



Meeting Notes

The Defense Business Board (DBB) is a federal advisory committee within the Department of Defense (DoD) pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972, the Government in Sunshine Act of 1976 and other appropriate federal regulations. The DBB meets quarterly and held its second public session for the fiscal year 2008 on January 22, 2009 from 11:30 AM to 12:15 PM.

DBB Members present:

Michael Bayer (Chairman)
Fred Cook (Vice Chairman)
Denis Bovin
Howard Cox
Henry Dreifus
Jim Haveman
Mel Immergut
Madelyn Jennings
James Kimsey
Bruce Mosler
Philip Odeen
William Phillips
Arnold Punaro
Mark Ronald
Atul Vashistha
Joe Wright
Dov Zakheim

DBB Staff in attendance:

Phyllis Ferguson, Executive Director
Kelly Van Niman, Deputy Director
COL Kevin Doxey, DBB Military Assistant
COL Dale Marks, DBB Military Assistant
Debbie Duffy, Staff Assistant
Cathryn Evans, Contractor Support

Public Session Attendees:

Chris Appleby, OSD/DA&M
Sandra Erwin, National Defense
Bill McMichael, Military Times News Journal
Scott Lewis, OSD/DA&M
Janet St. Laurent, GAO
Chris Veith, Boeing

PUBLIC SESSION

Copies of the final approved briefing charts may be viewed at the DBB website under Reports for 2009.

At 11:30 AM, Mr. Bayer opened the public session by providing opening remarks. Ms. Phyllis Ferguson, the Designated Federal Officer, introduced the following public session attendees:

- Chris Appleby, Office of the Secretary of Defense/Director of Administration and Management (OSD/DA&M)
- Sandra Erwin, *National Defense Journal*
- Scott Lewis, OSD/DA&M
- Bill McMichael, *Military Times News Journal*
- Chris Veith, Boeing

Mr. Cook presented the draft findings and recommendations of the Task Group, "A Snapshot of the Utilization of Forces." The Task Group analyzed Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) payroll data of active duty service members to determine how many months service members were in a combat zone since 2001. This preliminary study was conducted by reviewing the active duty force as of the end of 2008. The study measured military personnel by ranks that have been in combat zones and those who received Hostile Fire Pay. Personnel were divided among four categories of stress levels, equating more time served with increased levels of stress: 25 months or greater or "Over Stressed"; 17-24 months or "High Stressed"; 13-16 months or "Low Stressed; and 12- 0 months or "Not Stressed."

The Task Group noted that the analysis showed an uneven utilization of the existing force and despite the limitations in the data, the conclusions present a dominating case. It is clear that a majority of troops (particularly in the Army) have either never been deployed or deployed for less than 12 months while a smaller population of troops appear to be almost continuously deployed, creating excessive stress on those troops.

Based on the information received from the DFAS data, the Task Group recommended the Secretary of Defense commission a study of Military Services' force utilization/deployment policies and practices in order to address the following:

- Review deployment data and make recommendations for a reasonable measure of "stress";
- Seek methods to lower the stress on the force and broaden the distribution of that stress across the total force; and
- Examine the Military Services' institutional enterprise assignment policies which appear to create excessive deployments of certain portions of the force while at the same time isolating others from deployment.

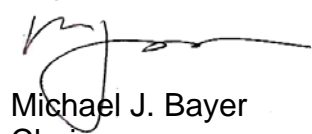
During the deliberations, DBB Members recommended softening the language by inserting the word 'appear' into the last recommendation, since the Task Group's work was a preliminary study. The recommendation was modified to read, "Examine the Military Services' institutional enterprise assignment policies which appear to create excessive deployments of certain portions of the force while at the same time isolating others from deployment."

Mr. Bayer called for a motion to approve the recommendations as amended and the motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Bayer adjourned the DBB's January 22, 2009 public session at 12:15 PM.

I hereby certify that, to the best of my knowledge, the foregoing minutes are accurate and complete.



Michael J. Bayer
Chairman
Defense Business Board