STATEMENT BY

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ACTING DIRECTOR, ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

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Opening Remarks

Chairman Smith, Ranking Member Bartlett, distinguished members of the subcommittee; we appreciate the opportunity to appear before you today to discuss our Army National Guard Equipment Posture. As I speak, 52,355 of our Soldiers are serving in harm's way for this Nation. The sacrifice of those Soldiers, their Families, and employers is something we must acknowledge and appreciate.

As all of you are aware the ARNG has functioned as an operational force for almost 8 years. I applaud the Congress for your continued support of and commitment toward the Army National Guard. Now I would like to address the status of our equipment.

Equipment and Critical Dual Use

The Army National Guard equipping levels for domestic missions had fallen from 70% in 2001 to as low as 40% in 2006. Several factors contributed to the decline of ARNG equipping levels: changing requirements, equipment destroyed during operations, and equipment left in theater for other units. Even at 2001 equipping levels, much of the Guard equipment was not interoperable with Active Army equipment. During FY09, the Army G8 released a new Army equipping strategy that establishes a goal of at least 80% equipment-on-hand for critical dual use items for all ARNG units, regardless of their position in the Army Force Generation (ARFORGEN) cycle.

Current equipment levels as of April 2010 are 77% equipment on hand and 83% of critical dual use equipment available for domestic response missions.

If the ARNG pursues HMMWVs (humvees) after reset it will be to replace older, less modern platforms within the fleet; we will have 100% fill of 48,712 HMMWVs authorized by the end of FY10. Currently the ARNG only has Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) vehicles in our training sets at mobilization stations. If and when the Modified Table of Organization and Equipment (MTOE) changes to reflect MRAP procurement, Force Modernization will allocate the additional MRAPs.

Army National Guard equipment on hand levels are steadily increasing. Changing equipment authorizations associated with modularity keep the metric from reaching even higher levels, but the level of modernization is increasing in concert with equipment delivery. Department of the Army projects an increase in ARNG modernization from 61% at the end of FY08 to 65% at the end of FY10. Improvement in equipment on hand and modernization is most dramatic in two areas. First, the Soldier items that are needed in combat such as sights, lights, night vision goggles, and weapons have been issued to nearly meet the full requirement. The equipment issues since 2005 include 100,000 M4 carbines, 21,000 thermal sights, and 100,000 monocular night vision devices. Second is modern communications equipment so important to operations and survival in theater. Army fielded 20,000 SINCGARS radios and 2,000 more tactical satellite radios during that same time and improved the procurement and fielding of the critical Warfighters Information Network.

Deploying Army National Guard units are issued all the latest equipment required to do the mission and protect their people. Units in theater have most of

the heavy equipment and vehicles needed. Units are mostly taking basic Soldier equipment en route and drawing theater equipment as needed for assigned missions. While about 18% of our force is deployed, they have taken 27% of the pistols, 30% of the thermal sights, and nearly 40% of the M240B machine guns with them. The units at home station have enough of this Soldier equipment for training, but have ongoing shortages for their mobilization and domestic response missions. The non-deployed units must train for their mobilization and conduct domestic response missions. The newest equipment is made available to units as they approach mobilization providing them with opportunities to gain experience in operating deployable and armor-able systems.

Despite the very significant progress made in equipping the Guard with modern equipment and achieving interoperability, we continue to be challenged in modernizing light and medium tactical wheeled vehicle fleets, Blackhawks, and water distribution equipment.

National Guard and Reserve Equipment Appropriation

Congress has been very responsive to ARNG equipping requirements. The National Guard and Reserve Equipment Appropriation (NGREA) has been especially supportive in our pursuit of equipping the force. The Army National Guard via NGREA received $770 million for FY06, $1.1 billion for FY07, $1.3 billion for FY08, and $779 million for FY09. This funding has been used for critical dual-use items to support command and control, communications, aviation, force protection (including civil support teams), engineering, logistics,

maintenance, medical, security, and transportation − our “essential 10” capabilities.

Thanks to NGREA we will retire the M35 2½-ton trucks from our inventory next year (in FY11)—a vehicle first introduced in 1949 and manufactured in the 1950’s.

Facilities (Modernized and Energy Efficient)

The Army National Guard operates approximately 3,000 U.S. readiness centers (armories) -- about 22% of the total inventory of Army facilities. The average age of these facilities is 41 years and many (approximately 300) are more than 70 years old. The ARNG has recently taken up the challenge to bring the older facilities “up to code” and make them energy efficient. Also, when the ARNG builds a new facility, the goal is to use innovative and sustainable building strategies.

Recent “green” accomplishments around the nation include energy saving initiatives along with the reduction of hazardous waste:

- The Arizona Guard is using the earth’s natural insulation to heat and cool their 5,200 square-foot ECO-building. The building is burrowed into the ground within walls of recycled tires filled with compacted earth. The building also has an atrium that is designed to provide abundant natural light. The roof has cisterns to collect precious rain water. On the grounds, the facility has an array of 18-kilowatt photovoltaic solar cells and three 500-watt wind turbines. Arizona has a central energy control system that controls the indoor climate of the ECO building as well as many other public buildings across the state.

- The Michigan Guard revamped their re-painting facility to use non-toxic paints and paint-stripping processes. They switched from a solvent-based paint to a water-based paint and high-pressure water jets, thereby shifting from a hazardous working environment to one that is virtually pollution free for the environment and for the workers. By filtering and regenerating waste water (and eliminating the solvents), they reduced waste from over 100 pounds per vehicle to less than 3 pounds per vehicle.
- The Colorado Guard has a new Army Aviation Support Facility that was constructed primarily from recycled and locally-made materials. In addition, the facility is lighted almost entirely (over 90%) by sunlight during day time operations. The facility uses waterless urinals and captures roof runoff to irrigate drought-resistant plants. The facility also has a unique modular design that accommodates a full-time staff of 70 and "expands" to handle the drill weekend staff of 350 Soldiers.
- The Minnesota Guard has developed a new model for readiness centers focusing on federal, state, and community missions. Ten of Minnesota's 63 readiness centers are designed as "hybrid" training and community centers (TACCs). These hybrid centers have unexpected amenities such as ice rinks, gyms, banquet halls, and exhibition space. One great benefit of these shared centers is a link to the community that helps with recruiting, morale, and community relations.
- The Hawaii Guard has taken an interagency approach breaking ground with a new facility they will share with the United States Army Reserve and the

Hawaii Office of Veterans Services. This facility will use photovoltaic panels to help reduce energy usage and costs.

- The New Mexico Guard is building a 30-module 54-kilowatt photovoltaic solar farm. This solar project will not only reduce the amount of electricity bought from the service provider, but will also reduce the amount of green house gases generated by the consumption.
- The New Jersey Guard recently completed a 170-kilowatt photovoltaic car port. This car port takes underutilized space to provide shelter for parked vehicles and generates electricity for some of the Sea Girt National Guard Training Center facilities. The renewable energy produced will reduce approximately 165 tons of greenhouse gas emissions annually.

Facility Requirements

Facilities and infrastructure are especially important both for homeland mission support and as a home base for overseas contingency operations. The Presidential Budget for FY11 includes $874 million for ARNG construction. We want to highlight the $30 million appropriated last year in the Guard and Reserve Initiative—a military construction account similar to NGREA. That appropriation has already made a difference in the construction and energy saving improvements of key facilities.

The Army National Guard operated more than 56,000 facilities, including 3,087 readiness centers (armories) in FY09; 40% of ARNG facilities are over 50 years old. Sustainment, restoration, and modernization funding was key to the training, readiness, and mobilization of the ARNG. This program keeps Army National Guard facilities in good working order, including preventive maintenance, emergency work orders, and repairs and replacements to facility components. It also funds projects required to extend the useful life of the facilities and minor construction as needed. Our facilities requirements include basic operating expenses such as salaries; contracts; supplies and equipment leases; utilities; municipal services; facilities engineering services; fire and emergency services; and program management.

Facilities operations funding enables the Army National Guard to keep readiness centers in good working order, including preventive maintenance, emergency work orders, and repairs and replacements to facility components. It

also funds projects required to extend the useful life of the facilities, perform minor construction as needed, and complete energy savings improvements.

Aviation in Support of Domestic Operations

Army National Guard aviation facilitates the sourcing of aircraft and aviation personnel in support of the states and territories having aviation assets during crisis situations, national-level exercises, and national security events. ARNG aviation provides the mobility and flexibility for aerial movement of personnel and equipment, allowing the Army National Guard, as a whole, to provide an expeditious response to civil authorities in support of emergency operations.

During the spring of 2009, Army National Guard aviation assets supported North Dakota floods by providing aerial search and rescue, evacuation support, commodity distribution, and law enforcement support. Fourteen ARNG aircraft from five surrounding states augmented North Dakota's aviation assets during the Red River flood. Without ARNG aviation, the majority of outlying farmland would not have been accessible due to the flooding. Army National Guard aviation also supported engineer explosives personnel in breaking up ice dams.

ARNG aviation assets again provided wildfire support in California, Utah, South Carolina, and for isolated incidents in Hawaii. Army National Guard aviators provide governors and local civil authorities capabilities that would not be accessible under most state and local budgets. Moreover, the dual mission capabilities of ARNG aircraft enable air crews to provide or augment local

government and law enforcement capabilities as part of the Army Guard's defense support to civil authority.

Aviation Facilities

Army National Guard aviation units operated from a total of 104 facilities, including 96 ARNG Aviation Support Facilities and Operating Facilities, 4 Aviation Classification and Repair Activity Depots, and 4 ARNG Aviation Training Sites. Eighty-two of these facilities are located on civil airfields and 22 are located on federal or state military installations. In FY09 the Army National Guard began or completed 11 aviation facility construction projects with construction costs totaling $276 million. The Future Years Defense Plan 2010-2015 contains $385 million budgeted for 18 aviation facility construction projects to support aviation transformation, force modernization, new unit and equipment fielding for unmanned aviation systems, and legacy facility projects to enable support facilities and training sites to meet ARNG aviation training, maintenance, and mission requirements.

Depot Maintenance

The Army National Guard Depot Maintenance Program coordinates with various Department of Defense depots such as Tank-automotive and Armaments Command, Communications Electronics Command, Red River, USATA, and the Marine Corps Logistics Base, Barstow, to maximize ARNG sustainment with the best blend of equipment needs, product deliverability, and depot efficiency for our dollars. This delivers equipment our Soldiers need and our force needs to maintain readiness.

The four aviation classification repair activity depots (AVCRADs) – being redesignated as theater aviation sustainment maintenance groups – continued to provide sustainment-level maintenance in support of the Army National Guard aviation aircraft fleet. The AVCRADs are cost-effective organizations which save the Army $300-$500 per aircraft flight hour. In addition, the AVCRADs are increasing their National Maintenance Program capabilities that will support the Army Working Capital Fund.

The core primary missions of the AVCRAD are to: back up field level maintenance (aviation unit maintenance and aviation intermediate maintenance); perform depot-level maintenance such as special repair authority, one time repair, aircraft paint, OCM for ARNG aviation units; operate supply support activity using standard Army retail supply systems; utilize Aviation Round-out Maintenance Information Systems (ARMISS) and Unit Level Logistics Aviation as the automation systems for maintenance and supply (unit level) management; and provide oversight management of class IX funds for ARNG aviation units using the ARMISS pseudo accounting systems.

Reset Process

The Department of the Army provided the Army National Guard with $138.5 million for home station field reset. This money was used to fund repair parts and the personnel to repair the equipment used in the overseas contingency operations during FY09. The ARNG was able to reset seven brigade-sized elements as well as many smaller units. The reset process provided additional training for Guard Soldiers as they performed the repair of

this equipment. As in the previous years, the process of the Army National Guard performing its own field reset allows for the equipment to be returned to the states' control and repaired in the most expeditious manner.

HMMWVs

The ARNG has an FY11 authorization for 48,712 HMMWVs with 46,649 on hand (96%). Although we are approaching 100% Equipment On Hand (EOH), only 10,464 or 21% of our authorized fleet is currently modernized and deployable to Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) or Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF). Based on Army Enterprise Equipping and Reuse Conference (AEERC) 12.0 projections, this number will grow only to 15,197 or 32% by the end of FY11 assuming scheduled deliveries are executed as planned. Additionally, the ARNG is critically short on certain HMMWV configurations that are essential to domestic and Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) as discussed below.

HMMWV ambulances are essential for Defense Support to Civil Authorities (DSCA) and other ARNG domestic operations and are considered a critical dual use (CDU) item. However, the ARNG currently has only 1,257 of its authorized 1,715 M997A2s, or 73% of these vehicles on hand, and they average over 20 years old. Because the M997A2 is no longer procurable, the ARNG recently signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the program manager for light tactical vehicles (PM LTV) to build a new M997A3 HMMWV ambulance variant which would consist of the legacy M997A2 litter compartment installed on a new M1152 HMMWV chassis. The planned purchase of 500 of these vehicles using NGREA funds will buy out the authorization to 100%. However, the older

M997A2 ambulances will eventually have to be recapitalized along with much of the rest of the fleet as discussed below.

The ARNG is authorized 656 tube-launched optically-tracked wire-guided (TOW) missile carrier HMMWVs, of which the older M996 and newer M1167 variants are both considered TOW carriers. While the ARNG has more than enough M996s to fill this authorization, the M996 variant is now considered obsolete and non-deployable to OIF/OEF. The ARNG does not currently have any M1167s on hand, but is programmed to receive a total of 416 from new production during FY10 and FY11. With the recent Army Leadership decision to stop purchasing HMMWVs for the Army after FY10, the planned delivery of 416 vehicles will allow the ARNG to achieve a modernization level of 63% for TOW carriers by the end of FY11. It appears that the ARNG will be stuck at this level for the foreseeable future, and will have to continue to install brand new TOW Improved Target Acquisition Systems (ITASs) on the obsolete and non-deployable M996 variant.

Overall, approximately 23,000 of the ARNG's on-hand HMMWVs are currently beyond their estimated useful life (EUL) of 20 years. With the Joint Light Tactical Vehicle (JLTV) not likely to reach the field in significant quantities until at least FY20, the recent decision to stop procuring HMMWVs for the Army after FY10 means that a significant portion of the ARNG fleet will have to be recapitalized in the near future. Although the ARNG is scheduled to receive an additional 5,081 new HMMWVs during FY10 and FY11, and will likely receive a number of cascaded HMMWVs from the Active Component over the next several

years, it is estimated that of the 23,000 on-hand vehicles over 20 years old, 13,000 will require induction into a recapitalization program.

The cost to recapitalize the ARNG fleet as suggested above is estimated to be $800 million and would satisfy training and domestic response capabilities, but the recapitalized legacy vehicles would still not be armor capable or deployable.

The recent Army decision to discontinue the procurement of HMMWVs for the Army after FY10 will result in the ARNG's HMMWV modernization level to remain at 32% based on current authorization (FY11). The Army National Guard needs a recapitalization program beyond FY11 in order to keep the HMMWV fleet modernized and interoperable with the Active Component.

Significant Achievements and Adequate Resources

The intensive use of the Army National Guard over the last eight years demonstrates the value-added role our Citizen Soldiers render in the defense and protection of our nation at home and the support of the nation's strategic missions abroad. In order to sustain the Army National Guard as an operational force, adequate air and land resources are required. Our current funding level enables us to move closer to Army Force Generation (ARFORGEN) readiness goals and provide the logistics train for maintaining and improving our infrastructure of buildings and equipment. In addition, the Army Equipping Strategy must ensure Soldiers operating within ARFORGEN have the right equipment amounts, types, and modernization to meet their mission requirements – whether in combat, training for combat, operating as part of the

Army's generating force, or conducting Homeland Defense and Defense Support to Civil Authorities (HLD/DSCA) missions.

As stewards of a 373-year militia tradition, we are privileged to uphold the institutions and maintain the infrastructure of our national readiness. The Army National Guard requests continued support from the Army to provide necessary improvements, including energy saving initiatives for our readiness centers and other facilities.

Closing Remarks

The Army National Guard will continue to focus on our equipping levels, especially for our critical dual use equipment, enhance our emphasis on energy efficiency in our readiness centers, provide a logistics train that supports the ARFORGEN cycle, and procure vehicles that meet our training requirements, as well as our domestic and contingency operations needs. The Army National Guard renders a dual federal and state role and provides unique support to our nation in a cost effective manner. Through adequate funding of resources and leadership engagement in equipment fielding and transparency, driven by ongoing support from Congress, the Army National Guard will continue to meet operational demands. I appreciate the opportunity to be here today and invite your questions and comments.