

Defense *advocate*

May 2011

Va. assists JFCOM workforce

through the planned closure of the U.S. Joint Forces Command (JFCOM) in Suffolk. The Virginia Regional Center for USJFCOM Workforce Transition and Business Development provides workforce development and job matching. The command will close this August as part of the Department of Defense's efforts to more efficiently spend its budget.

A transition center was opened in April to assist people losing their jobs



While most of the core missions of JFCOM will remain in Hampton Roads, the closure will spell the end of about half of the command's 3,900 positions locally, and an unknown number of related contractors.

Smaller job losses will also be felt at Fort Belvoir and the Naval Support Facility Dahlgren. Like a similar workforce transition center in Arlington County, which serves a workforce being displaced from Crystal City leased space, the Suffolk center will be run with a combination of state, federal and local resources.



JFCOM is expected to close by August 31, 2011. The four-star command was established in 1999.

More information on the JFCOM transition center can be found at www.jfcomtransition.com.



Gen. Robert Magnus
USMC, Ret.

During its annual meeting in January, the VNDIA Board of Directors re-elected retired Marine General Bob Magnus to serve as chairman of the board. The board chose Billy Beale to serve as vice chair.

Magnus served as the 30th Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps before his 2008 retirement. His 39 years of Marine Corps service included aviation and senior leadership positions.

Beale is the Chief Executive Officer of Union Bankshares Corporation, a Richmond-based diversified financial services company, and has nearly 40 years of experience in banking in Texas and Virginia. He also serves on the board of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership.

VNDIA leadership elected



Mr. Billy Beale

VNDIA is accepting applications for a Military Projects Manager position. A complete job description and application materials are available on the organization website, www.vndia.org.

The deadline for applications is June 3.

Staff opening

Cindy Arrington has recently joined the VNDIA staff. The name may sound familiar, as she originally served as Communications Manager when the authority was created, and had been part of VNDIA's predecessor organization, the Virginia Commission on Military Bases (VCOMB).

Welcome aboard!

Maj. Gen. John Knapp retires from VNDIA board



Retired Rear Adm. Bob Fountain and retired Maj. Gen. John Knapp at the July 2008 VNDIA meeting. The quarterly meeting was held at the George C. Marshall Foundation on the Virginia Military Institute grounds. VNDIA photo by Patrick Tremblay.

The Honorable John Knapp has served on the VNDIA board since its inception in 2007, and will step down as his term ends in June.

Knapp's resume is long and distinguished, and he has held many titles including Army major general, mayor of Lexington, Va., Ph.D. engineer, professor and superintendent of the Virginia Military Institute (VMI).

General Knapp will continue to serve the Commonwealth as the Floyd D. Gottwald, Jr. '43 Visiting Professor in Leadership and Ethics at VMI. Chief among Knapp's duties will be organizing the 2012 installment of Virginia's Civil War Sesquicentennial Signature Conference Series, which will be held at VMI next March.

VNDIA Directors

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BAE to run Radford AAP

The Department of Defense has chosen BAE Systems for a 10 year government contract initially valued at \$850 million to run operations at the Radford Army Ammunition Plant. When BAE takes control later this year, it will mark the first major change in the plant's management since it was opened in 1941. Minneapolis-based ATK has run the facility since 1995 after it bought out Hercules, Inc., which had built and run the plant.

BAE is a British company with U.S. headquarters in Arlington, and currently runs the Holston Army Ammunition Plant in Kingsport, Tenn. The new contract for Radford includes \$400 million for improvement and modernization, including reducing the facilities overall footprint.

The Radford plant is the third largest employer in the New River Valley, and the change in operator is not expected to result in major staffing changes.

Military Appreciation Month 2011

Keeping with tradition, Gov. Bob McDonnell recently proclaimed May 2011 as Military Appreciation Month in Virginia. The commonwealth is home to the largest concentration of civilian defense workers in the U.S., and is one of only a few states with major installations representing all branches of service and the Coast Guard.

Though not a federal designation, May has been recognized in the past by the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff as National Military Appreciation Month. Memorial Day is the last Monday, and Armed Forces Day, a federally recognized but not observed holiday, is the third Saturday.



CERTIFICATE of RECOGNITION

By virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution in the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, there is hereby officially recognized:

MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH

WHEREAS, the rights of Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness, given by God and enumerated in our Declaration of Independence, secured by the Constitution and the Bill of Rights and enjoyed by every citizen of the United States are a direct result of the blood shed and continued vigilance given by the members of the United States Armed Forces throughout the history of our great Nation; and

WHEREAS, the sacrifices made by the members of the United States Armed Forces and the family members that support them have preserved the liberties that have enriched this Nation and Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, since the birth of the Nation, Virginians have had a proud history of service in the United States Armed Forces in both times of peace and times of war, expertly displayed this year through operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and elsewhere around the world; and

WHEREAS, nearly 200,000 Virginians are currently serving on active duty in the National Guard or other reserve components or as civilian federal defense contractors employed at installations throughout the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, more than 830,000 veterans chose to make the Commonwealth of Virginia their home after their service; and

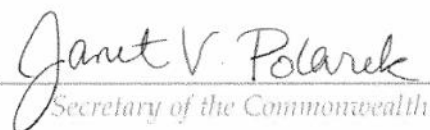
WHEREAS, the citizens of Virginia wish to recognize, honor, and show appreciation for all service members, past and present, and their families, and to set aside the month of May to pay tribute to the sacrifices and service of the intrepid men and women of our armed forces;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert F. McDonnell, do hereby recognize May 2011, as **MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH** in our **COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA**, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.





Governor



Secretary of the Commonwealth