LOUISIANA MILITARY ADVISORY COUNCIL Held on April 17, 2024 AT THE LASALLE BUILDING GRIFFIN ROOM, FIRST FLOOR 617 North Third Street Baton Rouge, Louisiana, 70802 REPORTED BY: KELLY S. PERRIN, C.C.R. COURT REPORTERS OF LOUISIANA - A Veritext Company 9522 Brookline Avenue, Suite 217 Baton Rouge, Louisiana E-Mail: calendar-louisiana@veritext.com Page 1

1 INDEX	1 PROCEEDINGS
2 PAGE	2 MR. ABBOUD:
3 CAPTION 1	3 All right. Good afternoon, everyone.
4 APPEARANCES 3	4 Great to look out to see so many smiling faces
5 ROLL CALL 4-6	5 this afternoon. I'm showing a few minutes
6 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE 90	6 after one, so I think we can go ahead and call
7	today's meeting to order.
8	 8 Just a couple of quick housekeeping
9	
10	8, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
11	10 copy of your agenda for today's meeting as
	11 well as a roster of the LMAC Board Membership.
12	12 As you look through that, if you see any
13	13 updates, revisions, or corrections that need
14	14 to be made, please don't hesitate to let me
15	15 know and I'll be sure we capture that in our
16	16 system.
17	17 I know we have a very busy agenda today.
18	18 So what I'll do is quickly call the roll for
19	19 the record. And as always, please correct me
20	20 should there be any mispronunciations. Okay.
21	21 Mayor Rick Allen?
22	22 MAYOR ALLEN:
23	23 Present.
24	24 MR. ABBOUD:
25	25 Mayor Clarence Beebe?
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1 APPEARANCES:	1 (No response).
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1	Deborah Randolph?	1	MR. ABBOUD:
2	MS. RANDOLPH:	2	Okay. All in favor, please say "Aye."
3	Present.	3	ALL:
4	MR. ABBOUD:	4	Aye.
5	Senator Mike Reese?	5	MR. ABBOUD:
6	(No response).	6	Okay. Thank you very much. Now, moving
7	Major General Ronald Richard?	7	into our remarks and introductions. I know we
8	MAJ. GEN. RICHARD:	8	have a few new LMAC Board members joining us
9	Present.	9	today, so I certainly appreciate having the
10	MR. ABBOUD:	10	opportunity to welcome and introduce them
11	Mr. Gary Silbert?	11	today. Earlier this year, Governor Jeff
12	MR. SILBERT:	12	Landry announced his new appointment for
13	Here.	13	Secretary of the Louisiana Economic
14	MR. ABBOUD:	14	Development. She previously served as CEO of
15	Mr. Ronnie Slone?	15	the Northshore Community Foundation for 17
16	MR. SLONE:	16	years. And in our short time together thus
17	Present.	17	far, I've learned that she's a very strategic
18	MR. ABBOUD:	18	thinker and an exceptional communicator, and I
19	Mr. Murray Viser?	19	know that she will we'll be well-positioned
20	MR. VISER:	20	as a state under her leadership.
21	Present.	21	So with that, it's my pleasure to
22	MR. ABBOUD:	22	introduce the LED Secretary, Susan Bourgeois.
23	Rear Admiral Joel Whitehead?	23	Thank you.
24	RADM WHITEHEAD:	24	SECRETARY BOURGEOIS:
25	Present.	25	Thank you, Robby, very much. If y'all
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1	MR. ABBOUD:	1	are comfortable, I'll stay here. I don't know
2	Thank you. Thank you very much,	2	how you typically do this and I'm not going to
3	everyone. Please take a seat there, Counsel.	3	make many remarks today. I just wanted to
4	Okay. So I do see we have a quorum today and	4	thank you all for your service, first and
5	I would like to welcome all of our new LMAC	5	foremost, on many different levels.
6	Board members to today's meeting. Since we	6	And as Robby said, so I am now about two
7	typically begin our meetings with the Pledge	7	and a half months on the job. And so for a
8	of Allegiance, I'll ask that you please all	8	little bit longer, I'm going to continue to
9	rise so you can join me in saying the Pledge.	9	claim new-girl status if you don't mind
10	ALL:	10	because I think there's great flexibility that
11	(PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE)	11	comes with that. But I'm really thrilled to
12	MR. ABBOUD:	12	be here today to hear a little bit about what
13	Thank you. You may be seated. All	13	y'all do in your work. But in the bigger
14	right. We can go on to the approval of the	14	picture, we have so much going on at LED and
15	prior meeting's minutes. I believe those have	15	it's all coming at me very fast.
16	been shared with you all before today's	16	And having been in the private sector for
17	meeting. Does anyone have any questions,	17	so long, I actually served in state government
18	comments or any edits to the prior meeting's	18	under Governor Foster, and left state
19	minutes?	19	government and have been out in the private
20	MR. SILBERT:	20	sector ever since. And so having to adjust to
21	Move to accept.	21	state in government time is a little bit
22	MR. ABBOUD:	22	different for me because I'm ready to get
23	Okay. Any second?	23	everything done, I'm ready to get it done now,
24	MR. SLONE:	24	right.
25	Second.	25	So I will tell you, the most significant
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1	thing that we have going on at LED is we have	1	to work alongside people like you who really
2	a major restructure of our department and how	2	just want to see the state succeed. So,
3	we look at, treat, and execute economic	3	Robby, if you want me to speak to any of our
4	development services in Louisiana. There is a	4	work specifically, I'm happy to, but
5	legislative track. I'm very happy to say that	5	otherwise, I appreciate being here and it's
6	our pretty significant restructure bill passed	6	nice to meet you all.
7	Senate and Commerce Committee this morning	7	MR. ABBOUD:
8	without opposition. There's just such hunger	8	Thank you, Secretary. I'll take this
9	for growth and opportunity in Louisiana that	9	moment just for any questions from the Council
10	the Commerce Committee was all very excited to	10	or anyone in attendance for Secretary
11	hear what we had to say. And then we have a	11	Bourgeois at this time. Okay.
12	lot of internal reorganization going on.	12	SECRETARY BOURGEOIS:
13	There are many elements to that. And	13	Great. And I'm going to step out
14	there's one I want to focus on with you today	14	shortly. I have to go to Shreveport, so I'm
15	so you hear this and you hear the importance	15	not I hate that I can't stay for the
16	of this. There's a fundamental opportunity we	16	duration of the meeting. Thank you.
17	have in Louisiana that we are capitalizing on	17	MR. ABBOUD:
18	very quickly in the Department, and that is	18	Thank you, Secretary. I wanted to move
19	engaging partners in the private sector to	19	us kind of into our reports and overview
20	assist with the work that we do; people who	20	section of today's agenda. I know there's
21	have expertise. You know, my theory, again,	21	been a lot of great work going on in pretty
22	and from the private sector, my theory is why	22	much every corner of our state and that's from
23	would we reinvent inside of government the	23	military installation support to work with the
24	expertise and the assets that we already have	24	defense industry to supporting our veteran and
25	outside of the government?	25	retiree population here in Louisiana.
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1	So a tremendous focus of our work, and	1	And so to that point, I wanted to first
2	actually, Rachel Shields is here with me	2	call on Colonel Charlton Meginley who has a
3	today. For those of you who don't know	3	report for Veterans Affairs. Colonel Meginley
4	Rachel, Rachel is the longterm Chief of Staff	4	served in the U.S. Air Force as Judge Advocate
5	of GNO, Inc. Her role with the Department is	s 5	on active duty for more than 20 years. He
6	to manage all things private sector	6	completed his military career as an appellate
7	engagement. And our goal is to engage with	7	military judge on the Air Force's court of
8	people, as I said, who have expertise and a	8	criminal appeals at Joint Base Andrews. So
9	desire to see the state succeed in ways that	9	we're grateful to have Colonel Meginley back
10	drive and form and drive the work that we do	10	in Louisiana. And I'll turn it over to you,
11	And so if you take that element, combined	11	sir, for your presentation.
12	with, as we begin upon a very aggressive,	12	COL. MEGINLEY:
13	strategic planning process, we're going to	13	Thank you. Good afternoon, everyone.
14	identify the sectors that the Department needs	14	I'm sorry for our late entrance. We've been
15	to focus on. We're going to identify the	15	in Committee since, I think, 9:30, so we just
16	opportunities in the state. But I do think it	16	got wrapped up. So here's me. I want to
17	is very safe to say that whatever words we	17	introduce my deputy over here, Jerome Buller.
18	choose to describe, military defense veterans	18	Colonel Buller Dr. Buller is a retired Army
19	in that bucket is and will remain a priority	19	doc of over 30 years of Army service.
20	sector for the state. And so I know a lot of	20	Over here, is my Undersecretary John
21	the work that y'all do here will inform that	21	Phillips. Lieutenant Commander Phillips did
22	work.	22	20 years with the Navy. So, obviously,
23	So I'm grateful for that. I'm grateful	23	between the three of us, we have 70 years of
24	for the opportunity that Governor Landry has	24	active time helping and assisting veterans.
25	given me. And most importantly, I'm gratefu	25	So our mission is very clear. We are
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1	going to advocate for veterans every day until		money. So we are in the process right now of
2	I walk out and then probably for the next	2	talking to all the colleges and universities
3	person and the next person and the next	3	here about how they can help bring in more GI
4	person, because that's what we do. And so	4	bill participants.
5	we're going to ensure that they receive	5	My daughter is on my GI bill. She's
6	superior service, connect them to all the	6	living her best life at LSU. I want more of
7	benefits they've earned, not just from the	7	those. And the number right there, almost
8	federal but from the state.	8	10,000 or so who are on GI bill benefits.
9	And, of course, my vision, right now,	9	There is one thing about this slide that
10	Louisiana is not considered a very favorable	10	I think is worth noting that we didn't put up,
11	place for veterans to live in, despite the	11	it is anticipated that the veteran population
12	fact that we have one of the strongest	12	in Louisiana is going to continue to drop.
13	benefits packages in the country. So we've	13	Right now, we have 267,000 vets. A few years
14	got to figure out how to change that and what	14	ago, it was over 300. Projections are, in at
15	we can do in our role as the DVA.	15	about 25 years or so, it will be well below
16	Budget: We have right now about 800	16	200,000. This is not just Louisiana, but it
17	850 employees, about \$92-million budget.	17	is many others states as well, not counting
18	Approximately, I think, about \$60 million of	18	Texas, Florida, and other places where there's
19	the work is actual federal passthrough that	19	no state income taxes as one of the primary
20	goes through our five veteran homes. Right	20	drivers.
21	now, we have about \$17 million in state	21	Here's your parish impacts. These are
22	allocated funds, comes out to about \$64 per	22	the number of vets. This is VA data, so this
23	vet. So we are a we're not we don't	23	is something that they have put out. East
24	we do a lot with what little funding we get in	24	Baton Rouge has the most number of vets. But
25	allocated money.	25	St. Tammany has the most money coming in from
	Page 14		Page 16
1	But I want to talk about this the Boot	1	VA sources at \$146 million. Again, Mike
2	Program real quick. And I'm lucky enough to	2	Cooper should love every veteran out in
3	have Mr. Andrew Ward here. The Boot is a	3	St. Tammany.
4	program that is really going to go to a vision	4	And so what's important to note about
5	that we start to have to recruit, retain, and	5	this 1.987, this is not military retirement.
6	return our service members back to Louisiana.	6	This is VA dollars. DOD retirement dollars,
7	So we need to give reasons for our folks who	7	it's almost \$700 million, and that comes from
8	left to come back home. We need to make sure	8	the 26,000 retirees that we have in the state.
9	that we have at least given we've made our	9	So two kinds of money, \$2.7 billion federal
10	pitch to those who are still here, so retain,	10	money coming in from military retirees and
11	particularly those who are at Barksdale or	11	those who are receiving VA compensation.
12	Johnson, and then maybe we can get some new	12	How we serve: Most everybody knows, we
13	veterans coming back here to Louisiana. We	13	have five beautiful veteran homes. My
14	want to do that as well.	14	predecessor, this is one of his passions, he
15	There's an importance to all of this and	15	did a great job with it. Whenever you walk in
16	that's because the DVA and the veterans	16	one of these veteran homes, it feels like
17	themselves bring almost \$2 million of federal	17	you're in a tiny military installation.
18	money into the state, and that's only from	18	They've got they're wearing their hats,
19	77,000 veterans. That is a tremendous return	19	retired. You know, they're calling each other
20	that the state is receiving by having veterans	20	by rank. We've gone by several times now. It
21	living here. That's tax dollars. That's	21	really is a fun experience oftentimes to go to
22	money being pumped into your economies. And	22	the vet homes.
23	they really have we really have a massive	23	We have five cemeteries right now. The
23 24		23 24	one in Jennings is just a couple of years old.
	they really have we really have a massive economic presence in the state. We also bring in \$150 million in GI bill		one in Jennings is just a couple of years old. But I do note, even though it's just a couple
24	they really have we really have a massive economic presence in the state.	24	one in Jennings is just a couple of years old.

1	of years old, it just won a national award	1	organizations. And so but what I'm really
2	right of the gate coming in. The same one	2	happy about right now is we met yesterday with
3	that we have a Rayville, of note, the Slidell	3	Workforce and we've met with LED. And we're
4	Cemetery is very, very fast growing. They've	4	meeting with as many people who want to bring
5	got almost 4,500 veterans buried there and	5	in veterans as employees. And that's going to
6	their family members. And we anticipate that	6	be one of our kind of new shifts right now is
7	Slidell will continue to grow quite rapidly.	7	how do we help, again, retain, return and
8	Contact assistance: This is one of the	8	recruit vets who want to work, who are not
9	primary jobs of my veteran assistant	9	don't want to be drinking sweet tea on their
10	counselor. They are the ones who are helping	10	front porch essentially.
11	veterans with their benefits with whatever,	11	And, again, our partnerships, VA Medical
12	you know, VA disability, and of course state	12	Center, we've gone to all three of them now.
13	benefits and making sure they have the	13	And, in fact, we were talking to the VA in New
14	document and paperwork. We have 74 VACs.	14	Orleans quite frequently trying to see how we
15	There is one in all 64 parishes. We have six	15	can get more involved in their operations.
16	claims paralegals.	16	Bastion is an incredible community down in New
17	One of the things that y'all should know,	17	Orleans that helps with TBI and treatment for
18	I haven't been too shy about this, I'm	18	veterans.
19	probably going to leave here in a little bit,	19	We just signed an updated MOU with
20	I've got a Bill on the floor right now that	20	Southeast Louisiana Legal Services to help
21	addresses VAC offices. If you have not been	21	veterans who have various legal problems.
22	to some of our offices, some of them are not	22	And, again, National Veteran Legal Services
23 24	well taken care of. And so we brought this to	23	Program, they help with veteran appeals.
	the attention to a lot of the parishes and	24	Upcoming initiatives: You're going to
25	said, fix our offices, because this is the Page 18	25	see a lot more of Come Home Louisiana campaign Page 20
1	first impression that veterans have when it	1	for veterans. Right now, one of the things
$\begin{vmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{vmatrix}$	comes to getting benefits and they need to be	$\begin{vmatrix} 2 \\ 2 \end{vmatrix}$	that I quickly recognized was we have a media
3	inviting, they need to look professional. And	3	problem and that is, we're not pushing out our
4	I want that for them, I want that for my VACs.	4	story. And I know Susan has talked about
5	The LDVA also helps, of course, with GI bill benefits, LAVC core students are taken	5	pushing out LED's story.
6		6	SECRETARY BOURGEOIS:
7	care of, you know, student vets. The one	7	You notice I looked back here.
8	gigantic benefit that the state offers is the	8	COL. MEGINLEY:
9	Title 29 benefits. So if you have a 90	9	Yeah. We haven't done that as well
10	percent rating, your kids go to college in the	10	either. And so, while we are on social media,
11	State of Louisiana for free; huge benefit. Of	11	I want to get much, much louder on social
12	note, the schools need that, not the state.	12	media; because oftentimes, our vets don't
13	Again, MFA, this is a tremendous resource	13	know. Right now, we know for a fact there are
14	that we have. It allows us to help veterans	14	vets in this state right now who have a
15	who are in need. Since '08, we've assisted	15	healthy VA disability rating who do not know
16	almost 5,000 folks with a million dollars. We	16	about the property tax exemption. We are
17	have a healthy fund right now and we are	17	trying to get to each one of those to let them
18	continuing to push money out through the MFA	18	know about that gigantic benefit that the
19	fund.	19	state has afforded them.
20	(Inaudible) jobs, we're coordinating	20	Again, the Boot coming up, I'm really,
21	right now with each of these agencies. We	21	really excited about this. This is going to
22	also have private organizations that we're	22	be our 501C that's going to handle the three
23	talking to right now; the next stop, Acadiana	23	R's that I want. Expansion of veteran courts:
24	Veterans Alliance, who is bringing folks,	24	We just sent out a notice to all the DA's last
25	employers in. We're tracking businesses and Page 19	25	week telling them and advocating for more
1	Page 19		Page 21

1		1	D 11
1	veteran courts to keep our vets who commit	1	Robby.
2	relatively small crimes, but who were under	2	MR. ABBOUD:
3	the influence of substance abuse or mental	3	Appreciate it, sir. Thank you very much,
4	health issues, keep them out of jail. And if	4	Colonel. And just to the Colonel's point, he
5	you were tracking what's happening in the	5	mentioned the small business work that we do
6	22nd, the 22nd by far has the best veteran's	6	at LED, we have a Veterans First Business
7	court. They're not just the local model but	7	Initiative in which we work closely with the
8	the national model as well.	8	Department of Veterans Affairs to certify
9	And then, something else we've talked	9	veteran-owned businesses, and I'm happy to
10	about with Southeast Legal Services, we were	10	announce that we're at 1,255 total
11	talking about those veterans who are forced	11	veteran-owned certified businesses in the
12	out through the vaccine policies. Apparently,	12	state. And that reaches every region in
13	that's quite the big deal. If we can help, we	13	Louisiana. And so, again, just building upon
14	will.	14	the partnership that we have at LDVA, kind of
15	Again, our initiatives, I'll be meeting	15	improving that strategic alignment and finding
16	with some Congressional leaders in DC in a	16	ways to continue to work together to further
17	couple of weeks. Our website is from 1993. I	17	some of those critical efforts.
18	want we're going to update that here soon.	18	Moving along on the agenda, I'd like to
19	We're talking about partnerships with Portrait	19	call next on the Louisiana National Guard
20	for Patriots. One of the things that you	20	appointed as the 51st Acting General of
21	realize when you're looking for a job, who do	21	Louisiana by Governor Jeff Landry earlier this
22	most employers want? They want a headshot.	22	year. It's my pleasure to introduce to you
23	Well, Portrait for Patriots supplies them with	23	General Thomas Friloux and invite him up to
24	headshots. We're going to bring them down to	24	report out on his guard activities.
25	Louisiana and get our service members, who are Page 22	25	BRIG. GEN. FRILOUX: Page 24
1	transitioning out, a headshot so they can	1	Thank you. And thank you to the Council
2	present that to employers.	2	for hearing my report today and allowing me to
3	SkillBridge: We talked about this	3	give an update on what the Guard is doing and
4	yesterday with Workforce. There's not a lot	4	my strategic vision for Louisiana National
5	of companies who are participating in	5	Guard. And I'd like to acknowledge the
6	SkillBridge. If you don't know about	6	support by the Governor that he continues to
7	SkillBridge, it's an amazing program for	7	give to our Guardsmen every day.
8	transitioning vets. And so I want more	8	Today, the National Guard remains
9	companies in Louisiana to set up SkillBridge.	9	operationally engaged in federal and state
10	Longterm plan for the Alexandria VA	10	deployments, state responses, cybersecurity
11	hospital: Some of you may have heard that	11	missions, and state second state
12	there was a lot of talk that the VA in	12	operations. And each of these lines of effort
		13	will be enhanced by supporting our strategic
13	Alexandria would close. That's been put on		
14	hold, scrapped for now. But the Alexandria VA	14	priorities which include zero cost TRICARE for
14 15	hold, scrapped for now. But the Alexandria VA is one of the primary sources for healthcare	14 15	priorities which include zero cost TRICARE for National Guard service members, the
14 15 16	hold, scrapped for now. But the Alexandria VA is one of the primary sources for healthcare for veterans in Central, Louisiana. And we	14 15 16	priorities which include zero cost TRICARE for National Guard service members, the acceleration of the F-15EX fielding in
14 15 16 17	hold, scrapped for now. But the Alexandria VA is one of the primary sources for healthcare for veterans in Central, Louisiana. And we have to do our part to make sure that that	14 15 16 17	priorities which include zero cost TRICARE for National Guard service members, the acceleration of the F-15EX fielding in conjunction with the closing of the F-15
14 15 16 17 18	hold, scrapped for now. But the Alexandria VA is one of the primary sources for healthcare for veterans in Central, Louisiana. And we have to do our part to make sure that that facility, not only stays open, but thrives.	14 15 16 17 18	priorities which include zero cost TRICARE for National Guard service members, the acceleration of the F-15EX fielding in conjunction with the closing of the F-15 Charlie funding cap, and I'll explain that in
14 15 16 17 18 19	hold, scrapped for now. But the Alexandria VA is one of the primary sources for healthcare for veterans in Central, Louisiana. And we have to do our part to make sure that that facility, not only stays open, but thrives. And then, again, what are we doing with	14 15 16 17 18 19	priorities which include zero cost TRICARE for National Guard service members, the acceleration of the F-15EX fielding in conjunction with the closing of the F-15 Charlie funding cap, and I'll explain that in a little bit, as well as continuing to support
14 15 16 17 18 19 20	hold, scrapped for now. But the Alexandria VA is one of the primary sources for healthcare for veterans in Central, Louisiana. And we have to do our part to make sure that that facility, not only stays open, but thrives. And then, again, what are we doing with the university and college systems to attract	14 15 16 17 18 19 20	priorities which include zero cost TRICARE for National Guard service members, the acceleration of the F-15EX fielding in conjunction with the closing of the F-15 Charlie funding cap, and I'll explain that in a little bit, as well as continuing to support the National Guard military construction
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	hold, scrapped for now. But the Alexandria VA is one of the primary sources for healthcare for veterans in Central, Louisiana. And we have to do our part to make sure that that facility, not only stays open, but thrives. And then, again, what are we doing with the university and college systems to attract out of the state vets with the GI bill? That	14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21	priorities which include zero cost TRICARE for National Guard service members, the acceleration of the F-15EX fielding in conjunction with the closing of the F-15 Charlie funding cap, and I'll explain that in a little bit, as well as continuing to support the National Guard military construction across the state.
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	hold, scrapped for now. But the Alexandria VA is one of the primary sources for healthcare for veterans in Central, Louisiana. And we have to do our part to make sure that that facility, not only stays open, but thrives. And then, again, what are we doing with the university and college systems to attract out of the state vets with the GI bill? That was relatively fast, I know. I could talk for	14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22	priorities which include zero cost TRICARE for National Guard service members, the acceleration of the F-15EX fielding in conjunction with the closing of the F-15 Charlie funding cap, and I'll explain that in a little bit, as well as continuing to support the National Guard military construction across the state. And we'll start with the current military
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	hold, scrapped for now. But the Alexandria VA is one of the primary sources for healthcare for veterans in Central, Louisiana. And we have to do our part to make sure that that facility, not only stays open, but thrives. And then, again, what are we doing with the university and college systems to attract out of the state vets with the GI bill? That was relatively fast, I know. I could talk for an hour or two or three if you let me, but	14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	priorities which include zero cost TRICARE for National Guard service members, the acceleration of the F-15EX fielding in conjunction with the closing of the F-15 Charlie funding cap, and I'll explain that in a little bit, as well as continuing to support the National Guard military construction across the state. And we'll start with the current military posture of the Louisiana National Guard.
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	hold, scrapped for now. But the Alexandria VA is one of the primary sources for healthcare for veterans in Central, Louisiana. And we have to do our part to make sure that that facility, not only stays open, but thrives. And then, again, what are we doing with the university and college systems to attract out of the state vets with the GI bill? That was relatively fast, I know. I could talk for an hour or two or three if you let me, but does anybody have any questions?	14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24	priorities which include zero cost TRICARE for National Guard service members, the acceleration of the F-15EX fielding in conjunction with the closing of the F-15 Charlie funding cap, and I'll explain that in a little bit, as well as continuing to support the National Guard military construction across the state. And we'll start with the current military posture of the Louisiana National Guard. Unlike what you're hearing across the nation
14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	hold, scrapped for now. But the Alexandria VA is one of the primary sources for healthcare for veterans in Central, Louisiana. And we have to do our part to make sure that that facility, not only stays open, but thrives. And then, again, what are we doing with the university and college systems to attract out of the state vets with the GI bill? That was relatively fast, I know. I could talk for an hour or two or three if you let me, but	14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23	priorities which include zero cost TRICARE for National Guard service members, the acceleration of the F-15EX fielding in conjunction with the closing of the F-15 Charlie funding cap, and I'll explain that in a little bit, as well as continuing to support the National Guard military construction across the state. And we'll start with the current military posture of the Louisiana National Guard.

1	better here this fiscal year. We just	1	thank the state's legislators for approving
2	finished midyear at 103 percent mission;	2	the funding to assist us with helping our
3	103 percent mission, with 130 enlistment just	3	neighbor state in Texas.
4	last month. We haven't had that since April	4	Cybersecurity threats continue to
5	of 2021 pre-COVID.	5	increase. To mitigate these threats, we
6	We're also hitting up last year with	6	received the authorization in FY'23 to
7	retention. That's four straight years of	7	establish the Louisiana National Guard Office
8	80 percent plus retention. A good year for	8	of Cyber Readiness. This office includes
9	retention for us, a goal was 78 percent. So	9	cyber professionals that provide vulnerability
10	we've had 80 plus in the last four years. It	10	assessments to state, local, territorial and
11	looks like this year, we may actually have the	11	tribal agencies in order to respond to cyber
12	highest of those last four. I'm pleased with	12	attacks. And make no doubt, even as with the
13	the current trajectory. The glide path for	13	current situation in the world right now, the
14	both recruiting and retention are on. The	14	cyber domain is the most active domain of war
15	fact that they are on will enable us to build	15	that we have going on today.
16	personal readiness and support mobilizations	16	We remain ready to respond to all hazard
17	and gain additional fore-structure in the	17	events and are in the middle of our annual
18	future. And I'll talk about that as well.	18	disaster response exercise that focuses on
19	In fact, in part because of our strength	19	combat post operations, search and rescue,
20	and success, we've succeeded in gaining the	20	commodities and distribution and integration
21	addition of a mobile protected fire battalion.	21	with emergency managers. In fact, immediately
22	That's a medium tank battalion that's coming	22	following this meeting, I have a command
23	back to Louisiana. We haven't had tanks in	23	update debrief on the scenario of the
24	Louisiana in almost between 15 to 20 years.	24	hurricanes striking Louisiana.
25	And this is not going to be a tank that we're	25	We completed our 17th annual all hazards
	Page 26		Page 28
1	going to get from active duty as, you know, a	1	coordination workshop at the end of March with
2	used piece of equipment. This is straight off	2	participants from all 54 states, territories
3	the assembly line, the M10 Booker tank; as	3	in the District of Columbia to allow for
4	well as the cyber operation squadron in our	4	preplanning in the event of a catastrophic
5	Air National Guard. These additions will add	5	event and solidify our emergency management
6	fore-structure and additional personnel to our	6	assistant contact with our fellow states. In
7	state's military, and just like was discussed	7	June, we're going to conduct our comprehensive
8	by the VA, it's also going to give more	8	tabletop exercises with a final check to
9	full-time jobs. Just the mobile protective	9	ensure we are prepared to execute hurricane
10	fire battalion, there's probably 50 full-time	10	response missions as the season commences.
11	jobs in the state with probably, when we talk	11	And I don't know if you've seen the news,
12	reserve components, so probably 300 as well.	12	it's supposed to be a I don't even want to
13	Louisiana National Guard men and women	13	say it a very tough year this year. Yes,
14	remain mobilized and deployed around the world	14	it's predictable, you know. Like the Governor
15	supporting our nation's efforts. We have	15	and I were talking about it yesterday, we're
16	soldiers and airmen ready to answer the call	16	praying. And I'm confident we are ready and
17	for federal activation both this year and the	17	able to answer calls. Just like I told the
18	next. They have ultimately deployed over	18	Governor, no matter what happens, not only is
19	22,000 service members since 2001.	19	the Louisiana National Guard prepared, our
20	As part of the Emergency Management	20	entire team of state agencies are prepared to
21	Assistance Compact, we mobilized 50 soldiers	21	respond.
	to the Texas border last month with the first	22	My soldiers and airmen are trained and
22			
23	group just getting back this week and the	23	remain readied all year long to support the
23 24	group just getting back this week and the second group arriving this week. We'll	24	state and nation. They receive food,
23	group just getting back this week and the		

1necessities to assure they remain at their1out, be flying F-15 Charlies and IF-15EXs that we're2maintain his or her finces throughout thea wave, the service member is required towe wermually get the 18 F-15EXs that we're4duration of their service. But one thing theto get us in one shot.My final priority is to support the6military does not provide, a reserve componentMy final priority is to support the7component member is free healthcare. We ask78our soldiers and airmen to be ready at99moment's notice. And many times, we ask them910to do this on their own dime, seeking1011treatment and medical attention through their1212own insurance plans if they have it.1213We just did this in March and again in1314April for the Texas border mission. Tim1415asking this Council to support us io our gotal1616with our CODEL to gain zero cost healthcare.1717for our Cuisiana Guardsmen. We're recently1918engaged with1 am recently engaged with our1719congressional Delegation on our initiatives1021ndring ther.1.5 Unitie. As you may beand the stare time, closing24provide form yoidiers, my airmen, and their1115final the stare time, closing1116with exponentially the ore2214My second priority is accelerating the111				
3maintain his or her finess throughout the 43supposed to get. They're not going to be able to get us in one shot.4duration of their service. But one thing the military does not provide, a reserve component member, not just a National Guard, any reserve component member is free healthcare. We ask a to to this on their own dime, seeking to now nisurance plans if they have it.5My final priority is to support the projects across the state. Our longterm goal is to align our arm ranks and installations with the population centers in Louisiana. We to now nisurance plans if they have it.13We just did this in March and again in ta asking this Council to support us in our goal is asking this Council to support us on or goal research cently engaged with our Congressional Delegation on our initiatives uting the meeting in March, and 111 continue to provide input to our members of Congress a and the state legislators in order to make a provide input to our members of Congress a mit coulding, and at the same time, closing the gay with the F-15 Charlite. Sy on may be a waver, last year we were awarded Boeing the gay with the F-15 Charlite. Sy on may be a waver, last year we were awarded Boeing the gay with the F-15 Charlite. Sy on may be a waver, last year we were awarded Boeing the gay with the F-15 Charlite. Sy on may be aware, last year we were awarded Boeing the say bring ministion for two years. Wing from a flying mission fo		-		
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5 military does not provide, a reserve component 5 My final priority is to support the 6 member, not just a National Guard, any reserve 6 7 component member is free healthcare. We ask 9 9 moment's notice. And many times, we ask them 9 10 to do this on their own dime, seeking 10 11 treatment and medical attention through heir 11 12 own invarance plans if they have i. 20's and 30's when the majority of Louisiana 13 We just did this in March and again in 14 14 April for the Texas border mission. Tm 14 Over the past few decades, much of the 16 with our CODFL to gain zero cost healthcare 16 to urban areas. To protect our personal 17 for our Louisiana Guardsmen. We'te recently 18 to make adjustments, including how we align 10 during the meeting in March, and I'll continue 20 are in very rural locations that nobody in the 21 to provide input to our members of Congress a - it could become a recruiting and 22 reatiness. and our ability to recruit, we have a - it could become a recruiting and 24 provide for my soldiers, my		-		
6 member, not just a National Guard, any reserve 6 protection of our military construction 7 component member is free healthcare. We ask 7 projects across the state. Our longterm goal 8 our soldiers and airmen to be ready at a 9 with the population centers in Louisiana. We 10 to do this on their own dime, seeking 10 have a very, very old set of infrastructure 11 across the state that was designed in the 20% and 30% when the majority of Louisiana 12 own insurance plans if they have it. 12 20% and 30% when the majority of Louisiana 13 We just did this in March and again in 13 was (inaudible). Things have changed. 14 April for the Texas border mission. I'm 13 over the past few decades, much of the 15 asking this Council to support us in our goal 15 population in Louisiana has shifed from rural 16 with our CODEL to gain zero cost healthcare. 17 readiness and our ability to recruit, we have 17 for our Louisiana Guardsmen. We're recently 17 readiness and our ability to recruit, we have 18 engaged with - 1 am recently engaged without 18 our radiness centers. We weave 20 <td>4</td> <td>duration of their service. But one thing the</td> <td>4</td> <td></td>	4	duration of their service. But one thing the	4	
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8our soldiers and airmen to be ready at a moment's notice. And many times, we ask them moment's notice. And many times, we ask them to do this on their own dime, seeking treatment and medical attention through their cover is possible and the state of infrastructure across the state that was designed in the 20% and 30% when the majority of Louisiana wass (inaudble). Things have changed. Over the past few decades, much of the population in Louisiana has shifted from rural to urban areas. To protect our personal readiness and our ability to recurit, we have to make adjustments, including how we align our readiness centers. We have armories that are in very rural locations that nobody in the are in every rural locations that nobody in the are in the state legislators in order to make a ware, last year we were awarded Boeing families.888891My second priority is accelerating the amered.1111112My second priority is accelerating the plans to stop funding operations and maintenance of the Charlies by the cond of plans to stop funding operations and maintenance of the Charlies by the cond of plans		•		-
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25 probably, in a probable scenario if this works 25 So to the Committee, thank you for any				•
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		Page 31		Page 33

1	assistance you can provide in advocating for	1	Charlies I mean, they have F-15 Charlies
2	our construction projects. The more we	2	getting replaced with EXs, they're all in the
3	improve our facilities and provide clean and	3	same boat. So imagine if 13 is the number.
4	safe working environments for our soldiers and	4	Now, we're down to 10 to cover. That's a
5	airmen, the more attractive joining the	5	significant issue.
6	Louisiana National Guard can be to our	6	So, again, we're I am working this
7	citizens in Louisiana and we can continue to	7	with our CODEL and the NDAA. The National
8	build readiness to support our state. So	8	Guard added or requested for to add an
9	thank you for your support to the Louisiana	9	F-15EX. The regular Air Force did not have it
10	Guardsmen, the support of you, our state	10	on there. The National Guard can only it
11	legislators, the Congressional Delegation that	11	was not put in by their service. The National
12	Governor Landry and his team provides is	12	Guard will form what the Air Force put in to
13	monumental to the success of our state as is	13	only address the active component, the
14	responding to the disasters, federal	14	F-15EXs. We're addressing this with the
15	emergencies, and mobilizations, and building	15	Reserves or the National Guard.
16	readiness to answer these calls. So thank you	16	So more to follow and I plan to give a
17	for protecting these matters, one team, one	17	report on the F-15EX strategy at every one of
18	Louisiana.	18	our meetings. Yes, sir?
19	And I'm available to answer any	19	GENERAL ELDER:
20	questions. Yes, sir?	20	I just want to comment. I'll get with
21	MR. SILBERT:	21	you offline. What's interesting is that the
22	Yes, General Friloux, just your comments	22	active duty Air Force right now, on the
23	about the F-15EX are concerning.	23	fighter side, actually has squadrons that they
24	BRIG. GEN. FRILOUX:	24	can't pilot because they don't have enough
25	They are.	25	pilots. No one's looking at a possible
	Page 34		Page 36
1	MR. SILBERT:	1	solution. They've got airplanes without
2	And so can you help me understand? I	2	pilots. You've got pilots that are about to
3	mean, we've been led to believe this	3	not have airplanes. It seems like it should
4	sovereignty mission is very important for the	4	be an obvious opportunity.
5	country and for the Air Force and for the role		BRIG. GEN. FRILOUX:
6	that they play. That doesn't go away, so	6	We call it at the strategic level, we
7	BRIG. GEN. FRILOUX:	7	call it the fighter recapitalization and it's
8	You're absolutely right.	8	ongoing, it is out there. It's ongoing.
9	MR. SILBERT:	9	It's, as any other thing, it's hitting
10	I mean.	10	roadblocks at times. But that has it's
11	BRIG. GEN. FRILOUX:	11	actually moving forward and getting better, so
12	So and I don't remember the exact number	1	that issue was addressed.
13	that we have across the nation. I think it's	12	MR. GOODE:
14	13 - 13 or 16. Whatever the number is,	13	Part of the reason, the F-15, the new
15	that's what we have right now in our air	14	F-15, to build itself, has been truncated by
16	sovereignty alert missions. If we were to	15	about 50 aircraft, 198 to 144 to 98. And
17	and, again, obviously, if we can't fly for two	10	we're retired we're going to retire about
18	years, that mission has to go somewhere else	17	500 aircraft and replace some with about 300.
10	for a while. Now the entire country is	10	So it stays in the same category as F-16s.
20	accepting the risks because you already said	20	Congress knows about it. It's going to have
20	the minimum you need is 13.	20	to be a big left and we're going to have to
$21 \\ 22$	So if it happened to us, it's going to	21	either buy new additional aircraft, which we
22	happen to there are other units that are	22	can do, or we're going to have to postpone the
23	going there's three units right now that	23	retirement and keep those aircraft going;
24	are in the National Guard getting F-15	24	because you're right, once you lose them,
23	Page 35	2.5	Page 37
1	1 4ge 35		1 ugo 57

1	you're done.	1	primarily the information, technology and
2	BRIG. GEN. FRILOUX:	2	electric engineering system support and
3	We're currently kind of in competition	3	operations support for our war fighting
4	with China.	4	information systems.
5	MR. GOODE:	5	The reason I bring this up is because
6	It's the yeah.	6	about the '97 time frame, Senator Vitter and
7	BRIG. GEN. FRILOUX:	7	Scalise helped arrange for SPAWAR to be
8	We've already identified, we can't lose a	8	established at UNO, the Lakefront facility.
9	simple fighter squadron or a fighter that we	9	It has grown to something in the range of 600
10	have now. We're already behind in power, so	10	employees, primarily white-collared
11	it's getting to that level. Thank you.	11	contractors in the information technology
12	MR. ABBOUD:	12	arena, very important jobs and important part
13	Thank you very much, gentlemen.	13	of our regional economy.
14	BRIG. GEN. FRILOUX:	14	In the last year, a new lease was
15	Yes, sir, thank you.	15	negotiated at market rates between the Navy
16	MR. ABBOUD:	16	and UNO, the University of New Orleans, for
17	So next, I'll call on Mr. Gary Silbert	17	the facility there at the beach. When that
18	from the Southeast Military Alliance for your	18	happened, it triggered a BCA or Business Case
19	report.	19	Analysis, which it just happens because this
20	MR. SILBERT:	20	is the new impact to the capital budget of the
21	Good afternoon. It's an honor to be with	21	Navy. It just falls. And so they're looking
22	you all today. I'm Gary Silbert. I'm the	22	at the existing facility, the usage of space,
23	Director of Business Development with GNO,	23	comparing it to other facilities in the region
24	Inc. Regional Economic Development Group	24	and it's caused us some indigestion because
25	serving the ten parishes of southeast	25	we're worried about facilities staying there
	Page 38		Page 40
1	Louisiana. I welcome my fellow LMAC member	1	at the campus and not moving elsewhere.
1 2	from this region, Ronnie Slone, marine from	2	So we've been working closely with UNO,
1	-	2 3	So we've been working closely with UNO, with LED and with the Roosevelt Group. As a
2 3 4	from this region, Ronnie Slone, marine from also being MR. SLONE:	2	So we've been working closely with UNO, with LED and with the Roosevelt Group. As a matter of fact, our delegation is well aware.
2 3	from this region, Ronnie Slone, marine from also being MR. SLONE: Oorah. Sorry.	2 3 4 5	So we've been working closely with UNO, with LED and with the Roosevelt Group. As a matter of fact, our delegation is well aware. They've been communicating with the Navy to
2 3 4 5 6	from this region, Ronnie Slone, marine from also being MR. SLONE: Oorah. Sorry. BRIG. GEN. FRILOUX:	2 3 4 5 6	So we've been working closely with UNO, with LED and with the Roosevelt Group. As a matter of fact, our delegation is well aware. They've been communicating with the Navy to ensure they know how important this facility
2 3 4 5 6 7	from this region, Ronnie Slone, marine from also being MR. SLONE: Oorah. Sorry. BRIG. GEN. FRILOUX: We say Hooah.	2 3 4 5 6 7	So we've been working closely with UNO, with LED and with the Roosevelt Group. As a matter of fact, our delegation is well aware. They've been communicating with the Navy to ensure they know how important this facility is to our region and to New Orleans. So we'll
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	from this region, Ronnie Slone, marine from also being MR. SLONE: Oorah. Sorry. BRIG. GEN. FRILOUX:	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	So we've been working closely with UNO, with LED and with the Roosevelt Group. As a matter of fact, our delegation is well aware. They've been communicating with the Navy to ensure they know how important this facility is to our region and to New Orleans. So we'll be tracking that. I will tell you that UNO
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2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	from this region, Ronnie Slone, marine from also being MR. SLONE: Oorah. Sorry. BRIG. GEN. FRILOUX: We say Hooah. MR. SILBERT: So about eight to nine years ago in partnership with LED, we formed SEMA, the	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	So we've been working closely with UNO, with LED and with the Roosevelt Group. As a matter of fact, our delegation is well aware. They've been communicating with the Navy to ensure they know how important this facility is to our region and to New Orleans. So we'll be tracking that. I will tell you that UNO has made a very strategic effort to offer a continuation lease to demonstrate how critical
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1	south.	1	communicate with your team.
2	So in working with the Roosevelt Group	2	BRIG. GEN. FRILOUX:
3	and the Reserves, we are looking to add	3	Sure. And also, I'm very interested in
4	appropriations, the creation of four new	4	the fact that the Navy went to the squadron in
5	C-130Js at the base. As you'll see in that	5	regards to sending the C-130s to Belle Chasse.
6	picture there at the recent airshow,	6	As we develop in the Louisiana National Guard,
7	three-star Admiral, the Chief of the Naval	7	we develop a 25- to 30-year strategic plan, we
8	Reserves was in town. I had the chance to	8	called it LANG 2052, part of that is eventual
9	visit with him, and he committed that this new	9	acquisition of a heavy squadron. We have
10	squadron would be at Belle Chasse, which was	10	F-15s right now. We'd also like to eventually
11	really, really very gratifying. It's a	11	get either C-130s, KC-135s or their
12	priority of theirs.	12	replacement one day or C-17s. And we'd like
13	We have one aircraft that was approved in	13	to do it in our in the fighter wing. We'd
14	'24. It will be used as a training platform	14	have a fighter squadron and a heavy squadron.
15	and could be used in Dallas and New Orleans	15	So it would be great in the longterm.
16	and other locations, but we're very optimistic	16	Again, you're way farther in concept than
17	that this will materialize and our delegation	17	we're even near, but imagine having a joint
18	will be laser focused on ensuring that the	18	facility with both of those heavies in Belle
19	appropriations are there.	19	Chasse. So, obviously, the economic impact it
20	One thing that also came up while talking	20	would have in the Belle Chasse area
21	to Vice Admirable Mustin, while he was at the	21	MR. SILBERT:
22	airshow, is we continue to track the existing	22	We'd love to help you hatch that.
23	air frame that the Naval Reserve uses there.	23	BRIG. GEN. FRILOUX:
24	They have an interim solution, the F-5, and	24	Yes, sir.
25	that could be good for some years into the	25	MR. SILBERT:
	Page 42		Page 44
1	future. And there needs to be a more medium	1	Thank y'all.
2	to longterm plan to replace that aircraft.	2	MR. ABBOUD:
3	And Mustin Admiral Mustin said that his	3	Thank you very much, Gary. So next up on
4	solution is the F-16. So we will supporting	4	the agenda, I do want to call up Mr. Eric
5	that to ensure that that those placed in	5	Barkley with Barksdale Forward for his
6	aircraft materialize.	6	comments.
7	There's a lot of reasons that the	7	MR. BARKLEY:
8	Reserves have a priority. That airspace out	8	Thank you, Robby. While he's getting
9	in the Gulf is gold, and they play a very	9	that up, I just wanted to say thank you for
10	important adversarial mission in that regard	10	the chance for speaking with the Council on
11	in training our pilots to be readied no matter	11	behalf of Barksdale Forward. I'm the
12	what happens moving forward.	12	President and CEO of Barksdale Forward. And
13	I think that covers my remarks. I'm	13	my most important thing that I have to do
14	happy to answer any questions y'all may have.	14	today and need to do is to recognize
15	Thank you. Oh, oh, and by the way, just with	15	Mr. Murray Viser, our immediate past President
16	respect to Belle Chasse, I hope that, you	16	and COO. Murray has stepped down, but Murray
17	know, General Friloux, we don't want to wait	17	is not stepping out. He will still be very
18	until the next LMAC just in terms of circling	18	involved with our group. And he's a valuable
19	the wagon with you and your legislative team	19	resource to me, and I appreciate all you've
20	and the Roosevelt Group just to get ahead and	20	done for 30 years. So if you'd join me in
21	get the right messages out	21	saying thank you for all you've in your 30
22	BRIG. GEN. FRILOUX:	22	years.
23	Absolutely.	23	MR. VISER:
24	MR. SILBERT:	24	Thank you.
25	on the F-15EX. So we'll find a way to	25	(APPLAUSE BY ALL)
	Page 43		Page 45
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1	MR. BARKLEY:	1	CODEL as well, met with all of them a couple
2	Barksdale Forward is honored to be the	2	of times already this year.
3	education and advocacy group for Barksdale Air	3	I'd like to talk about the major
4	Force Base. And I feel like I'm preaching to	4	projects, MILCONs, and all the other things
5	the choir, but I'm going to preach anyway a	5	that we have going on at Barksdale, but
6	little bit. Barksdale is massively important	6	there's two things that I will be talking
7	to our nation because it's the home of Air	7	about in my little presentation that we're
8	Force Global Strike Command. And Air Force	8	very proud that we're kind of kickstarting up
9	Global Strike Command is responsible for two	9	in our neck of the woods. One of those is the
10	of the three legs of our nation's nuclear	10	DCIP Program, I'm sure you're all familiar
11	triad; that being the bombers and the	11	with the Defense Community Infrastructure
12	missiles.	12	Program and the grant proposal that goes along
13	It's also one of the very few bases that	13	with that. As I get down into my
14	you will find a major command, a numbered Air	14	presentation, I'll be talking about that in a
15	Force, an active Air Force wing, and a reserve	15	little bit.
16	wing all located on the same base. So it's a	16	We also have a project that will qualify
17	unique place. It's very important to our	17	for the Intergovernmental Service Agreement
18	state, to our nation, to our little corner of	18	Program. And, again, both of those, we're
19	the state. And I know you all know that, but	19	trying to get more community participation.
20	I just wanted to reemphasize that to the	20	All the meetings that I go to, that's what
21	group.	21	resonates is that the military and,
22	So we appreciate the chance to talk about	22	specifically, the Air Force in our case is
23	Barksdale and what we do at Barksdale Forward.	23	very interested in more partnerships with the
24	Very, very briefly, obviously, we also work	24	local community. And I feel like that's a
25	with Mr. Goode, at the TRG group, and Bob	25	great initiative that we can fill and we're
25	Page 46	25	Page 48
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1	Elder also supports our group. So I'm certain	1	glad to be a part of your group in doing that.
2	they will have some things to follow up on my	2	And then, finally, I did go to the ADC
3	brief report.	3	meeting last week and we met with several
4	At the end of last year, we became aware	4	senior Air Force officials regarding these
5	of the plan on Secretary Kendall's part to	5	projects that I'm going to bring up. First, I
6	re-optimize the Air Force in preparation for	6	want to talk about our current investments.
7	Great Power Competition. And we were very,	7	Barksdale has a lot of construction going on
8	very zeroed in on that, as you can well	8	right now. The major thing that we have is
9	imagine. All the people in this room were in	9	the Weapons Generation Facility. I was out
10	significant discussions and questions	10	there a couple of months ago and saw a little
11	regarding what was going to happen in regard	11	bit of the progress going on. But that thing
12	to that re-optimization. And we are very	12	is fully authorized and it's being phased in
13	happy to report that nothing of great	13	with the Congressional appropriations.
14	significance, really even minor significance	14	And you see the numbers there, I don't
15	has come out of that.	15	even need to read them off to you. But most
16	The two gentlemen that follow me will	16	of what's going on in Barksdale right now as
17	probably have some more detail that they could	17	far as that and the future is the outgrowth of
18	cover. But, basically, what it is, is what it	18	the growth of the Weapons Generation Facility
19	still will be at Barksdale, no loss of Four	19	and the additional personnel that they're
20	Star, no loss of mission. All the other	20	going to have at Barksdale, mostly security
21	things that go along with that, we're very,	21	people. But there will be some things that
22	very pleased with regard to that. Still new	22	we're doing up there that are an outcome of
23	to my role over the last year, but I know	23	the growth of the Weapons Generation Facility.
24	Murray's been doing this for many years, we	24	First of all would be the Child
25	continue to be in good communication with our	25	Development Center. I'm sure that's a problem
1		1	
	Page 47		Page 49

1 at most bases around the country. I continue 1 if is a very excitting project there. 2 to hear that. It certainly is an issue for us of this. 4 child development center. One is relatively of the older one was the one that we feel like of this. 7 needs to be replaced. and, you know, we like the concept via 8 We did have some P&D dollars that were a unique military as a carcer field. And we're just 9 approved this year, S2 million for that more progress of that to you. 10 center. And we feel like, and I'll et Chris more progress of that to you. 12 opportunity to move the liscal year, the more progress of that to you. 13 MR. GODDF: the development center coming 14 that right - 14 meeting with Colonel McCinnis this past 15 MR. GODDF: 15 Monday. Barksdale is right yoo and unity there. 16 (Nods.) 16 Cools.) 17 17 fiscal year 25 to go akead and stat 18 more community partnerships on the part of 20 and findition to that, the desize 0 And in addition to that, the desize 21 security forces. A				
3 up there. What we have is we have a two-wing 3 of this. 4 child development center. One is relatively 04. And And. you know, we like the concept via 6 the older one was the one that we feel like Ait Force or whatever branch of the military. 7 meeds to be replaced. Terreits, people that want to enter into the 8 We did have some P&D dollars that were military as a carcer field. And we're just 9 approved this year, S2 million for that 9 10 center. And we feel like, and TII let Chris 10 11 elaborate on that, that we have a unique 11 12 opportunity to move the fiscal year. Ate 12 13 budget up from. I think it was 37, Chris, is 14 14 that right - 14 15 MR. GODDE: 16 16 (Nods.) 16 17 TRG group to try to move forward \$22 million 16 18 -to 25. So we will be working with the 17 19 TRG group to try to move forward \$22 million 16 11 getting that child development cen	1	at most bases around the country, I continue	1	it's a very exciting project there.
4child development center. One is relatively4And, you know, we like the concept via5new and the other one is relatively old. And5Air Force or whatever branch of the military.6the older one was the one that we feel like6this is an opportunity to grow our military.7needs to be replaced.7recruits, people that want to enter into the8We did have some P&D dollars that were9wery, very excited about that. And I look10center. And we feel like, and TI let Chris10more progress of that to you.12opportunity to move the fiscal year, the12Here's the other biggy, very, very13budget up from, I think it was 27, Chris, is13interested in this one. Just came out of a14that right -14meeting with Colonel McGinnis this past15MR. GOODE:15Monday. Barksdale is your folks in16(Nods.)16Lessville know that Barksdale sends down some17mit sease yaw.17of its security forces to shoot their18 to 25. So we will be working that beside.20And in addition to that, the local20out of the group to try to move forward \$22 million18Barksdale firing range for pistols is showing21getting that child development center coming20And in addition to that, the local23out of the group.Let me go back, because2124we abaw 57 million for P&D dollars to2225build a new dormitory for those incoming </td <td>2</td> <td>to hear that. It certainly is an issue for us</td> <td>2</td> <td>Basically, you should be extremely supportive</td>	2	to hear that. It certainly is an issue for us	2	Basically, you should be extremely supportive
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	24	like I can, it will have a training facility,	24	lot of interest in the facility. And if we
Page 51 Page 53	25		25	
		Page 51		Page 53

1	we've done something to really support our	1	BRIG. GEN. FRILOUX:
2			Thank you.
3	That's the extent of my comments. Any	3	MR. BARKLEY:
4	questions that you might have, and I'm sure my	4	Thank you.
5	gentlemen will follow and clean up whatever I	5	COL. MEGINLEY:
6	didn't say right. Yes, sir?	6	The Bossier Parish Community College was
7	BRIG. GEN. FRILOUX:	7	just deemed to be one of the most military
8	Yes. Two things, in your first comment,	8	training schools in the country. So I don't
9	you talked about having the Air Force and the	9	if y'all have heard that, but that is awesome.
10	Air Reserve on your base.	10	MR. BARKLEY:
11	MR. BARKLEY:	11	It's it was very highly recognized
12	Yes, sir.	12	over the years as a community college and the
13	BRIG. GEN. FRILOUX:	13	adjacent property, the CIC, and all the other
14	We don't have the Air National Guard on	14	military related facilities. Actually, that's
15	Barksdale. And part of our strategic plan	15	where the Secretary is going tomorrow to tour
16	over the next 30 years is try to get a	16	that facility, so we really appreciate her
17	foothold in Barksdale. I know we've talked	17	coming up there.
18	about we're getting a cyber fighter squadron,	18	Okay. Anything else? Thank you for your
19	and we hope eventually they increase that with	19	time.
20	the possibility of the Global Strike Mission	20	BRIG. GEN. FRILOUX:
21	for Barksdale to get into the cyber mission	21	Thank you, Eric.
22	there as well, as well as security forces is	22	MR. ABBOUD:
23	another thing that we can probably move on as	23	All right. Next up, Mayor Allen, report
24	well.	24	out Louisiana Armed Forces Alliance. I
25	MR. BARKLEY:	25	believe, I think we have slides for the
	Page 54		Page 56
1	Yes, sir.	1	presentation.
2	BRIG. GEN. FRILOUX:	2	MAYOR ALLEN:
3	And the last thing is, if it doesn't work	3	I hope not. It's no surprise that
4	out with Bossier Parish, we'd be interested in	4 recently Fort Johnson was again on the	
5	looking at a possibility of Camp Minden, it's	5	chopping block and, you know, we could have
6	right down the road to the east. If we can	6	lost a full brigade. But thanks to all the
7	get on (inaudible) and actually have, you	7	way from our great senator, Senator Reese,
8	know, whether it's a small arms range or	8	thank you for everything you did in that
9	pistol range and/or a 5.56 range, that would	9 process to our Speaker and our Secretary a	
10	be a great opportunity as well.	10	all worked together to try to minimize those
11	MR. BARKLEY:	11	cuts. And, unfortunately, we wound out up
12	I've actually thought about it and I	12	with a cut, but something that's manageable to
13	appreciate you saying that.	13	us, we feel.
14	BRIG. GEN. FRILOUX:	14	Recently, we also attended ADC in
15	Absolutely, yes, sir.	15	Washington and we had several great meetings,
16	MR. BARKLEY:	16	one of those with the G9 General Vereen. And
17	And I'll tuck it right back here in my	17	we discussed significant investments that are
18	mind. And by the way, on your first comment,	18	currently going on at Fort Johnson and what
19	part of our goal, like all the people in this	19	the very near future might look like. One of
20	room, is to grow the mission of what we have.	20	those is the RUBA, which is barracks that will
21	BRIG. GEN. FRILOUX:	21	be in the drop zone and utilized by brigades
22	Absolutely.	22	that come in for training there at Fort
23	•	23	Johnson.
123	MR. BARKLEY:	23	Johnson.
	MR. BARKLEY: So we'd love to continue to hear about		
24	So we'd love to continue to hear about	24	We discussed several other projects with

1	at Fort Johnson, one of the things that they	1	proud of that. Senator Reese and I traveled
2	pulled off the table was some of our new	2	around and tried to help some other military
3	barracks. They said, well, you don't need	3	bases across the country to try to land those
4	those anymore and the money had already been	4	IGSAs because they are crucial to the
5	allocated. And our whole deal was, you know,	5	military's success and to our community.
6	the money has been allocated, don't take it	6	So Fountain, Colorado, which is one of
7	from Fort Johnson, let's reallocate it and use	7	the ones that Senator Reese and I visited now
8	it on something that will benefit our current	8	holds the most Intergovernmental Services
9	mission and possibly the new missions there at	9	Agreements in Colorado. So they're very proud
10	Fort Johnson.	10	of that. They're much smaller agreements than
11	It is our desire that we would increase	11	ours but, you know, anything helps.
12	some of the rotations. This year, we have	12	And we are currently working on an EV
13	nine down from 11, and we don't want to see	13	charging station Intergovernmental Service
14	those go any lower and have to protect those.	14	Agreement which, you know, pretty typical, we
15	As you well know, Barksdale Air Force Base and	15	have 65 electric vehicles now on Fort Johnson
16	Belle Chasse, and Fort Johnson, we, you know,	16	and we have the capability to maybe charge a
17	insert \$9.26 billion into Louisiana's economy	17	remote control car. None of the EV charging
18	and we can't afford to lose any of those	18	stations are operable and they work very
19	assets at any of those bases. So everything	19	poorly when they are operable. And so we're
20	that happens good at Barksdale Air Force Base	20	trying to help come up with a solution to
21	is good for us. And everything that happens	21	install those EV charging stations across.
22	good at Belle Chasse is good for us. Because	22	But I will tell you this, this is going
23	at the end of the day, we are a team pulling	23	to be very important, an IGSA, if you're
24	the same weight.	24	looking at Belle Chasse or Barksdale is
25	One of our the new programs that we	25	looking at that IGSA, as we are working on
	Page 58		Page 60
1	learned about and have been tracking is the	1	
	-	1	now, and we'll be happy to share all the data
2	modular nuclear reactors and we're going to	2	that we come up with on that, but one of the
2 3	modular nuclear reactors and we're going to continue to track that program very closely.	2 3	that we come up with on that, but one of the things that makes you qualify for that EV
2 3 4	modular nuclear reactors and we're going to continue to track that program very closely. There is six of those going on Army bases	2 3 4	that we come up with on that, but one of the things that makes you qualify for that EV charging station is your municipality has to
2 3 4 5	modular nuclear reactors and we're going to continue to track that program very closely. There is six of those going on Army bases across this great country, and we intend to	2 3 4 5	that we come up with on that, but one of the things that makes you qualify for that EV charging station is your municipality has to currently offer that service. So the City of
2 3 4 5 6	modular nuclear reactors and we're going to continue to track that program very closely. There is six of those going on Army bases across this great country, and we intend to keep Fort Johnson on that list and track it as	2 3 4 5 6	that we come up with on that, but one of the things that makes you qualify for that EV charging station is your municipality has to currently offer that service. So the City of Leesville signed an agreement to install one
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1	Thank you.	1	analysis from the start months in advance.
2	MR. ABBOUD:	2	Nobody panicked, everybody shared intel, we
3	Thank you very much, Mayor. And really	3	had a really good plan. And the negotiation,
4	just to highlight the Mayor's point on the	4	the final outcome is a good one. It's
5	DCIP, we've mentioned that a few times now,	5	probably the best one we could get. And it
6	the Defense Community Infrastructure Program	6	went all the way up to the Speaker of the
7	is run through the Office of Local Defense	7	House, the entire Congressional Delegation,
8	Community Corporation at the federal level,	8	and right up to the Secretary of the Army.
9	and they released that program in 2020. And	9	Had it not to happened, they would have
10	so over the four years, we've been able to	10	had to deal with it in the National Defense
11	pull in right around \$35 million. So it's	11	Authorization Acts pure and simple, and they
12	been an exceptional process and we're really	12	didn't want to deal with it through law. So
13	proud of the fact that we've all been able to	13	they dealt with it with a handshake. We know
14	work together to pull those dollars down into	14	what the numbers are, we're watching it. We
15	the state.	15	have to be really, really vigilant to make
16	And so moving along on the agenda, I'd	16	sure they don't back off those numbers.
17	like to call on Chris Goode with the Roosevelt	17	We had good meetings last week, as the
18	Group. They're often our eyes and ears up in	18	Mayor indicated. General Vereen, he's an
19	DC. And so I think we've got a few slides,	19	honorable guy. The Army understands the
20	but thank you for being here, Chris.	20	numbers, they are the same numbers have. It
21	MR. GOODE:	21	all comes down, you'll hear the term, faces
22	Thanks. Good afternoon, Mr. Secretary	22	versus spaces, right. The original TAA had
23	and Senator and our new (inaudible),	23	Fort Johnson losing over 4,000 faces. The
24	congratulations.	24	brigade was going away. Half of the Army and
25	BRIG. GEN. FRILOUX:	25	strength at Fort Johnson would have
	Page 62		Page 64
1	Thank you, sir.	1	evaporated.
$\begin{vmatrix} 1\\ 2 \end{vmatrix}$	Thank you, sir. MR. GOODE:	$\begin{vmatrix} 1\\ 2 \end{vmatrix}$	evaporated. Spaces are easier to deal with because
2	MR. GOODE:	2	Spaces are easier to deal with because
2 3	MR. GOODE: Yeah. I have some slides I'm going to		Spaces are easier to deal with because they're never going to be filled. And if you
2 3 4	MR. GOODE: Yeah. I have some slides I'm going to have to look at them myself. Let me start on	2 3	Spaces are easier to deal with because they're never going to be filled. And if you know anything about Army recruiting, it's not
2 3 4 5	MR. GOODE: Yeah. I have some slides I'm going to have to look at them myself. Let me start on some big picture items. You know, I think	2 3 4 5	Spaces are easier to deal with because they're never going to be filled. And if you know anything about Army recruiting, it's not a pretty picture. So giving up spaces over
2 3 4 5 6	MR. GOODE: Yeah. I have some slides I'm going to have to look at them myself. Let me start on some big picture items. You know, I think fiscal year '24, we've really had some good	2 3 4	Spaces are easier to deal with because they're never going to be filled. And if you know anything about Army recruiting, it's not a pretty picture. So giving up spaces over faces was important.
2 3 4 5 6 7	MR. GOODE: Yeah. I have some slides I'm going to have to look at them myself. Let me start on some big picture items. You know, I think fiscal year '24, we've really had some good wins. We had some real challenges. But, you	2 3 4 5 6 7	Spaces are easier to deal with because they're never going to be filled. And if you know anything about Army recruiting, it's not a pretty picture. So giving up spaces over faces was important. Meanwhile, about the same time actually,
2 3 4 5 6 7 8	MR. GOODE: Yeah. I have some slides I'm going to have to look at them myself. Let me start on some big picture items. You know, I think fiscal year '24, we've really had some good wins. We had some real challenges. But, you know, we never never broke down, we never	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	Spaces are easier to deal with because they're never going to be filled. And if you know anything about Army recruiting, it's not a pretty picture. So giving up spaces over faces was important. Meanwhile, about the same time actually, the Air Force embarked on this match
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1up. There's no location for it yet. I know1this, but in the Fiscal Responsibility Act, it's \$895 billion, that's the cap for FY'253that warfare is pressing, you know, you're3for defense spending. When the budget request4just not, you know, specking out an aircraft4went over at Congress, it was for5today in isolation. It has to be specked out5\$895 billion, right. And that includes, you6in that entire echo system, you know, cyber6know, more increases in pay for two percent7threats, logistics, equipment that's on the7pay raise and 4.5 percent pay raise for8aircraft. And it probably merits us doing8military members next year.9requirements generation a little bit9And when you look at it, when that FRA10differently, and that's what the Air Force is10snapped in, you know, you look at what11trying to do. But at the end of the day, you11happened with the continuing resolution for12know, there's no immediate threat at the Air12'24, that number went down, right. That13Force Global Strike Command.13number, that 817 was supposed to be higher14The NIWC piece is a different piece,16now being renegotiated this week. And that17sorry, civilians over at the University New17could, in the end, get tacked onto that18Orleans. And, suddenly, the game changed on18\$850 billion figure.19base where you get a billion dollars to do20 <t< th=""></t<>
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5 So when the price of the lease went up, 5 So, you know, \$900 billion I'll go
6 you know, things got tougher. And, you know, 6 through these quickly, but \$900 billion, you
7 we're working that out. Again, the entire 7 know, think about it, \$50 million goes to the
8 Delegation is well aware of NIWC piece. The 8 nuclear enterprise alone. And that's pretty
9 letters are flying. The communication is at 9 good for Barksdale. That pays for the bombers
10 the Secretary and the Navy level. We're going 10 and the Air Force Global Strike Command, the
11 to get through this and it's going to be 11 NC3 Program, and so forth. Another big chunk
12 fixed, but you know, it's something the Navy 12 is \$61 billion in airpower.
13 has to they have to go through this PCA 13 But, you know, the General is right, you
14 process. 14 know, when you retire 593 fighters and only
15 So and, again, a lot of these actions are 15 buy 244, that's a problem. When that F-18
16 driven by a real fight for resources. You 16 that F-15 program is truncated, like I said,
17 know, we are in a Fiscal Responsibility Act 17 from 144 to 98 fighters, you know, that's an
18 environment. We're basically sequestered in a 18 issue. Congress is well aware, and I've read
19 '24/'25 budget where the top lines are pretty 19 the National Guard letter, you know, we work
19'24/'25 budget where the top lines are pretty19the National Guard letter, you know, we work20well known. We're in the fight for manpower20with Gary Keefe.
20 well known. We're in the fight for manpower 20 with Gary Keefe.
20well known. We're in the fight for manpower20with Gary Keefe.21recruitment that's driving part of the problem21BRIG. GEN. FRILOUX:
20well known. We're in the fight for manpower20with Gary Keefe.21recruitment that's driving part of the problem21BRIG. GEN. FRILOUX:22with this Army analysis. And places like UNO,22Yes, sir.
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1	know, the C-power investments is \$48 billion,	1	Delegation, we say, do not fall for a BRAC
2	right. You know, 10 years ago, 15 years ago,	2	grant. It will be great for my business. It
3	that number was about maybe \$16 billion for	3	will be bad for defense communities. They
4	shipbuilding. We're up to \$50 billion and	4	make way too many mistakes and we don't need
5	we're building only six ships. We've been	5	it. Again, what's driving it? When you look
6	building two submarines each year for quite	6	at the numbers, when you look at end strength,
7	some time, we're down to one submarine.	7	it's going down, you know.
8	So everybody is hurting. A hundred and	8	The Army, they just, they can't
9	forty-three billion in RDT, that's a pretty	9	recruit I don't know what it is. But, you
10	good budget. But, you know, things are a lot	10	know, new numbers for '25, you know, active
11	more expensive today. They're taking longer	11	went down again. I think that number is going
12	to produce. And, you know, it's there's	12	to go down to 425. It's that bad. And that's
13	not a lot of money left on the floor.	13	not, it's just not helping places like Fort
14	So when you look at Louisiana, I've	14	Johnson.
15	pointed this out before, but back in '24, that	15	BRIG. GEN. FRILOUX:
16	just got wrapped up, right. And every one of	16	There was a story that came out today
17	those changes put in by the Louisiana	17	that the Secretary of the Army made in her
18	Delegation stayed. So getting that little bit	18	report that she thinks that we're now in line
19	of money, and you may say, you know what,	19	to make the recruiting goal for the regular
20	\$900 billion over \$2 million, that's not a lot	20	Army this year for the first time in, like,
21	of money. But that \$2 million that was added	21	four years. That came out today.
22	by the Delegation, that's what that got that	22	MR. GOODE:
23	child development center on the unfunded	23	Yeah, I hope so. I hope so. And then,
24	priority list this year, and that will get	24	again, you know, I got to throw this back in
25	built hundred percent.	25	here. I mean this is sort of an old report
	Page 70		Page 72
1	Planning and design is done. It's in the	1	but, you know, I'm not an economist, but when
2	Defense program. All the letters had to be	2	you at the percentage of regional payroll, I
3	collected. They're all done. The request is	3	think, Mike, anything over 3 percent is, like,
4	in and we're going to get that thing	4	really good, really significant. So when you
5	appropriated this year.	5	look at the Central Region, 17 percent, that's
6	And you've seen that slide before. So,	6	like off the charts. I mean it's off the
7	you know, you're right, we went through this.	7	charts. So
8	We've got to stay on top of this old issue	8	COL. MEGINLEY:
9	with the TAA, you know. What's going to keep	9	Now, that data is three years old.
10	Fort Johnson alive? Those five things,	10	MR. GOODE:
11	investment, investment, investment,	11	Yeah.
12	investment. You know, talk is cheap. But	12	COL. MEGINLEY:
13	getting money in there, keeping mission in	13	Do you know what it is now?
14	there, that's what's going to keep Fort	14	MR. GOODE:
15	Johnson alive.	15	I don't know. And
16	Just a background, man, if I was on the	16	SENATOR REESE:
17	BRAC Commission, that brigade would be out of	17	We're due for our analysis at our next
18	there in 24 hours, gone; easy win, keep the	18	updated economic analysis.
19	JRTC open. Next, what's next on the agenda?	19	MR. ABBOUD:
20	Got to keep the brigade	20	Yeah. Yeah, we're in the process of
21	SENATOR REESE:	21	starting that again.
22	Work to make sure you don't get on the	22	SENATOR REESE:
23	next BRAC.	23	Yeah.
24	MR. GOODE:	24	MR. ABBOUD:
25	Nobody every time we see the	25	And I think there may be an opportunity
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2it is in Statute now.2that's already in the unfunded priority list.3MR. GOODE:34And then just one more, these are35actually Fort Polk slides when we got them56before the name change. But, you know, the57quality of life initiative sort of is churning68in the background and there's only three99in the background and there's only three910And, you know, another thing we need to1011keep the momentum on is that the Army sticks1112tik and it takes us up to 2029. And if anyhody1313It's only, like I said, three installations1314and it takes us up to 2029. And if anyhody1515wants these slides, I'll give them to you, but1616there's real money behind each of these1617they so distory.1818good story.1819Wecapons Generation Facility, huge project.1820That's going to keep Barksdale open, I think,1121To d' owrk to get that finally authorized and2323appropriated. My hunch is there will be more2424money behind those numbers to actually finish2425adout the Air Force reorganization.126And, finally, on SEMA GNO, yes, for the227Text, we call be callage well with the Amiral928een working very closely with the Amiral </th <th></th> <th>· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·</th> <th></th> <th></th>		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
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	22	in the FY '25 request, we're going to add to	22	learn how to fly them. Is Belle Chasse out of
	23	that and we're going to ask for a total of	23	the question for those? No. You know, when
24 Iour, which means the Delegation is going to 24 we're talking about, oh, let's just put new	24	four, which means the Delegation is going to	24	we're talking about, oh, let's just put new
25 have to really cough up three new aircraft. 25 F-18s at Belle Chasse, well, that's not going	25		25	
Page 75 Page 77		Page 75		Page 77

1	to happen because it's not near a fleet	1	in with new ideas and new administrations and
2	concentration area, of which there are only	2	we have new Secretary of LED, and so I think
3	two.	3	it's important that we continue this kind of
4	But something like CCA, yeah, that's	4	collaborative process.
5	probably a possibility. A lot of places don't	5	I think you just saw here today that
6	want them. It may make sense to put them	6	exchange of ideas about what's happening
7	elsewhere. I don't know. We're not even	7	within each of those missions, what's
8	there yet. They haven't been fielded.	8	happening in the National Guard, that's the
9	But that, to me, the Combat Collaborative	9	kind of information when we have a consensus
10	Aircraft Program, they will be built in	10	driven solution that helps the legislature
11	numbers and they will have to be based	11	make good funding choices, because we don't
12	somewhere. We're not it's they're kind	12	have to figure out whether or not that's the
13	of really a need because we have a field of	13	priority of Bossier, we don't have to figure
14	them. But that, to me, would be opportunity	14	out if that's the priority of Leesville or
15	to place them at Belle Chasse.	15	Johnson or down in New Orleans or Naval
16	MR. SILBERT:	16	Support Activity. When this group signifies
17	Thanks.	17	and identifies something as being the next
18	MR. ABBOUD:	18	investment available, that helps me sell that
19	Any other questions for Chris?	19	in the legislature.
20	MR. GOODE:	20	We have a newly-organized Military
21	All right. Thank you.	21	Veterans Affairs Committee at least in the
22	MR. ABBOUD:	22	Senate, Senator Adam Bass from the Bossier
23	Thank you very much. Really, just a	23	area, the Barksdale area is going to chair
24	thank to all the presenters today. I know	24	that Committee. We just stood it up and got
25	there's a lot of great work going on again in	25	it populated last week and we'll start going
	Page 78		Page 80
1	every region, every corner of our state. It	1	to work in that Committee as well to find a
2	also helps us to maintain and bring awareness	2	more robust legislative response to some
3	of the challenges, issues, and opportunities	3	things. Typically, that has been in the areas
4	that are out there. So coming together as a	4	of spousal licensure, it's been in areas of
5	Council helps us to better align and go after	5	education, making sure that we're taking of
6	some of those opportunities.	6	military connected students and employment
7	Moving ahead into other and new business,	7	opportunities for spouses. And so we need the
8	Senator Reese, I have you in attendance, I	8	input of everybody in this room in this group,
9	wanted to at least take some time and not to	9	because that's what's really going to inform
10	put you on the spot, but to at least provide a	10	us to make better decisions. And we're not
11	few minutes for you if you'd like to make some	11	just being sporadic about it, we're being
12	comments. I know you're between Committee	12	targeted and strategic about it.
13	meetings and having some votes, but I did want	13	So thank you all, all of y'all for the
14	to take some time for some brief comments, if	14	time that you put into this. And I really
15	you'd like.	15	want to thank Chris Goode and his team, as
16	SENATOR REESE:	16	Anne and I were just visiting about, the level
17	Yeah. Look, I'll just say thank you to	17	of sophistication they bring to the table, the
18	everybody that's here today. I think this is	18	money that you saw added in the budget by
19	one of the best examples of bringing together	19	member-directed expenditures, is that what
20	our agencies of state government and our local	20	we're calling it now instead of an earmark,
21	communities to advocate for something that is	21	but the money that we're adding in and those
22	truly one of the most impactful industries	22	opportunities takes tremendous those
23	that goes on in the State of Louisiana. And	23	senators and those representatives are tasks
24	we always have a struggle as we change	24	with requests from every corner of the state
25	administrations. But, you know, people come	25	to add things into that budget. And the fact
	Page 79		Page 81

1	that we get those DOD priorities in there	1	Barksdale directly; but, indirectly, it does.
2	means that they understand from all of you	2	And they're also standing up a new wing.
3	that it's a priority for this state. And they	3	It's actually going to be off it, but another
4	wouldn't get that information if it wasn't for	4	wing is coming in Air Force Global Strike
5	the work that Chris and the team that they've	5	Command to do the Nuclear Command Control
6	built perform. So thank you for all the work	6	communications. So, overall, they made out
7	that y'all put into this. And we're just	7	pretty well.
8	here, the legislature to be a resource to you.	8	The little chart that I have on the
9	So, you know, let us know how to do that.	9	bottom here, it's is a little bit dated, it's
10	MR. ABBOUD:	10	from 2019, but one of the challenges that
11	Thank you very much, Senator. Appreciate	11	Barksdale has is that it's massively
12	those comments. One other item here in the	12	undermanned. And when they stood the Air
13	other business, General Elder, you indicated	13	Force Global Strike Command up back, that was
14	that you'd like to provide just a brief	14	about 12, 13 years ago almost 15 years ago,
15	update, so I'd like to just give you the	15	so it's been around for a little while. But
16	opportunity here for a few remarks.	16	when they stood it up, it was only going to be
17	GENERAL ELDER:	17	a sustainment command. And what was then
18	Yes. We've got most of it hearing from	18	called Air Force Base Command was going
19	Eric and also from Chris about what's	19	continue to do the ICDMs and the Air Combat
20	happening with the Air Force Great Power	20	Command was going to continue to do all the
20	Competition Optimization, as they call it, but	20	modernization things for the model. Well,
$21 \\ 22$	I thought it might be worthwhile to mention	21	they moved all that, the Air Force Global
22	• •	22	-
23	some of the things that are going on affecting		Strike Command. So the responsibilities was
	Barksdale. I actually have if you want,	24 25	there are no people.
25	there are some handouts. Rather than go Page 82	23	And so this was actually done by RAND Page 84
1	through the whole heart of this thing, there	1	Corporation back a few years ago. The numbers
2	are a couple of things that are in there that	2	haven't improved hardly at all. And there are
3	I think might be of interest to you is the	3	a number of people. This is a really good
4	when they talk about this Integrated	4	opportunity. And as long as they're shaking
5	Capabilities Command, that's going to be for	5	everything up, this is the right time to look
6	Integrated Conventional Capabilities, and	6	at, can you get the numbers at the Air Force
7	there are some things they're still trying to	7	Global Strike Command back to where they
8	figure out. But one of the big things that	8	belong. And I think there's a lot of emphasis
9	came out of this was recognition that they	9	on doing that.
10	they were trying to average things out and,	10	So for most of you, you won't have an
11	perhaps, too much. And, basically, they used	11	opportunity. But where you do hear about
12	a thing in the Air Force called core function	12	this, one of the challenges they have is and
13	leads. And so the decisions that were	13	that you need to know about is that people
14	affecting bombers were actually being made at	14	don't want to go to work at Air Force Global
15	Air Combat Command, which have no bombers.	15	Strike Command as long as when they get there,
16	And so part of this Re-optimization is	16	then they leave. Well, the they're not
17	that Air Force Global Strike Command now is	17	telling the whole story. It's not because
18	responsible for all those things that are	18	they don't want to go to Louisiana or they
19	bomber related. And then within the Air Force	19	don't want to go to Barksdale Air Force Base.
20	(indiscernible) Command, which does the	20	If you're a civilian and you have the choice
21	acquisition, they're actually splitting and	21	of doing the same work of being a GS13 at
22	reorganizing that, and there's going to be one	22	Barksdale or being a GS15 at Langley, which
23	three-star whose only focus is everything is	23	one would you take?
23 24	three-star whose only focus is everything is nuclear related which is pretty significant	23 24	one would you take? And so in a lot of cases, they'll come in
24	nuclear related, which is pretty significant.	24	And so in a lot of cases, they'll come in

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1	they'll there for a while to get a 13 so that	1	just thank you all for joining us, for being
2	they qualify to be a 14 or 15 somewhere else.	2	here with us. It really is great to see you
3	So one of the things that we really need to	3	all. So thank you for your service to this
4	expose to people, that that's the real issue	4	organization and to the state as a whole.
5	that's involved here. And the reason that	5	With that, are there any motions to
6	those grade structures are lower is it's a	6	adjourn?
7	pyramid structure. So the more people you	7	MR. SLONE:
8	have, the higher your grade structure. So	8	So moved.
9	when the numbers go up, the grade structure	9	MR. ABBOUD:
10	will go up. That will actually help us bring	10	Any second?
11	in people to Air Force Global Strike that we	11	MR. SILBERT:
12	need.	12	Second.
13	So I did just some little talking points	13	MR. ABBOUD:
14	that basically describe what is happening with	14	Okay. All in favor, please say "Aye."
15	the Command. But the some of the initial	15	ALL:
16	things really look bad for what was going to	16	Aye.
17	happen with Air Force Global Strike Command in	17	MR. ABBOUD:
18	terms of them trying to, I don't know what the	18	Thank you for your time.
19	right way to explain this is, but they wanted	19	(WHEREUPON, THE MEETING ADJOURNED.)
20	to set up these major commands that will be	20	
21	focused in a way that is focused on this Great	21	
22	Power Competition. Great idea, except the	22	
23	number one command in the Air Force that does	23	
24	the most Great Power Competition work is the	24	
25	Air Force Global Strike Command. Air Force	25	
	Page 86		Page 88
1	Secretary understood that. And so Air Force	1	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
2	Global Strike Command itself is in good shape,	2	I, KELLY S. PERRIN, a Certified Court
3	probably going to get even better as a result,		Reporter, Certificate #23035, in good standing with
4	but there are some little talking points there	4	the State of Louisiana, as the officer before whom
5	that you can take with you.	5	
6	MR. ABBOUD:	6	foregoing 88 pages;
7	Thank you very much. Any questions for	7	That this testimony was reported by me in
8	General Elder before we move forward?		stenographic machine shorthand by Computer-Aided
9	Okay. I did want to also highlight		Transcription, transcribed by me or under my
10	Mr. Kenny Lynch, who has joined us from the		personal direction and supervision, and is a true
11	Workforce Commission, just thank you for being		and correct transcript to the best of my ability
12	here. I know we had Secretary Schowen join us		and understanding;
13	earlier, but I know you're an administrator	13	That the transcript has been prepared in
14	overseeing the Veterans Program at the		compliance with transcript format guidelines
15	Workforce Commission, so we just wanted to		required by statute or by rules of the board, that
16	highlight that. Thank you for being with us		I have acted in compliance with the prohibition on
17	today.		contractual relationships, as defined by Louisiana
18	And with that, are there any other items		Code of Civil Procedure Article 1434 and in rules
19	to come before the Council today?		and advisory opinions of the board; that I am not
20	Any other new business before we move on?		of counsel nor related to any person participating
21	Okay. I am hearing none. So at this		in this cause and am in no way interested in the
22	time, I'd like to open the floor for questions		outcome of this event.
23	or comments from the public?	23	
24	Okay. I am hearing none. So I believe	24	
25	that covers everything for us today. Again,	25	
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1 This certification is valid only for a	
2 transcript accompanied by my handwritten or digital	
3 signature and the image of my State-authorized seal	
4 on this page.	
5 Signed:	
6	
7 KELLY S. PERRIN,CCR	
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Article 1445 and 1446

Art. 1445. Submission to Witness; Changes; Signing When the testimony is fully transcribed the deposition shall be submitted to the witness for examination and shall be read to or by him, unless such examination and reading are waived by the witness and by the parties. Any changes in form or substance which the witness desires to make shall be entered upon the deposition by the officer with a statement of the reasons given by the witness for making them. The deposition shall then be signed by the witness unless the parties by stipulation waive the signing or the witness is ill or is absent from the parish where the deposition was taken or cannot be found or refuses to sign. If the deposition is not signed by the witness within thirty days of its submission to him, the officer shall sign it and state on the record the fact of the waiver or of the illness or absence of the witness or the fact of the refusal to sign together with the reason, if any, given therefor; and the deposition may then be used as fully as though signed unless on a motion to suppress under Article 1456 the court holds that

the reasons given for the refusal to sign require rejection of the deposition in whole or in part. A video deposition does not have to comply with the requirements of reading and signing by the deponents.

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