

VOLSTATE GUARD

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January 2012



**CW5 Davis named new
Command Chief Warrant
Officer**

230th Sustainment Brigade Returns Home

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On the Cover:

**Cheif Warrant Officer 5 Robert Davis accepts the guidon from Maj. Gen. Terry "Max" Haston January 8, during a formal change of responsibility ceremony held at Joint Force Headquarters, Nashville. Davis was formally named as the new Command Chief Warrant Officer.
(Photo by: Sgt. 1st Class Clinton Wood.)**

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CW5 Davis named new CCWO

Story by: Tech. Sgt. Robin Olsen

Chief Warrant Officer 5 Robert V. Davis was named as the new Command Chief Warrant Officer for the Tennessee National Guard during a formal ceremony held January 8 in the Hall of Flags at the Joint Force Headquarters building. Davis replaces CW5 Gary Ensminger, who has served as the CCWO since August 2008.

Before his appointment, Davis served as the 101st Airborne Afghan Development Section's Fusion Chief at Bagram, Afghanistan and post deployment was detailed to Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations J3 Tennessee National Guard with a focus on Domestic Operations.

He joined the Marine Corps in 1980 and served as a Marine Corps Rifleman "Infantry". He joined the Tennessee Army National Guard in 1984 and was assigned to the Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 2/278th Armored Cavalry Regiment as a Cavalry Scout. In 1986, he transferred to the Regimental Headquarters of the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment as the Property Accounting NCO. Davis was appointed a Warrant Officer in the Tennessee Guard in 1988. He is qualified as both a Property Accounting Technician and All Source Intelligence Technician.

Since Davis' commissioning, he has served in numerous positions within the Tennessee Army National Guard; to include: Property Book Officer 278th ACR (Knoxville), S2 Intelligence Officer Support Squadron 278th ACR (Knoxville), Nuclear Biological and Chemical Warfare Officer Support Squadron 278th ACR (Knoxville), Analysis and Control Element Chief 278th ACR (FOB Caldwell, Iraq), and ADS Fusion Chief, Joint Forces Headquarters Forward 75 Regional Command Advisors Group, 101st Airborne (Bagram, Afghanistan) and J2/J3 Section JFHQ-TN.

He is a graduate of both the Quartermaster and Military Intelligence Warrant Officer Basic and Advance Courses. He is a graduate of the Warrant Office Staff and Warrant Officer Senior Staff Courses. He also attended and graduated



from the Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Warfare Officer Course, Master Fitness Trainer Course and numerous other military related courses. Davis has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Logistics Management with a minor in Military Science.

Davis is a member of the United States Army Warrant Officer Association, National Guard Association of the United States, National Guard Association of Tennessee, United States Army Armor Association, Military Intelligence Corps Association, Veterans of Foreign Wars (Post 3380), Association of Former Intelligence Officers, and the Paleontological Society of America.

The Command Chief Warrant Officer is the principal advisor to the Adjutant General, and the Assistant Adjutant General-Army for the supervision, training and well-being of the Warrant Officer Corps of the Tennessee National Guard.



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About the Award

The Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs pays special tribute to women veterans! Over the years, military women have demonstrated true personal courage as they have broken barriers and paved the way for future women to serve as leaders, not only in the military, but in all areas of society.

The Tennessee Woman Veteran of The Year Award recognizes women Veterans who have completed a record of exemplary service as a military service member, a Veteran, and outstanding member of the community.

The award is part of the TDVA's ongoing effort to take women Veterans issues out to where women veterans live, work, and enjoy the freedoms of our great country and to encourage greater participation in the women veterans conference.

Nomination for the Award

There will be one annual award for the Tennessee Woman Veteran of the Year. The Women Veterans Coordination Committee will select the recipient. The selection criteria focuses on the nominee's achievements in the military, in Veteran's affairs, her commitment to women veteran issues, and as a citizen in service of her hometown, the State of Tennessee, and the United States of America.

Nominations will be accepted from any Tennessee resident and we especially encourage submissions from Tennessee Veterans, Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs), County Veterans Service Officers (CVSOs), and other Veterans groups.

The nomination forms must be received by the end of March 30, 2012. The forms must be submitted in writing and the narrative explaining why the Veteran is being nominated for the award. It may not exceed 500 words in length. Nominations that are not selected may be re-tained for future award consideration at the discretion of the committee.

Nomination forms are available on the www.tn.gov/veterans website or you can contact the Women Veterans Coordinator at:

Women Veterans Coordinator
Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs
William R. Snodgrass Building
Tennessee Tower, 13th Floor
312 Rosa L. Parks Avenue
Nashville, TN 37243-1102
615-741-4951
Fax: 615-741-5056

About the Recipients

The annual recipients of the Tennessee Woman Veterans of the Year Award will be posted on the TDVA website. Tennessee Department of Veterans Affairs will recognize a Tennessee Woman Veteran who has completed a record of exemplary service as a military service member, a Veteran, and a citizen. The award will be presented annually at the Women Veterans Conference April 28, 2012.

230th Sustainment Brigade Returns Home

Story by: Tech. Sgt. Robin Olsen

The Tennessee National Guard's 230th Sustainment Brigade left their home station of Chattanooga in January 2011, headed to Kuwait for a year.

The unit uncased the Brigade Colors in a ceremony held at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, on March 11, 2011, receiving control from the U.S. Army's 1st Theater Sustainment Command.

Col. Mark Hart, the brigade commander, led the unit into history as they supported U.S. Forces stationed in Iraq and Afghanistan, and participated in the drawdown of forces from Iraq, as part of Operation New Dawn, as the only Army Sustainment Brigade in Kuwait. This was the largest logistical move the U.S. military has made since the end of World

War II. Hart assumed command of the 230th in December 2010, shortly before they left for their deployment.

"Change is inevitable," said Hart during the March ceremony. "The sustainment will continue to the tip of the sword for all the Warfighters in harm's way. We stand ready for the challenge, we accept the change, and we look forward to the mission. Old Hickory Volunteers will 'get 'er done.'"

During the deployment, the brigade conducted over 800 logistical convoy missions, logging over 12.5 million miles on the highways of Iraq. Aside from moving the final pieces of equipment out of Iraq, the brigade played a crucial role in the complete withdrawal of British forces from the country in the early months of 2011.

In addition to moving the massive amounts of equipment that had accumulated in Iraq over the past eight years, the Chattanooga-based command simultaneously supported the war in both Iraq and Afghanistan through support of convoy operations and resupply airdrop missions. They played a key role in the transition from American to Iraqi control.

While stationed in Kuwait, the brigade held command and control over several transportation and combat sustainment support battalions. Transportation assets included trucks and watercraft from both Army and Air Force units. Not only did these units move the equipment, they also processed each piece as it arrived in Kuwait, bringing over one billion dollars worth of equipment back into the Army supply system. Additionally, the brigade was responsible for the management of incoming and outgoing mail into theater, processing over 1.2 million pieces of mail.

The area served by the 230th Sustainment Brigade is broad, with elements in Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Qatar and Iraq. Communications had to be constant and clear to successfully manage day to day operations.

Command Sgt. Maj. Clay Massengale points out that "sustainment brigades are not in the combat areas, but they are crucial as they must be vigilant



1st Lt. Christopher Lawson with his son prior to the unit's deployment.

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to ensure whatever the combat arms Soldier needs, he has.”

The Brigade officially transferred authority of the critical sustainment mission to the North Carolina National Guard’s 113th Sustainment Brigade, December 27, 2011, during a change of authority ceremony held at Camp Arifjan in Kuwait.

Both units participated in a two-week transition process. The North Carolina unit shadowed their Tennessee counterparts the first week, then, the 230th SB stood by the next week to provide any last-minute advice or assistance for the incoming team.

The Tennessee Brigade colors were rolled up and cased in front of an audience mixed with Soldiers from various units in Kuwait. Next, Hart and Command Sgt. Maj. Clay Massengale, the 230th SB sergeant major, Col. David Jones, commander of the 113th SB, and Command Sgt. Maj. William Gill, the 113th SB sergeant major, unfurled their unit’s colors and stood at attention as it was raised next to the American flag.

“It has been an honor and a humbling experience working with the ‘Old Hickory’ team as we transfer responsibility of the mission for the sustainment brigade here in Kuwait,” said Jones. “This has been a very easy transition for many reasons, if not for one simple reason. We both understand the same ‘Southern English.’”

“Closing out Iraq, it made history and I’m very proud to



John Massengale, left, and brother, Clay, pose for a picture together, March 16, 2011.

be a part of that,” said 1st Lt. Johnathan King, 230th SB.

After serving more than 10 months in Iraq, the Tennessee Army National Guard Brigade headed back home.

The Tennessee Army National Guard Soldiers spent several days at Camp Shelby, Miss., engaged in out-processing before arriving in Millington, Smyrna, Chattanooga, and Knoxville, the unit’s home cities, to their eagerly waiting families and friends January 4.

“My heart was beating so fast,” said Spc. Amberia Hollis of Memphis. “I was ready to see my family, I missed them so much. Being away from your family is hard.”

“We left on the plane with 309 Soldiers, and we returned with 309,” Master Sgt. James Hayslip said with a touch of pride.

About 20 other members of the 230th SB stepped off a bus in Millington just after 3:15 p.m.

For the past year, Atoka native Cristy Justice, who serves with the Navy, has raised her six boys alone. At last, her husband, David, arrived.

As soon as she saw her husband get off the bus, Cristy ran in for a hug, followed quickly by the six boys.

She expects her own deployment this summer, which means it’s her husband’s time to corral six boys between the ages of 1 and 16.

“I look forward to it,” she said jokingly. “He thought it was easy.”

David’s sister, Staff Sgt. Tricia Justice, who is also a member of the 230th SB, was a convoy commander during this deployment.

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"I closed down a couple of bases in Iraq," she said, before adding that it was difficult to talk about such things with someone who wasn't there. Now, she's just happy to get back to her Brighton, TN, home and her two dogs.

In the meantime, before Staff Sgt. Michael Greene could collect his things, his two teenage daughters smothered him with hugs.

"I'm really happy to have my ladies," Staff Sgt. Greene of Halls, TN, said.

"He's not just a picture on the computer. He's a real guy," Greene's wife, Renee told their toddler.

"She was just six and half, seven months when I left. I've got to get to know her. She really doesn't know Daddy," Staff Sgt. Greene said.

"I've always been proud of him. He's been my hero for years and still is," Renee said.

While everyone made it home alive, two Cleveland, TN, Soldiers were not among the group of returning Guardsmen due to medical reasons, 1st Lt. Christopher Lawson and Sgt. James Ledford.

Amanda Lawson, who opted not to attend the homecoming, said she was torn between supporting the rest of the Soldiers and protecting their three children from disappointment.

Lawson said that she has visited her husband in Mississippi, and she is very excited for his return home. Her husband has missed the birthdays of all three children,



The 230th SB rolls up the brigade colors and prepares to head home to the United States.

the start of middle school and recitals.

"It's been a rough year with him gone," she said. "Christmas was difficult."

Lawson said she misses her husband more now than she did in the middle of the deployment.

There will be adjustments, she said. "We've all changed since he has been gone. We'll have to make some adjustments. I was worried about it until I saw him, but he is not a completely different person and neither am I."

This was Lt. Lawson's first deployment.

While on his deployment, Lawson was able to be part of Cookeville's Park View Elementary School Veteran's Day Program via Skype.

Ledford has two sons, ages 8 and 3.

For many Soldiers, being in the National Guard is like

having a second family while you work. For some, their Guard family is their real family as well.

Two Georgia brothers assigned to the 230th SB were on this deployment; Clay Massengale from Chickamauga, and John Massengale from Ringgold.

The brother's first deployment was at the beginning of Operation Desert Storm. Clay was a Staff Sgt., while John was a Sgt. 1st Class. Now during their final deployment, John is a Sgt. 1st Class and the Motor Sergeant for Special Troops Battalion, while his little brother is the Command Sgt. Maj. for the same battalion. Clay also completed another deployment in 2007-2008 at Camp Bucca, Iraq with the Tennessee Army National Guard's 1-181st Field Artillery Battalion, without his

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brother, John.

The brothers like to tease and joke around with each other. They say their relationship has grown stronger since they have both been in the National Guard.

"He's a Sergeant Major and I respect that," said John. "But I still, every once in a while, I got to throw in 'I'm calling Mom.'"

They are both very proud of each other. Clay, commenting on what he respects about his older brother, said, "His longevity. 40 years in the service of our country. That's pretty High-Speed. And his willingness to overcome the physical wear and tear on his body, that's tough."

"I am so proud of him," commented John. "I gave him some goals when he came into the Guard and told him how to succeed in life. He took on these goals and persevered in many ways."

Commenting on their latest deployment, John said, "I saw the beginning of this war in Desert Storm and now I've seen the end of it with the Soldiers

coming out of Iraq."

There were many other family members assigned to the 230th SB serving together during this deployment, making the Guard idea of family take on a different meaning than just camaraderie. These include Pfc. Stephanie and Elizabeth Lockhart, twin sisters; Spcs. Walter and Thomas Parrish, twin brothers; 1st Lt. Clinton Cannon and son Spc. Andrew Cannon; Spc. Jessica Capalnas and husband, Pfc. Daniel Capalnas; CW3 Chad Cookston and wife, Capt. Tijuana Cookston; Staff Sgt. Esperance Dawson and husband, Sgt. Larry Dawson; brother and sister Spc. Skiegh Ward and Pfc. Matthew Ward; brother and sister Staff Sgt. David Justice and Sgt. Patricia Justice; CW4 Rita Wilson and son, Sgt. Cory Cothron; and Staff Sgt. Amanda Lomax and husband, Sgt. Rodney Lomax.

For pictures taken during the unit's deployment, check out their Web site, www.230thsustainmentbrigade.shutterfly.com.



Commanding general discusses local unit's recent deployment

Story by: Todd South, Chattanooga Times Free Press

Maj. Gen. Kenneth Dowd commands the U.S. Army's 1st Sustainment Command. The command oversaw operations for the troop withdrawal from Iraq, which included the recently returned 230th Sustainment Brigade out of Chattanooga. The general talked with the Times Free Press by phone on Jan. 5 about the unit's recent 10-month deployment to Kuwait.

Q: Describe for readers the recent mission for the Chattanooga-based 230th Sustainment Brigade of the Tennessee Army National Guard.

A: The 230th was a brigade within an 18,000-troop theater command in the Middle East. Brigade commander, Col. Mark Hart, led the unit as they took over operations for an active duty unit. They didn't miss a beat. They did all transportation of gear and equipment coming out of that part of Iraq, supply and repair parts flowing through and ammunition transport to Afghanistan.

Q: Common perception is that over the last year combat threats for U.S. convoys are not much of an issue. Did the brigade have security concerns as some soldiers traveled between Kuwait and Iraq?

A: A couple got hit by improvised explosive devices. They are tremendous soldiers, very well trained. Some had gone across 52 times. The noncommissioned officers in this Old Hickory brigade made sure all of those convoys were properly prepped and briefed. They were very familiar and proud of what they've done for our nation.

Q: It sounds like there was a lot going on during the brigade's 10-month tour. Could you talk about important elements that keep a unit's operations running smoothly?

A: It's about leadership. And the 230th had some tremendous officers and NCOs. They understood their unit. It's also about taking time after a long convoy and sitting down with these young soldiers and talking to them. These guys were really motivated for the mission. They have a lot of pride in Tennessee.

Q: The Tennessee Army National Guard



and other Guard and reserve branches have been tasked with repeated deployments during post-9/11 military operations. As an active duty U.S. Army general how do you think these forces have performed?

A: These guys are coming trained and they've got great pride. They line up in front of me; I bring them all in as one team. I think if you treat them as respected soldiers they will get the mission done. I've got the greatest respect for the Guard. This was probably the most active sustainment brigade in this drawdown.

Q: What helps soldiers with these deployments and overseas missions?

A: I really want to thank the families of these great citizen-soldiers who let their loved ones go off for a year and stayed back their in the great state of Tennessee and I can just tell there is a great bond between a lot of these young men and women and their families. We often forget our families, we think about that guy out on point. But the families, if we get that right, and make sure they're taken care of these soldiers can do anything.

Anti-suicide app aims to help U.S. Soldiers

Story by: *Tim Ghianni*

U.S. Soldiers facing emotional problems and contemplating suicide may soon be able to use a smart phone application to connect them to help.

The Tennessee National Guard, the state's reserve military force, launched a pilot program of the "Guard Your Buddy" app that was spearheaded by Clark Flatt, president and CEO of the Jason Foundation.

Maj. Gen. Terry "Max" Haston, the Adjutant General, approached Flatt, who launched the app in October 1997 after his teenage son Jason committed suicide, about using the app for his Soldiers.

Flatt said suicides in the National Guard have risen 450 percent since 2004. He and Haston hope to spread the app nationwide in National Guard units.

"We hope Soldiers will download this smart phone application and pass it on to their fellow troops to ensure they have someone to talk to in times of trouble," Haston said. "It's difficult to predict if or when a member of our guard family will face suicidal thoughts, but we want them to be able to get help if they need it."

The National Guard Bureau's suicide prevention program shows that 362 National Guard members nationwide committed suicide since 2007, and another 23 cases are under investigation.

Haston convinced Flatt that

the Jason Foundation's goal of addressing youth suicide also applies to the National Guard.

"A lot of the people we're talking about as having these issues are young guardsmen, 18-24 years old," Flatt said. "We found a lot of problems were about relationships and finance."

Tennessee National Guard Command Sergeant Major Terry Scott, who works in family support, said substance-abuse issues are also contributing factors to suicide.

The Guard Your Buddy app has received positive reviews.

"I think it's going to assist us in a great way. We have a lot of young soldiers in the 17-25 range and that's where our highest rate of suicide is," said Scott. "Being an electronic device, it is what they are in tune with."

Flatt said the high-tech tool provides soldiers the immediacy that could save a life.

"What we came up with is a Guard Your Buddy app for your smart phone and a mobile web site that contains all the links, the places somebody can go as to how to help a friend, talk to a friend," he said.

The smart phone has a "Talk Now" button that instantly connects soldiers to "a master's-level clinician or above who can connect you to life

services."

"You don't talk to an operator," said Flatt. "The confidentiality is very high."

He said his foundation, the guard and E4, a Dallas-based national employee assistance company that provides the clinicians, worked on the program.

The app is based around a simple fact of life in the guard.


"They have a battle buddy code of honor: Take care of your buddy," said Flatt. "If you see your buddy and there are some warning signs, then use this app and get help."

Flatt said beginning January 1, all Tennessee National Guardsmen must have a card with the web site and app information on it.

"It is important to find ways to help today's troops and the Guard Your Buddy app will give them access to round-the-clock resources," said Tennessee Governor Bill Haslam.



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- TN National Guard
- Jason Foundation, Inc.
- E⁴ Health
- Your Supporters

ABOUT

Guard Your Buddy is a joint effort by the Tennessee National Guard, The Jason Foundation, Inc., and E⁴ Health to give the men, women, and families in the Tennessee National Guard constant access to critical life resources, on-demand counseling, and on-call suicide prevention.

The Guard Your Buddy project is designed to enhance the excellent resources already in place for the Tennessee National Guard.

OUR MISSION

The Guard Your Buddy program is a community driven communication/engagement platform that brings all Guard members, particularly the at-risk Guard Members, in contact with on-demand resources and support with the main goal of preventing suicide.

To learn more about each of our sponsors, please visit the following pages:

- Tennessee National Guard
- Jason Foundation, Inc.
- E⁴ Health
- Your Supporters




Anytime, anywhere access to Critical Life Resources, On-Demand Counseling and On-Call Suicide Prevention.

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www.guardyourbuddy.com

Free services to Tennessee National Guard members and their families provided by:






GUARD YOUR BUDDY

Guard Your Buddy (GYB) is a joint effort by the Tennessee National Guard, The Jason Foundation, Inc., and E⁴ Health to give the men, women, and families in the Tennessee National Guard constant access to critical life resources, on-demand counseling, and on-call suicide prevention.

The Guard Your Buddy program is a community driven communication/engagement platform that brings all Guard members, particularly the at-risk Guard members, in contact with on-demand resources and support with the main goal of preventing suicide.

The program is designed to enhance the excellent resources already in place for the Tennessee National Guard at no-cost to the Guard members and their families.

www.guardyourbuddy.com

Get Help Now

Professional help is available 24/7. Our counselors and coaches are available to help you find practical solutions for the challenges that you and your family face as part of the Tennessee National Guard community.

Call 855 HELP GYB (855.435.7492) to speak with a licensed professional. In the case of an emergency call 911.

Resources

There are many resources currently available to Guard members and their families however many don't know where to find them. Guard Your Buddy is bringing those resources together to help you and your family better access them. We encourage you to use them to decrease your stress, organize your life, and make things easier for yourself and your family.

Suicide Prevention

Guard Your Buddy helps provide tools and resources for you, a battle buddy or a family member with suicidal ideation.

For more information on warning signs, do's and don'ts, and how you can help visit us at www.guardyourbuddy.com.

Suicide is Preventable.





Pentagon adds one more chair in Joint Chiefs' 'Tank'

By Jared Serbu, Federal News Radio

Starting this week, there's another chair in the "Tank", the meeting room of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The 2012 Defense authorization bill President Obama signed on New Year's Eve makes Gen. Craig R. McKinley, the chief of the National Guard Bureau, a full member of the Joint Chiefs, despite the objections the pre-existing members of the JCS, each of whom advised lawmakers against making the change.

Before now, McKinley and his predecessors frequently attended JCS meetings, but only at the invitation of the chairman. The statutory addition of the Guard chief as a permanent member, backers argue, gives the National Guard, whose roots predate each of the active-duty military services, an overdue seat at the table in advising the nation's national security leadership.

"Obviously the members of the Joint Chiefs understand warfighting. That's what they've been raised to understand. But they're not raised to

understand domestic response," said Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Gus Hargett, president of the National Guard Association of the United States and a former adjutant general of the Tennessee National Guard.

"When we had Hurricane Irene last fall, we moved active duty military around all over the place that we never used. Every state deployed guardsmen in support of the effort. And no one ever called Gen. McKinley to ask him what the Guard was doing to keep the country from duplicating efforts," Hargett said in an interview. "There are so many important things, like equipment that the National Guard uses for response, which never get talked about at the Joint Chiefs level."

According to the new legislative provision, the role of the Guard chief in the "Tank" will be to represent the non-federal missions of the National Guard: those that aren't already being served by the respective chiefs of staff of the Army and Air

Force, the only two services with National Guard components.

"I never want to see the Army Guard and the Air Guard not be a part of the Army and Air Force," Hargett said. "But before 9/11, I never really took a good look at all the things we do that are not part of the war fight."

Hargett said his view of the Guard's role changed after the 2001 attacks and the subsequent re-shuffling of national security missions. Now, the Joint Chiefs, for example, had to not just provide military advice to the President, the National Security Council and the Secretary of Defense, but also to the Secretary of Homeland Security.

"After 9/11, we had so many guys serving as volunteers in a Title 32 status under the control of state governors. They weren't a



Gen. Craig R. McKinley, the chief of the National Guard Bureau, addresses the 131st National Guard Association of the United States General Conference in Nashville, Tenn., on Sept. 11, 2009. "The 21st century is going to be a tough one but the National Guard will be there, ready and resilient," McKinley said. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Jim Greenhill.)

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part of the Department of Defense, but they were being paid with Department of Defense money. There are so many things there where we need to have better integration between the National Guard and the Joint Chiefs.”

The addition of the Guard bureau was opposed by the then-current members at a November 2011 hearing, which members of the Senate Armed Services Committee noted as the only one they could recall in which every member of the Joint Chiefs had appeared to testify on any particular issue.

On this topic, the members were unanimous: adding the Guard bureau would be a bad idea. The Guard chief was not accountable for a budget in the same way the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines were. Also, he was not subject to the same clear line of civilian oversight as the other members of the JCS, who are each partnered with non-uniformed secretaries.

Each member went to lengths to recognize the importance of the Guard, but each argued against the idea of giving the Guard chief a seat on the JCS.

“Despite being my great friend, the Chief of the National Guard Bureau does not have commensurate responsibility, nor should we send the corrosive signal that we have two different United States Armies and two United States Air Forces,” said Adm. James Winnefeld, the vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs at the November hearing. “While the legislation may send a positive message to the terrific men and women in the Guard, I’m concerned that it will send a very negative message to the remaining 40-plus percent of our nation’s reserve component that they are somehow of lesser importance, and that future decisions could be taken at their expense. And I’ve heard that concern from members of our Title 10 reserve components whom I’ve asked.”

McKinley, the National Guard chief, said in the sole statement the Pentagon released this week following the provision’s passage, that he looked forward to working with his future colleagues.

“We are grateful for the efforts the executive and legislative bodies have gone to in placing the chief of the National Guard Bureau on the Joint



Chiefs of Staff,” McKinley said. “We look forward to working alongside the other Joint Chiefs to provide our nation’s senior leaders with a fuller picture of the non-federalized National Guard as it serves in support of homeland defense and civil support missions.”

Chief of the National Guard Bureau is a joint activity of the Department of Defense, Arlington, Va. As Chief, McKinley is the senior uniformed National Guard officer responsible for formulating, developing and coordinating all policies, programs and plans affecting more than half a million Army and Air National Guard personnel. Appointed by the President, he serves as principal adviser to the Secretary of Defense through the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on National Guard matters. He is also the principal adviser to the Secretary and Chief of Staff of the Army, and the Secretary and Chief of Staff of the Air Force on all National Guard issues. As National Guard Bureau Chief, he serves as the department’s official channel of communication with the Governors and Adjutants General.