

MINUTES
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY (ACANC)
FULL COMMITTEE MEETING November 2022
8 November 2022

1. DESIGNATED FEDERAL OFFICER'S REMARKS: Ms. Renea Yates, Designated Federal Officer (DFO) for the Advisory Committee on Arlington National Cemetery (ACANC), initiated the meeting at 0800, noting that this is a virtual meeting. Present in support were MAJ Petra Papavasileiou of OAC G5, and Mr. Matthew Davis, Program Analyst and Alternate Designated Federal Officer (DFO) for the Advisory Committee on Arlington National Cemetery, Rabbi Harold Robinson (RADM, USN Ret) of the National Conference on Ministry to the Armed Forces (NCMAF), Bishop Derek Jones of NCMAF, Mr. Justin Buller, Army General Counsel, Mr. Bob Quackenbush, ANC Deputy Chief of Staff and Dr. Stephen Carney, ANC Historian. Member of the public attending virtually included: Alexander Adams, Hope Seck, Lunelle, Bob Hess, Mark Belinsky, H. Edward Phillips, Robert Chapman, NDTL, Kirk D. Lyons, John A. Kelley, Meredith, Sharon Williams, Robert Floyd, Larry Dicks, LtCol (Ret) Ed Kennedy, Rene Campos, Stephanie Whiteley, Wayde Alford, Karen Bennet, and Brian Turner.

Ms. Yates stated for the record that this virtual Committee meeting is pursuant to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) of 2012, codified in 10 U.S.C. § 7723. The Committee operates under the authority and provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972, 5 U.S.C. Appendix 2, and 41 Code of Federal Regulation 102-3.50(d). Arlington National Cemetery is the agency that receives the benefit of the Committee's advice and recommendations. ANC provides the Designated Federal Officer, nominated by the Executive Director and appointed by the Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of the Army. ANC also provides all administrative support to the committee.

The DFO stated that the meeting was open to the public, and that attending members of the public were not allowed to present questions from the floor or speak to any issue under discussion by the Committee, without prior approval of the Committee chairperson, Mr. James Peake. It was noted that any member of the public was eligible to file a written statement or request to make a verbal presentation in accordance with the published Federal Register notice, a copy of which can be found on the ANC website at www.arlingtoncemetery.mil. Ms. Yates highlighted that committee members were provided the public comments received as a result of the Federal Register Notice and also announced that the proceedings were being digitally recorded, and that a written summary of the meeting will be prepared and made available to the public on the ANC website.

All guests were asked to ensure that their cameras were inactive, and their microphones muted. The proceedings were being digitally recorded, and a summary in written form will be available to the public on the ANC website. Any disruption or disturbance to the Committee may result in removal.

The Committee was called to order at 0802.

2. ROLL CALL: Ms. Yates reported a quorum for the record, with the following members in attendance:

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Secretary of the Army nominees: Mr. James Peake (Chair), Mr. Chet Edwards (Co-Chair), Mr. Thomas Kelley, Mr. Mark Farley, Ms. Ann Harrell (Virtual Attendance),
Secretary of the American Battle Monuments Nominee: Mr. Gerald Torrence

Secretary of Veterans Affairs nominee: Mrs. Rosemary Freitas Williams.

Not in attendance were Ms. Ann Rondeau and Mr. Gene Castagnetti.

3. COMMITTEE CHAIR OPENING REMARKS. Mr. Peake welcomed members back for Day 2 and acknowledged that it was nice to have the Committee reconstituted to continue its work in maintaining the iconic nature of Arlington National Cemetery. Mr. Peake acknowledged the full agenda for the Committee and stated that a number of items on the agenda are for “information only” for the ACANC, including the DoD Naming Commission actions and recommendation concerning the Confederate Memorial. Mr. Peake stated that because the briefing was for information only, the Committee would not be taking verbal statements or comments from the public during the meeting but may consider this during a later ACANC meeting.

The Committee Co-Chair, Mr. Edwards, thanked the staff for everything that they have accomplished during COVID and acknowledged the incredible work thus far on Southern Expansion.

4. ACANC COMMITTEE BRIEFS:

A. **Markers, Memorials and Monuments at ANC.** The first brief received by the ACANC for consideration today was a topic that was previously considered by the ACANC, Proposed Changes and Revisions to the Monuments located on Chaplains Hill by The National Conference on Ministry to the Armed Forces (NCMAF). Prior to NCMAFs presentation, Ms Yates presented a short slideshow to give the ACANC context on what is presently at ANC and to outline the differences between Markers, Memorials and Monuments at ANC. Ms Yates went on to inform the Committee that everything on ANC could be classified into different categories. She went on to explain that Markers identify the location of remains (i.e., Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, Space Shuttle Challenger Memorial, President John F. Kennedy gravesite), Memorial Markers (“In Memory Of”) identify events where no remains were recovered (i.e., Beirut Barracks Memorial, Coast Guard Memorial, Iran Rescue Mission Memorial), and Memorials indicate remains from which they represent are nearby (i.e., Argonne Cross, Chaplains Hill and Monuments, Confederate Memorial), and traditional monuments are present with no associated remains (i.e., 3rd Infantry Division, 4th Infantry Division, 101st Infantry Division).

Ms Yates went on to show several different types of Markers present at ANC, including various private markers (no longer authorized at ANC), Niche markers, and several variations of government provided upright markers, depending on the era from which they were attributed. Ms Yates then described individual Memorial Markers (also referred to as Cenotaphs), and the

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requirements outlined in federal statute to receive an individual Memorial Marker. She also noted that Individual Memorial Markers are placed within ANC at locations that are not suitable to bury remains.

Ms Yates discussed the Commemorative Tree Monuments in place at Arlington National Cemetery, with over 200 currently present. In 2021 ANC set maximum dimensions, to allow these monuments to be relocated to another location within ANC if required.

B. Commemorative Works Process at ANC: Chaplains Hill. MAJ Papavasileiou briefed the Committee on the Commemorative Works Process Flow and the requirements outlined in 38 US Code Section 2409. Mr. Peake noted that the Remember and Explore Subcommittee normally reviews any requests for commemorative works prior to arriving at the Full ACANC for consideration. MAJ Papavasileiou noted the required information must include: 1. A clear articulation of the purpose of the monument; 2. A copy of the independent study required by law; 3. A copy of the architectural drawing; 4. Verification that the placement date is no less than 25 years following the last day of the service commemorated or a request for waiver to the Secretary of the Army; 4. Indication that the construction, placement and all supporting activities for the installation sustainment of the monument will be funded in perpetuity from the sponsoring organization.

Mrs. Williams asked if there were any restrictions to the fund raising for the monument, ie. Vetted through ethics, etc. Ms Yates responded that as long as the funds were sourced from the private organization, that is all that is required.

MAJ Papavasileiou proceeded to identify the revisions that NCMAF has requested for the Protestant Chaplains Monument. This included replacing the current cement and sand backed monument with a more durable granite, removing the original dedication plaque from the front of the monument and placing it on the back of the monument, and emplacing a new plaque to the front bottom of the monument containing 27 additional chaplain names. It was noted that not all of the new names to be added meet the 25-year clause in 38 USC 2409, so a waiver for the Secretary of the Army is included with the request packet. At this point Ms Williams asked if there has been a precedent for a waiver request, and the DFO noted that since this rule has been in place (2012 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)), there has not been a waiver request to the Secretary of the Army related to the 25-year requirement. Mr. Peake asked if there were any other monuments near the fallen, that have a list of names on the monument that would need to be updated in the future. The DFO stated that there were no other monuments of this type on ANC grounds that have individual names. Mr. Peake then asked what the criteria was to have names added to the Protestant Chaplains Monument. The DFO replied that the names were of Chaplains that have passed while on active-duty service.

At this time, a discussion amongst the Committee Members ensued, with Mr. Farley asking if the 25-year waiver was a blanket waiver, and would it apply in three years if another Chaplain were to pass and the monument required updating again. In this case, the waiver was only for the names submitted in this packet, and a subsequent waiver would need to be used for future

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revisions. Also, Mr. Edwards asked about the Congressional intent on the 25-year requirement, and the DFO noted that Congress put in place this requirement to allow for the test of time of the individual being memorialized.

MAJ Papavasileiou then described the revisions that NCMAF had requested for the Catholic Chaplains Memorial, which included the addition of a bronze plaque below the existing plaque, with two additional names to be added (that do not meet the 25-year requirement), along with the waiver request to the Secretary of the Army.

C. NCMAF Proposal: Chaplains Hill. Prior to the NCMAF presentation, Mr. Peake asked for perspective on the 4 monuments located on Chaplains Hill. Mr. Davis then brought up the ANC website and showed the four monuments. The DFO then relayed that the 1st monument was dedicated on May 5, 1926 and dedicated to the 23 Chaplains who died in World War I. The 2nd monument was dedicated on October 26, 1981, to the 134 Protestant Chaplains who lost their lives in World War I and World War II. The third monument was dedicated on May 21, 1989, to the 83 Catholic Chaplains that died in World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War, and the 4th monument was dedicated on 24 October, 2011 to 14 Jewish chaplains who died on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces. Ms Yates noted that the first three monuments were dedicated to Chaplains who died during armed conflict, while the Jewish Chaplains Monument was to a broader subset, those who died on active duty and not necessarily during combat operations.

RADM Robinson clarified that not all of the Chaplains listed on the current Protestant and Catholic Chaplains monuments had deaths that were combat related. Additionally, RADM Robinson wanted to acknowledge the diverse nature of the presenters (Rabbi and Bishop) along with other members of NCMAF. This diversity is also represented on Chaplains Hill for the nation to observe and is a symbol of American patriotism and unity. Rabbi Robinson stated that their proposal celebrates Chaplains, demonstrates the unique inter-faith cooperation of America's military chaplains and represents the uniquely American inter-faith cooperation which exist within both governmental and civilian segments of society. Rabbi Robinson then relayed that Chaplains' Hill needs updating and that the four memorials commemorate the lives of Chaplains who died serving our Nation, and at the 2012 Jewish Chaplain's dedication, it was revealed that the other memorials were not current. This included the Protestant Memorial which has not been updated since WWII, the concrete does not match the other memorials, and is deteriorating. Rabbi Robinson also noted that much of the discussion around 38 USC 2409 revolved around new monuments and the intent to preserve burial space at ANC. The Rabbi affirmed that this is not a new monument, and no additional space is required to make these revisions.

Bishop Jones then reiterated that Rabbi Robinson's comment, that their request is not for a new monument and therefore questioned if a waiver was necessary. Bishop Jones noted that 38 USC 2409 was in the 2012 NDAA, and since then Public Law 117-81 was mandated in 2022 and was a "stand alone" law to update the memorials, with legislative intent to authorize the Secretary of the Army to take necessary and prudent actions to ensure the monuments are updated. Bishop Jones then stated that NCMAF has taken the necessary actions to research the 38 USC 2409 and

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contacted one of the drafters of the mandate. Bishop Jones states, and provided an affidavit from the drafter, which stated that 38 USC 2409 was enacted as a result of the Joint Resolution required for the placement of the Jewish Chaplains Monument in order to not have to repeat the process in the future for monuments on Chaplains Hill, and to protect ANC from other groups that wish to have monuments with names listed. Bishop Jones then relayed, in response to updating the memorial in perpetuity, that NCMAFs plan is to update the monuments, as necessary, in 25-year increments.

Ms. Williams, with seeming reservations about the justification for waiver of the 25-year requirement outlined in 38 USC 2409, questioned Rabbi Robinson and Bishop Jones on the urgency of placing the names on the monument that do not meet the 25-year guideline. Rabbi Robinson responded that upon conferring with the legislative author of 38 USC 2409, this 25-year requirement was intended to be used for cataclysmic events that would be memorialized upon the test of time, and NCMAF wishes to update the monuments with names, not events. Additionally, Rabbi Robinson offered that the process so far to update the Monuments has taken 11 years thus far. Bishop Jones then asked for a back-up slide to be presented to further illustrate Rabbi Robinson's response. This slide highlighted the much talked about affidavit created by William Collins, an original drafter of 38 USC 2409. It included that 38 USC 2409 was created as a result of the challenges in placing the Jewish Chaplains Monument, which required a high degree of legislative energy. This mandate was also to delegate authority to the Secretary of the Army, therefore creating less work for Congress, and that the 25-year rule was intended for NEW monuments. One bullet point on this slide stood out to Mr. Edwards (Allow time to ensure fitness of individuals to be named on a monument), and Mr. Edwards inquired how many names were NCMAF requesting to be added, that did not meet the 25-year requirement. After much discussion, it was determined that there were 9 names to be added that did not meet the requirement. Mrs. Williams followed up to the Chairman that the 25-year requirement acted as an insurance policy for the legacy of the individual listed on the monument.

Rabbi Robinson then displayed the Affidavit from William Collins, former staff counsel for the House Committee on Veterans Affairs and drafter of 38 USC 2409. The Affidavit read:
“Congress established 38 USC §2409 as a direct result of the challenges faced in establishing and placing the Jewish Chaplains monument on Chaplains’ Hill in 2011. Arlington National Cemetery’s resistance to the placement of this monument and insistence on a joint resolution of Congress, even after both House and Senate intentionally passed identical legislation directing the placement of that monument, exhausted a lot of legislative energy. The Veterans Affairs Committees saw the matter as one that should not have required such a large expenditure of legislative effort. The purpose behind 38 US §2409 was to delegate such decisions in the future to the Secretary of the Army while retaining the authority to review and override such decision if necessary. The 25-year requirement was intended for new monuments. The idea behind it was to ensure before a new monument was placed by the Secretary of the Army that desire for such a monument had an enduring quality and mandate and was not just some short-lived popular sentiment. It was also intended to help ensure anyone who might be honored by such a monument was deserving of it and had no prior or subsequent conduct that might lessen their fitness to be honored in such a way. There was nothing magical about the number 25 which is

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why the Secretary was granted the ability to waive it in deserving cases. Because the monuments on Chaplains' Hill already existed and had been authorized by Congress, The Veterans' Affairs Committees never envisioned the 25-year rule being applied to simple updates to the names on those existing monuments."

At this point, Mr. Buller relayed to the ACANC that there is indeed a triggering event for names to be listed on the monument, the actual death of Chaplains while on active duty. He also stated that when the plain language of the statute is read, there is a 25-year requirement, regardless of the intent of the mandate when written. He also affirmed that the Secretary of the Army has the authority to waive that requirement, and instead of arguing whether or not a waiver is required (based on the intent of 38 USC 2409), it is appropriate to submit the waiver and let the Secretary of the Army decide on approval. Rabbi Robinson agreed and asked the ACANC, as advisors to the Secretary, to make a recommendation to approve the waiver request.

Additionally, Rabbi Robison said that special effort had gone into vetting Chaplains who have died on active duty, and as a result of this vetting, only 6 Chaplains made the list. Bishop Jones clarified that not all Chaplains who died on active duty passed the vetting process. At this point Mr. Edwards asked who the vetting agencies were? Rabbi Robinson responded that each service Chief of Chaplains (Army, Navy and Air Force) vetted the names, as well as individual sponsoring agencies for each faith. Mr. Edwards asked if ANC was aware of this vetting and if ANC was aware of who was excluded, with caution noting that if the ACANC recommended approval of those vetted names, they were then also endorsing the vetting agencies exclusions. Ms Yates responded that ANC was not aware of the vetting or of those excluded or the reason for exclusion. A vibrant discussion amongst the Committee members on who should be honored, when they should be honored, who is excluded and who makes the exclusion continued. Mr. Farley asked where the first Imam who dies on active duty should be honored since there is not presently a monument for that faith on Chaplains' Hill. He also asked if all of the names to be honored met the eligibility requirements to be interred at ANC. Rabbi Robinson replied that all of the names that are requested to be added did in fact meet the eligibility requirements for interment and clarified that those excluded from the list of Chaplains to be added, were excluded by an endorser. He further clarified that if an endorser removes an endorsement, that person then ceases being a Chaplain. Rabbi Robinson also offered that NCMAF is troubled with the issue of how to honor other faith groups, and that they have had internal discussions of a proposed new monument that would honor Chaplains of all faith groups, but that this proposal had perished due to the fact that no new ground space was available on Chaplains' Hill for such a memorial. Mr. Farley asked if there was ever consideration by NCMAF to consolidate the 4 monuments on Chaplains' Hill. Rabbi Robinson responded that they had considered this, but due to mitigation required by ANC's status as a Historic District, NCMAF thought that this was outside of their ability. Bishop Jones and Rabbi Robinson then thanked the ACANC for their time and reiterated the desire and need to update the Chaplains' Hill Monuments to include all Chaplains who have died on active duty.

A Committee discussion followed the NCMAF presentation with all Committee members agreeing on the upgrade of material (concrete to granite) was prudent and necessary but had

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concerns about the vetting process and 25-year requirement. Mr. Kelley offered that he thought that the vetting process should be left to the sponsoring agencies, and Mrs. Williams reflected that the 25-year requirement is the vetting process. Mr. Edwards responded to Mr. Kelley reference the vetting process, and stated that if ANC is not involved in the vetting process, then it is likened to delegating authority to an outside agency to determine who is honored at ANC. Mr. Buller offered that there is concern to go forward with this action using the vetting process described by NCMAF, as there is no federal rule that articulates why an individual is or is not included. He clarified that every person buried at ANC is vetted and must meet certain standards listed in federal rules. Furthermore, Mr. Buller acknowledged that ANC, nor the Committee were aware that there were exclusions to the list of Chaplains who died on active-duty service until NCMAF offered this knowledge during their proposal. In light of this revelation, Mr. Buller offered that the US Government could be in legal jeopardy if an individual is excluded for a reason unknown by ANC. Ms. Yates offered that each individual on the list should have a DD Form 1300 (Report of Casualty) and could be used in the vetting process. Lively conversation followed amongst the Committee members about concerns of the vetting process and hypothetical situations involving including names of individuals that may be later found to have committed felonious criminal acts. Additionally, Mr. Farley asked if Chaplains were memorialized at any other location as well as discussing if precedent is set, or if this action is setting precedent for updating these monuments in perpetuity. Ms Yates informed the Committee that there is a monument at the US Army Chaplains School, there is a Chaplains Corps Memorial that lists every name of every U.S. Army Chaplain that has died in every conflict since the Mexican American War, including some of the names proposed to be added to the Protestant Chaplains Memorial. Mr. Farley then asked if there are similar memorials for the Navy and Air Force Chaplains Corps. The Committee could not come to a consensus recommendation on the NCMAF proposal and agreed to send this back to the Remember and Explore Subcommittee for further discussion. The Committee requested transparency on the full list of those Chaplains who died on active duty (to include those who were excluded) and requested additional information on already existing monuments that honor Chaplains from each Service.

D. Commemorative Works: WIMSA Renaming Proposal. Mr. Robert Quackenbush discussed the requested name change from Women in Military Service for America (WIMSA) memorial to the Military Women's Memorial (MWM). He stated that in December 2019, property along Memorial Avenue was transferred from the Department of Interior (National Park Service) to the Department of the Army and Arlington National Cemetery. This included the formerly named WIMSA Memorial. From December 2019 to June 2021, a Memorandum of Understanding was formed between ANC and the WIMSA Foundation that covered operating and maintenance costs among other things. It was established that WIMSA is responsible for their own operating costs and utilities, while the Army is responsible for perpetual care of the memorial itself, to include the fountain. The foundation decided to rename themselves during this time to the Military Women's Memorial Foundation and asked to rename the memorial as such. After a thorough legal review, the Office of General Counsel determined that there was no prohibition in approving this renaming. Army National Military Cemeteries is currently updating temporary signage to reflect this name change and working with MWM on a permanent sign design to be in accordance with the Section 106 process. Mr. Quackenbush requested the

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ACANC recommend concurring with this name change in a report to the Secretary of the Army, codifying the change. Mr. Peake asked for any objections to the renaming of the Women in Military Service to America (WIMSA) memorial to the Military Women's Memorial (MWM), and none were heard.

E. DOD NAMING COMMISSION ACTIONS. The DFO introduced MAJ Papavasileiou, ANC G5 to discuss the DoD Naming Commission actions and recommendations regarding the Confederate Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery. MAJ Papavasileiou began by reading the mission of the DoD Naming Commission, which was "A Congressional Commission providing naming, renaming, and removal recommendations to Congress for all Department of Defense items that commemorate the Confederate States of America or any person who served voluntarily with the Confederate States of America." She then stated that the DoD Naming Commission published all three parts of their recommendations, and they can be found at www.namingcommission.gov. MAJ Papavasileiou then informed the ACANC that the Department of the Army conducted a study that informed the DoD Naming Commission on a full host of options ranging from leaving the memorial in place and contextualizing it, to deconstructing and removal. She explained that ultimately the Commissioners decided that contextualization was not an appropriate measure. MAJ Papavasileiou then displayed the DoD Naming Commission recommendation, which can be found in Part III of the DoD Naming Commission report to Congress. This recommendation listed:

- The statue atop of the monument should be removed. All bronze elements on the monument should be deconstructed, and removed, preferably leaving the granite base and foundation in place to minimize risk of inadvertent disturbance of graves.
- The work should be planned and coordinated with the Commission of Fine Arts and the Historical Review Commission to determine the best way to proceed with removal of the monument.
- The Department of the Army should consider the most cost-effective method of removal and disposal of the monument's elements in their planning.
- The Commission recommends the Secretary of Defense authorize all Defense entities and organizations rename Defense assets under their control that commemorates the Confederacy or individuals who voluntarily served with the Confederacy. This includes all assets identified on the Defense inventory list to include buildings, streets, and digital assets.
 - Roads on ANC bearing the names Lee and Jackson fall under this recommendation.

MAJ Papavasileiou informed the ACANC that ANC would follow the Section 106 process and would encourage public comment during that process. She also informed the members and the public audience that a Federal Register Notice would be forthcoming to announce when and how to provide public comments. Mr. Peake asked the Commission of Fine Arts and Historical Review Commission had public processes. MAJ Papavasileiou confirmed this and stated that this is a very important part as the Department of the Army wants to hear from not only the consulting parties, but all members of the public. Ms Yates confirmed that, as part of the Section

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106 process, the Commission of Fine Arts will be one of the consulting parties and will seek to solicit public comment, which will be received and collected by Arlington National Cemetery related to the removal of the memorial. Mrs. Williams then asked what expertise the Commission of Fine Arts and Historical Review Commission provide. Ms Yates responded that since the DoD Naming Commission did not recommend disposition of the monument, the Department of the Army will inform the Commission of Fine Arts and Historical Review Commission of plans for dismantling and potential storage and permit these organizations to assist in mitigating the adverse effect on ANC's status as an Historic District. Ms Harrell then asked what the intent of the Army is after the monument is dismantled. Ms Yates responded that the Section 106 process will assist the Department in finalizing disposition, to include potential storage or destruction. Ms Yates also informed the ACANC that the Secretary of Defense directed implementation of the DoD Naming Commission recommendations as they were written.

Dr. Carney, ANC Historian, then proceeded to inform the ACANC on the background of the Confederate Memorial, why it is emplaced at ANC currently, the elements of the Monument that the DoD Naming Commission examined and found problematic, and finally the long-term interpretive efforts that ANC has planned for the Confederate Memorial. Dr. Carney reiterated that because ANC is a Historic District under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and the fact that the Confederate Memorial is a contributing element to the ANC Historic District, any decision to remove it must comply with the NHPA Section 106 process. Dr. Carney continued to explain the context of why there is a Confederate Memorial at ANC. He explained that coming out of the 19th century, the way burials were conducted at ANC, was that new sections of the cemetery were established and all of the burials from a certain event or conflict were conducted in this new section. Examples of this process included: in 1899 what is now Section 24 became where all of the dead from the USS Maine explosion in Havana Harbor were buried. He expounded that a few years later, what is now Section 22 was established where all of the repatriated remains of Spanish-American war servicemembers who perished overseas were buried, and the same for Spanish-American War nurses in, what is today, Section 21. Dr. Carney explained that in each of the new sections, a memorial was placed in honor of those buried. By example, the original memorial of the USS Maine was an anchor of a Maine Class ship along with two howitzers, and years later the actual Mast of the Maine was emplaced in that area. Dr. Carney explained that during that same time period, Congress authorized what is Section 16 today, an area of the cemetery dedicated to Confederate remains. Dr. Carney then went on to inform the ACANC that in 1906, a request from the United Daughters of the Confederacy (UDC) for a Confederate Memorial was approved by then Secretary of War William H. Taft for emplacement in Section 16.

Dr. Carney displayed a graphic that provided the ACANC with the location of the Confederate Memorial on ANC grounds, and dimensions of each part of the monument, to include the Bronze Statue, Pedestal and Plinth; the Circular Bronze Frieze and Plinth; the Octagonal Bronze Base, The Rectangular Granite Plinth, the Square Granite Base, and the Foundation Base Underground. Additional information provided by Dr. Carney included the designer (Moses Ezekiel), the Maker (Atkien-Gesellschaft Gladenbeck from Berlin-Friedrichshagen, Germany) and the date

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the cornerstone for the base was laid (1912) and finished monument dedicated in 1914. Ms. Harrell asked a question on what was to remain after the DoD Naming Commission recommendations were implemented, and was told that only the Rectangular Granite Plinth, the Square Granite Base, and the Foundation Base Underground. Ms Harrell followed up by asking if the monument could be returned to the UDC as an option for disposition and was told by the DFO that it was an option that could be pursued.

Dr. Carney continued to inform the ACANC on what criteria was looked at by the DoD Naming Commission and what elements could be considered divisive. Dr. Carney relayed that on one of the bronze plinths there is a Latin phrase that translates to “The Victorious Cause was Pleasing to the Gods, but the Lost Cause to Cato.” He translated this further by stating that it reads, “The United States cause of ending the rebellion, was pleasing to the Gods, but the Lost Cause, or the Confederate States of America cause was pleasing to Cato. He noted that Cato was a Roman Senator known for his moral compass. At this point Mr. Edwards asked if we knew what the United Daughters of the Confederacy’s definition for the “Lost Cause” was, and asked if it was denying that slavery was the reason for the Civil War or what was their definition? Dr. Carney responded by saying that is a complex question to answer and one that will certainly be highlighted during the public comment and feedback period, but that it is not simply what the cause of the Civil War was, be it slavery or States Rights, but more that their cause was moral and just. Dr. Carney continued to show the ACANC images of the Confederate Memorial and highlighted some of Moses Ezekiel’s attempt to depict the southern states as agrarian as they moved forward. An example displayed was a part of the circular section that read “AND-THEY-SHALL-BEAT-THEIR-SWORDS-INTO-PLOW-SHARES-AND-THEIR-SPEARS-INTO-PRUNING-HOOKS.” Dr.Carney then discussed what may be considered the most divisive parts of the Confederate Memorial and displayed photos of the sculptural elements, which depicted an uniformed African-American following his presumed owner off to war, and another depicting an African-American caretaker caring for her presumed owner’s children as he goes off to war.

Dr. Carney then transitioned into the interpretive efforts that the ANC History Office has been involved in with the Confederate Memorial. He discussed that since 2017, the Confederate Memorial / Section 16 was considered a high-priority project for the ANC Interpretation Program. It was included as part of the story of Freedman’s Village and part of the Interpretive Master Plan for the Cemetery. He discussed how the ANC webpage for the Confederate Memorial was updated in 2019, and they released the African American History at ANC Education Module in 2020. This more prominently interprets African American History at ANC and contextualizes ANC’s Civil War History. Dr. Carney then explained the four-step plan developed as part of interpretive signage. The first part is graphic branding/ structural design to national shrine standard, the second part is Research/Development and Planning to include the Section 106 review. The third part is stakeholder engagement, to include public comment and the fourth and final part is design, manufacture and installation of the interpretive signage. Mr. Peake asked who had final authority on approval of the interpretive signage. Ms Yates relayed that the Secretary of the Army has the final authority. Additionally, Ms. Yates stated that the Secretary of Defense has accepted the DoD Naming Commission recommendations to remove the Confederate Memorial. Mr. Torrence stated questioningly “That’s a done deal?” Ms. Yates

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said that the Department of the Army is executing the directive of the Secretary of Defense. Ms. Williams then stated, “Now it’s just the how.” Mr. Torrence then asked if this Committee (the ACANC) had any chance to offer a differing opinion? Ms Yates informed him that this Committee (ACANC) has the opportunity to send reports to the Secretary of the Army which will be seen at Senior Levels within the Department and then the report would be sent to the Defense and Veterans Affairs Committees at Congress. Mr. Torrence then stated that for the record, he is against removing any history at all, and thought that it was a disservice to our nation. He went on to state that looking at historical events through a 21st century lens gives an inaccurate and unfair perspective of what fully happened. Mr. Torrence stated that doing so does not allow a person to fully appreciate that America, more than any other nation in the world, has spent more of its resources in correcting its moral compass, and removing these types of memorials does not provide comparison and is a disservice to our history. Mr. Torrence stated again that he is against removal of any monument or memorial, and that we must tell the entire story of our nation, to include the good, the bad and the ugly, in order for us to correct our moral compass. Ms Harrell stated that she fully agrees with Mr. Torrence’s statement, but that decision was taken away from the ACANC by the Naming Commission. Ms Yates informed the ACANC that ANC staff conducted several briefings to the DoD Naming Commission on ANC’s plans for interpretation. Mr. Farley then added that it is important for the ACANC to have the ability to influence the disposition of the Confederate Memorial, so the removal decision is not irreversible. Mrs. Williams thanked Mr. Torrence for his comments and stated that to truly learn about something in this country, you need to have the un-sanitized version, and asked if there was an opportunity to have an image of the Confederate Memorial and to interpret it to preserve history. Dr. Carney responded that there is potential to do just that, with potentially a semi-transparent panel with an image of the Confederate Memorial as it stands today. He noted that there are challenges to this based on topography and accessibility. Ms. Williams then asked if there was any formal communication with the Department of Veterans Affairs about similar topics, and Ms Yates acknowledged that there is a Cemetery Joint Working Group that includes Army National Military Cemeteries, the National Cemeteries Administration, the American Battle Monuments Commission and the National Park Service. Ms. Harrell then asked if there was any discussion about removing graves. Ms Yates relayed that any discussion of removing graves was off the table and that remains would stay in place. Ms Harrell then asked if the Department has any storage capability that could hold the monument. Ms Yates relayed that the idea is to remove the Memorial in pieces and stored for future disposition. Ms Harrell then asked if there was any discussion regarding Arlington House. Ms Yates responded that the Arlington House is part of the National Park Service and was not in the DoD Naming Commission Charter.

Dr. Carney then continued with a description of ANC plans for interpretive signage that allow ANC to interpret not only the history of Section 16, but American History overall. Additionally, Dr. Carney explained plans for the interpretation of Freedman’s Village and the Syphax family property (formerly enslaved family at the Arlington Estate) as part of the Southern Expansion Memorandum of Agreement. Upon conclusion of Dr. Carney’s presentation, Ms Yates noted that because of the ACANC Federal Register Notice announcing this meeting, ANC received almost 300 written comments relating to the Confederate Memorial, and several members of the public requested to speak to the ACANC regarding the DoD Naming Commission’s

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recommendation. She stated that all written submissions had been provided to the Committee and will be appended to the minutes of the meeting and will be available to the public on the ANC website. Ms Yates then informed the Committee Chair that there are members asking to speak to the Committee. Mr. Peake stated that he was aware that there were more than a dozen asking to speak, and further stated that as he mentioned yesterday, this was an information briefing to the newly reconstituted ACANC. He continued by saying that the ACANC would continue to keep abreast of this process in the future, but today would not entertain discussion on this topic from members of the public. Mr. Peake then expressed appreciation for all of the input that has been received and provided to the ACANC members. The Committee agreed that, given the complexity of issues that this topic be referred to the Remember and Explore Subcommittee for further discussion, public oral comment, and for recommendations back to the full committee. The DFO then recommended an administrative break for lunch and to readjourn at 1300.

F. ANC ROAD NAMING: Upon return from lunch, Ms. Yates provided the ACANC a brief overview of the roads to be named for use in the Southern Expansion project. A slide was displayed that provided a graphic overlay of Southern Expansion and detailed six roadways that would need to be named. Ms Yates also displayed a slide with current areas of ANC that had roadways named after Confederate Soldiers (Lee Drive and Jackson Circle). She explained to the Committee that in accordance with the DoD Naming Commission recommendations and the subsequent Secretary of Defense implementation guidance, these roadways would have to be renamed. Ms Yates continued by providing the ACANC the process that would be used to name/rename these roadways. She stated that ANC currently had 9 names that are already vetted for use, and that these names were vetted during the road naming of the Millennium expansion but were not used. She advised the ACANC that a similar submission process would be used for the Southern Expansion Road naming, which was for the Joint Force to provide names of individuals to be honored in such a way. These names would then go through the Honor Subcommittee for a recommendation to the ACANC and then to the Secretary of the Army for approval.

G. EDUCATION AND INTERPRETATION UPDATE. Dr. Carney next provided the ACANC a brief overview of the education and interpretation program at ANC. He displayed a list of microsites available on the ANC website (education.arlingtoncemetery.mil) and noted that there were 10 education modules currently online that provided teachers across the United States valuable curriculum that could be used in classrooms. Additionally, Dr. Carney stated that these materials could be used by teachers of children of all ages. The education program modules currently online include African American History; Explorers: Earth, Air & Space; Understanding Arlington; The Environment at ANC; Memorial Arboretum; Tomb of the Unknown Soldier; The Spanish American War; World War II; Military Technology; and Tours: Service Branches. Dr. Carney noted that this information had been downloaded over 5k times since April of 2022 and that soon to be added modules included Medal of Honor; Military Intelligence (STEM Focused), the Cold War and Women's History. Finally, Dr. Carney revealed that over 900 teachers had received Continuing Education Units or Credits using the ANC educational materials. Dr. Carney then went on to describe the various Interpretation

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Program efforts at ANC, to include the various webinars, lectures and blogs; the physical interpretation plan; and the events surrounding the recent Tomb of the Unknown Centennial program. He also discussed the “Century of Honor”, a commemorative guide to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier which is available for download to members of the public.

H. TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES – ANC APPLICATIONS. Mr. Geary was introduced from the Office of the Chief Information Officer to inform the ACANC of technology upgrades introduced at ANC since the ACANC last convened. His first topic of conversation was the Enterprise Interment Service System (EISS) and provided a timeline of implementation from the 2020 when the Cloud Infrastructure was developed, through the user testing phase, deployment to the AWS IL5 Cloud and recent Army Post Cemetery Migration to EISS in August and DOD Cemetery Migration on 6 November. Ms Yates stated that this tool is now the standard tool for Interment Services throughout the Joint Force and the independent Legacy Research tools would be shut down on December 31, 2022. Mr. Geary then displayed various screenshots of the EISS user screens for the ACANC to view. Mr. Geary then went on to describe other technology upgrades that ANC has improved, including Mapper, a system used by both interment operations and interment services, and ANC Explorer, a similar system used by visitors to ANC. Mr. Geary relayed the timeline of development of each system over that last 2 years, culminating in the Mapper User interface Refresh version 5.0 to be released on November 11, 2022. Finally, Mr. Geary discussed upgrades to the ANC website, highlighting a new Cemetery Locator Tool that can be used to identify the closest cemetery (Army, State, National (VA) and/or DOD Cemetery) through an interactive map. He explained that this tool would also inform the user if the cemetery is open or closed to future interments. This was well received by the Committee who lauded ANC efforts.

I. Wait Times / Processing Times at ANC. Mr. Neal McIntyre, Director of Interments at ANC was then introduced to discuss the final briefing of the day to the ACANC. Wait times and burial request processing times at ANC. Mr. McIntyre began his briefing by displaying a slide that listed the process of requesting and scheduling a funeral at ANC. He stated that the ANC process has three phases (Pre-scheduling, Scheduling, and Funeral Service), but noted the families see this as one long process. He discussed the pre-scheduling process in detail, highlighting informing the requesting families of required documentation and eligibility determination once the documents have been received. He stated that once the eligibility determination has been made, then there is a period of time for the family to schedule the service based on the level of honors determined and requested, and, finally, the service where the Veteran or eligible dependent is laid to rest. Mr. McIntyre then provided an overview of ANC's capacity to conduct services, highlighting the current capacity of 24-27 services conducted every day Monday-Friday. Mr. McIntyre discussed current eligibility criteria for interment at ANC, and that scheduling prioritization flows from Active Duty KIAs as the first priority, then Active-Duty Deaths other than KIA, followed by casketed and cremated remains. He noted that there is an ever-increasing demand for services and that the number of new requests exceed the number of services conducted daily, so there will always remain a wait time until the demand is reduced. Mr. McIntyre then showed a graphic that allowed the ACANC to visualize the number of resources required for the various level of Military Funeral Honors at ANC, from the minimum

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of 2 Servicemembers to excess of 103 for Full Military Funeral Honors with Escort. Mr. McIntyre highlighted various other scheduling limitations including other Service requirements, such as the US Navy averaging 20 blocked times per month for other National Capitol Region obligations, and the US Air Force blocking services on Tuesdays for other commitments. Additionally, he stated that they have had a 30% turn over in staff within the last year, so training is involved to keep the scheduling rate at its peak. Mr. McIntyre concluded his update by sharing that customer reviews of their performance indicated a 94% satisfaction rate, but they strived to increase that percentage. He shared some focus areas for improvement which included increased prescheduling communication and consistent responses to requests for information. Mr. McIntyre stated that he intends to improve the prescheduling experience by increased efficiency in eligibility determinations, providing interim communication to the primary next of kin during periods of eligibility determination and/or scheduling and providing a warm handoff of phone calls between the Call Center who initially receives the request and Interment Services. The Committee was satisfied with the update and thanked Mr. McIntyre for his service.

5. MEETING ADJOURNED

Mr. Peake asked if any members had other business for the Committee, or any final comments. Hearing none, he asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made, seconded and passed. Mr. Peake thanked members for all of their hard work.

The meeting adjourned at 1434.



James Peake
Co-Chairman



Thomas C. Edwards
Co-Chairman