EVENT BRIEFING MEMO: Ft. Hood Engagement with Non-Commissioned Officers

III Corps Headquarters, Fort Hood, TX

EVENT DATE AND TIME: July 20, 2018 | 11:00 pm – 12:00 pm
Staff Lead: [Name Redacted]
Commissioner Lead: Barney
Commissioner Co-Lead: Davidson

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE:
Home to the 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood is the largest active duty armored post in the United States Armed Services. Currently, Fort Hood has nearly 65,000 soldiers and family members and serves as a home for the following units: Headquarters III Corps; First Army Division West; the 1st Cavalry Division; 13th Sustainment Command; 89th Military Police Brigade; 504th Battlefield Surveillance Brigade; 85th Civil Affairs Brigade; 1st Medical Brigade; and the 69th Air Defense Artillery Brigade. Fort Hood also includes Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center and the Medical And Dental Activities as tenant units.

The purpose of this meeting is:
➢ To understand the experiences on non-commissioned officers (NCOs) and how these experiences have influenced their decisions to join, stay in, or leave the Army
➢ To understand the perspectives of NCOs regarding military service and civilian-military relations

Population:
• 33,042 active duty military
• 284,811 retirees, survivors and family members (surrounding area)
• 13,427 civilians and contractors

Participants in this engagement will be non-commissioned officers (NCOs) in the Sergeant (E-5) and Staff Sergeant (E-6) ranks. The U.S. Army considers Corporals (E-4) and above to be NCOs, but Sergeants are widely accepted as the NCO rank with the most impact on lower-ranking soldiers. Sergeants are responsible for ensuring that each member of their unit is trained to competency in their military occupational specialty (MOS), that their equipment is maintained properly and accounted for, and that the unit is trained to function in its primary mission role.

Staff sergeant responsibilities are very similar to those of Sergeants but the scope of their responsibilities is often much larger. They are in contact with large numbers of soldiers and often have more equipment and other property to maintain.
PARTICIPANTS:
Participants will be approximately ten Sergeants and Staff Sergeants from units based on Fort Hood.

AGENDA:
Conversation with NCOs
11:00 – 11:05 Commission Welcome Remarks
11:05 – 11:10 Roundtable Introductions
11:10 – 12:00 Roundtable discussion

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:
The questions below are provided for guidance only and are not intended to serve as a protocol or script for the meeting.
Other questions related to the Commission’s mission:

- Is a military draft or draft contingency still a necessary component of U.S. national security?
- Are modifications to the selective service system needed?
- How can the United States increase participation in military, national, and public service by individuals with skills critical to address the national security and other public service needs of the nation?
- What are the barriers to participation in military, national, or public service?
- Does service have inherent value, and, if so, what is it?
- Is a mandatory service requirement for all Americans necessary, valuable, and feasible?
- How does the United States increase the propensity for Americans, particularly young Americans, to serve?