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FOR THE RECORD

TESTIMONY OF

**MAJOR GENERAL C. MARK BOWEN
ADJUTANT GENERAL, ALABAMA NATIONAL GUARD**

BEFORE THE

**U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY'S SUBCOMMITTEE ON
MANAGEMENT INVESTIGATIONS AND OVERSIGHT**

110TH CONGRESS

ON

**“EXAMINING THE IMPACT OF EQUIPMENT SHORTAGES ON THE
NATIONAL GUARD’S READINESS FOR HOMELAND SECURITY MISSIONS”**

MAY 24TH, 2007

NOT FOR PUBLIC DISSEMINATION
UNTIL RELEASED BY
THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

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1. Have you alerted your Governor of specific equipment shortages that could hinder the ability of the AL ARNG to adequately respond to disasters.
 - We have and notified NGB of critical equipment shortages required to support three (3) TF elements. (JTF Alabama, JTF North, JTF South). Specific shortages contained in next slide.
 - Delivery of requested HMMWVs (100) to support critical shortage. 50 each delivered 22 May 07, remaining 50 ea scheduled next week.
 - Alabama has enough equipment to manage up to a CAT 4 hurricane without outside assistance.
2. How has your state National Guard's ability to respond to disasters in the state changed over the last year or so?
 - Stayed relatively the same. We had to forecast equipment loan last year just as this year. This is the first year FORSCOM has actually loaned us needed equipment.
 - This equipment loan does not satisfy the shortage of equipment for training units and mobilization of units.
 - Equipment returns from mobilization and in many cases lateral transferred to other units that are mobilizing.
 - We lateral transfer HMMWVs, weapons systems, communications systems, constantly to maintain units at appropriate equipment levels to conduct DSCA support, Training, and Mobilization of units. We are short equipment.
3. From your best estimate how would you characterize the general equipment situation in your state?
 - As stated, AL ARNG can handle equipping up to three (3) DSCA TFs.
 - This equipment level was accomplished by lateral transfer to TF units from other units and loan of critical equipment from FORSCOM during the hurricane season.
 - We are able to support DSCA requirements by loan and cross level; however we are short in training equipment and mobilization equipment.
4. Describe any specific equipping issues beyond shortages that you believe the subcommittee should know about.
 - We were fielded the Joint Incident Site Communications Center (JISC) without a vehicle to pull it. Commercial trailer requiring at least a 350 series heavy duty truck with bumper hitch. Not conducive to military vehicles.

ATTACHMENT

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**Task Force Equipment Required to Support
Hurricane Operations**

Nomenclature	Authorized	Req/ O/H	TAG Short
HMMWV	699	344/244	*100
Loader, 2.5 Cy	7	7/6	1
Fork Lift	15	15/5	**10
60 KW Gen	24	8/5	***3
5K Gal Tanker	60	20/17	3

(Req) Required task force equipment to fully equip TF elements for hurricane support.

*** Loaned to AL ARNG by FORSCOM**

**** 3 ea scheduled for new delivery by FORSCOM**

***** 2 ea scheduled for new delivery by FORSCOM**

Supplemental Information:

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TAG-AL

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