITY, AND AT YOUR WORKPLACE
- 
- ASK YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS AT ALL LEVELS TO RECOGNIZE OUR MILITARY
  - WEAR A SUPPORT OUR TROOPS WRISTBAND OR SHIRT
  - REGISTER YOUR SUPPORT AT AMERICA SUPPORTS YOU!
  - ASK LIBRARIES, SCHOOLS, ORGANIZATIONS TO PARTICIPATE IN RECOGNIZING OUR ARMED FORCES
  - ASK LOCAL MEDIA (TV, RADIO, NEWSPAPER) TO FEATURE
  - WHEN YOU SEE A PERSON IN A MILITARY UNIFORM, SHAKE THEIR HAND AND SAY, "THANK YOU FOR SERVING OUR COUNTRY"
  - RAISE FUNDS FOR MILITARY CHARITIES
  - HIRE A VETERAN - VISIT HIRE A VET FIRST FOR MORE INFORMATION.



**Amateur radio Military Appreciation Day.** (ARMAD) is a worldwide event that allows the public to communicate with Members of the Military, Military Retired, Veterans, and Military Support Groups in a live forum, so that messages of appreciation and thanks can be exchanged over the Amateur Radio airwaves.

Let's "Ham It Up For The Troops."

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Office of the Governor

**BOB RILEY**  
Governor



Press Office

**Military Appreciation Month**  
By the Governor of the State of Alabama  
A Proclamation  
April 27, 2007

WHEREAS, every citizen of the United States is endowed by God with the right to Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness, and

WHEREAS, these rights are protected by the vigilance of the brave men and women of our United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, these brave warriors have bled and died for freedom around the world, in such places as Yorktown and Lexington, Gettysburg and Appomattox, Normandy and the Argonne, Iwo Jima and Okinawa, Seoul and the Chosin Reservoir, Saigon and Khe Sanh, and now in places like Kabul and Baghdad; and

WHEREAS, it is an honored duty to wear the uniform and to serve in the United States Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, whenever called upon to defend our nation's security at home or abroad, the men and women who serve in the United States Armed Forces respond immediately, placing this Nation's interests above their own; and

WHEREAS, today our men and women in uniform daily put their lives at risk, seeking to secure the blessings of freedom and liberty; and

WHEREAS, May 19, 2007, proclaimed as "Armed Forces Day," marks a continued demonstration that America's defense team has progressed under the National Security Act, toward the goal of readiness for any eventuality; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Alabama should recognize, honor, and show appreciation to all service members, past and present, and their families:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Riley, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim May 2007, as

Military Appreciation Month

in the State of Alabama and I encourage the citizens of Alabama, in the spirit of Operation Grateful Heart, to show their support. May God Bless America, and God Bless Alabama.

Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on the 27th day of April 2007.

Governor Bob Riley

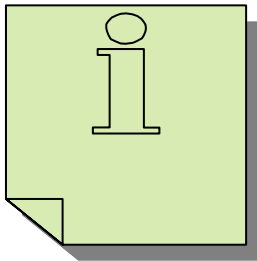


## Enlisted Association of National Guard of Tennessee and Auxiliary to host 2008 Area III Caucus

**T**he Enlisted Association of the National Guard of Tennessee and its Auxiliary will host the 2008 Area III Caucus; 16-18 May at the Holiday Inn Select Hotel (Opryland; Airport); Nashville, TN.

Presidents **Don Mapes** (EANGTN), Ann Story (EANGTN Auxiliary) Executive Assistant/auxiliary member, **Betsy Redmond** and other members of the Tennessee family are busy making plans for the meetings, entertainment and other fun/accessible things to do.

Plan now to be there!



CAUCUS RESIGISTRATION FORM - PAGE 4



### Senator Saxby Chambliss—

**I** recently traveled to **Ramadi**, a city 70 miles west of Baghdad. Six months ago, Ramadi was all but lost to al-Qaeda, but since the new strategy has been implemented, we have seen remarkable signs of progress in securing the city, largely due to the efforts of the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade Combat Team of the **Georgia-based Third Infantry Division of the United States Army**. In fact, we were the first congressional delegation to travel into downtown; a year ago we would not have been allowed to do this. There are still attacks being carrying out, but the strategy of clearing and holding the areas once controlled by al-Qaeda is proving to be successful. Additionally, all 23 tribes in Ramadi are now cooperating with U.S. forces.

“I am pleased that today the Senate rejected attempts to micro-manage the efforts of our military leaders. The restrictions some senators proposed would create more hoops to jump through that would distract our military personnel from their mission. This political charade has been going on for three months. I just returned from my fifth trip to Iraq, and our men and women told me they are frustrated and confused by what’s happening in Washington with regard to the supplemental funding bill. Our military personnel are committed to carrying out their mission in a professional manner, and they have made great strides in securing areas of the country, but they cannot continue this progress if Congress continues to delay their funding.

“We know that considerable challenges still exist in Iraq, but that does not mean that we should pull the rug out from under our troops when the new strategy has yet to be fully implemented. The Iraqis must step up and take control of their own country, but we should not short change our men and women in uniform who need the resources to not only do their jobs and train the Iraqis, but to protect themselves from harm as well.”



**2008 Area III CAUCUS**  
**Dates: May 16 - 18, 2008**  
**Holiday Inn**



**Nashville, TN**

The 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Area III Caucus will be held in Nashville, Tennessee at the Holiday Inn Select, 2200 Elm Hill Pike, Nashville, Tennessee 37214. Room rates for May 16 – 18, 2008, is \$89.00 per night, plus local hotel and stat taxes. Upgrade to Executive Level will be an additional \$20.00 per night. Please make rooming reservations directly with the hotel at 615.883.9770.

**Registration Form**

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Rank: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse/Guest: \_\_\_\_\_ Attend Aux. Meeting: Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Registration: 1300 – 1700, Friday, May 16, 2006  
 0730 – 0900, Saturday, May 17, 2006

Registration Fee: \$15.00 per person

Number Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ X \$15.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Total enclosed

**A block of rooms has been reserved for our conference. ALL reservations have to be made NLT 1 May 2008.**

Date of arrival: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of departure: \_\_\_\_\_

Golf Outing: If you are interested in playing golf, please indicate. Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Please have all registration forms in by 1 May 2008.

Registration forms should be mailed to:

EANGTN  
 4332 Kenilwood Dr., Suite B  
 Nashville, TN 37204-4401  
 FAX: 615. 833.9173

Email: [betty@eangtn.org](mailto:betty@eangtn.org) Phone # 615.781.000



## **NEWS RELEASES from the United States Department of Defense**

### **IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 16, 2007

### **DoD Acts on 23 Recommendations Made by Commission on National Guard and Reserve**

The Department of Defense announced today that Secretary of Defense Robert Gates has acted on 23 of the recommendations made by the Commission on the National Guard and Reserve in its recent report.

Gates has also asked the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (CJCS) for an assessment of how the National Guard might be organized differently to better meet the national security requirements of the United States.

After carefully reviewing the recommendations of a working group, a separate assessment from the CJCS and considering alternative points of view, the Secretary of Defense concurred in whole or substantially in part with 20 of the commission's recommendations.

In these 20 recommendations are four that require no action since they affirm current statutory authority and existing DoD policies and practices.

The Secretary of Defense has directed that the department immediately implement nine of the 20 recommendations that can be accomplished through changes in DoD policies and procedures. He also directed that legislative proposals be drafted for three of the 20 recommendations requiring a change in law.

Gates also directed that legislation be prepared to specify that the Secretary of Defense is responsible for developing and prescribing the charter for the National Guard Bureau. These legislative amendments are expected to be included in the department's legislative program for Fiscal Year 2008.

The department will continue to work with the Department of Homeland Security to implement four of the 20 recommendations, including: establishing the roles and responsibilities of each department in meeting civil support requirements; working more effectively as a team by exchanging representatives; providing Congress with an annual report on our collaborative homeland security and civil support activities; and establishing a council of governors.

Gates did not concur with three of the CNGR's recommendations, including: placing federal forces under the direct control of a governor; designating the National Guard Bureau as a joint activity of DoD; and mandating that Northern Command's commander or deputy commander must be a National Guard or reserve officer. However, he has directed that an alternative approach to address these recommendations be explored by DoD.

The CNGR released a report of its findings and recommendations based on an extensive review of options to empower the chief of the National Guard Bureau, enhance the National Guard Bureau and determine the adequacy of the federal planning for homeland security and civil support as required by section 529 of the John Warner National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2007.

**LEGISLATIVE ALERT #07-04**  
**May 17, 2007**

**The Issue:** Restoring Funding for the Joint Cargo Aircraft (JCA)

**Immediate Action Required:** Contact your Senators and urge them to provide funding for the JCA in the FY08 SASC NDAA that was removed by the HASC in the FY08 NDAA (H.R.1585)

The purpose of the Joint Cargo Aircraft (JCA) program is to procure a small cargo aircraft for both the Army and the Air Force that provides responsive, flexible, and tailored airlift for combat, humanitarian operations, and homeland defense. A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was signed by the Army and Air Force on 20 Jun 06, establishing an initial joint requirement. NGAUS supports procurement of the JCA.

Members of the both House and Senate Armed Services Committees have been requesting Air Force lift capabilities studies for some time, believing the Air Force has a greater requirement for airlift than it has identified in its budget request. Those studies have not been delivered.

The House Armed Services Committee (HASC) inserted language in the FY08 Defense Authorizations Bill (20 Mar 07 House Report 110-146, Section 132, page 41) prohibiting the Secretary of the Air Force or Army from obligating or expending funds for the development or procurement of the JCA until 30 days after the Secretary of Defense (SECDEF) submits to Congress a series of airlift capabilities and fleet-mix analysis studies. The SECDEF must also certify that there is a valid requirement for the JCA. The restrictive language in the House version of the FY08 National Defense Authorization Act could delay the program for up to one year, adding unnecessary cost and time to the development of a much needed, validated program.

NGAUS urges the responsible agencies to provide to the Congress final reports on all completed studies and interim reports on those studies still ongoing. Further we urge the Senate to include funding for the JCA program in the Senate Armed Services Committee and further to ensure this funding is included in the Defense Authorization conference.

**TAKE THE FOLLOWING ACTION:**

By using the "Write to Congress" feature on the NGAUS Web site at [www.ngaus.org](http://www.ngaus.org), you can IMMEDIATELY e-mail your elected representatives. A sample letter is included in our "Write to Congress" feature. You can e-mail the pre-written message or edit the sample letter as you desire. This is the quickest and most effective method of expressing your views to Congress. Also, contact your friends and family and urge them to "Write to Congress" as well. For more in-depth information and background visit our web site at [www.ngaus.org](http://www.ngaus.org).

*THE SOUTHERN DRAWL* is an  
**AREA III**  
newsletter publication.

**Editors/Publishers: EANGUS  
AUXILIARY  
AREA III  
Directors**

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*Thanks for your time--everyone!*

