

STATE VETERANS COMMISSION MEETING

THANK YOU, CHAIRMAN GOLDEN, ADJUTANT
GENERAL LYNCH, GENERAL HENGEVELD ... AND
TO ALL THE MEMBERS AND FAITHFUL GUESTS
OF THE STATE VETERANS COMMISSION ... FOR
ALLOWING ME TO PARTAKE IN YOUR MONTHLY
MEETING.

I WOULD FURTHER LIKE TO THANK YOU FOR
ALL THE GOOD WORK THAT YOU AS A BODY
HAVE DONE FOR VETERANS AND THEIR
FAMILIES LAST SESSION ... AND I LOOK
FORWARD TO WORKING SHOULDER TO
SHOULDER WITH ALL OF YOU IN THIS NEW
LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

THE HOUSE VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY
PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE HAS REFORMED,
AND HAS BEEN GRACED WITH THE
ESTABLISHMENT OF TWO (2) SUBCOMMITTEES,
WHICH WILL ALLOW FOR MORE IN-DEPTH STUDIES
ON VETERANS ISSUES/PROGRAMS ... AS WELL AS
THE NEVER-ENDING TASK OF ENSURING THAT
PENNSYLVANIA'S HOMELAND SECURITY AND ITS
NATIONAL GUARD ARE "AT THE READY" TO
ADDRESS THE MANY UNCERTAINTIES OF THE WAR
ON TERRORISM.

(PAUSE)

I HAD THE RECENT PLEASURE OF ADDRESSING
THE STATE LEADERSHIP OF THE VETERANS OF

FOREIGN WARS AT THEIR MID-WINTER
CONFERENCE A FEW WEEKS AGO ... AND AS WELL
WAS DELIGHTED TO MEET THEIR NATIONAL
COMMANDER.

I ALSO HAD THE OPPORTUNITY LAST WEEK TO
MEET WITH THE SENATE VETERANS AFFAIRS AND
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE
CHAIRMAN, DON WHITE, ... AND THE LEGISLATIVE
COMMITTEE OF THE PENNSYLVANIA WAR
VETERANS COUNCIL.

WE REVIEWED AND DISCUSSED THE LEGISLATIVE
GOALS OF THE VETERAN COMMUNITY FOR THIS
NEW SESSION, AND ARE PREPARED TO WORK
WITH THE NEW ADMINISTRATION ... TOWARDS THE

BETTERMENT OF THE VETERAN COMMUNITY OF
OUR GREAT COMMONWEALTH.

I WOULD LIKE TO END MY REMARKS BY SIMPLY
SAYING ... "THE HOUSE VETERANS AFFAIRS AND
EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE IS
ONCE AGAIN REPORTING FOR DUTY ... AND
STANDS READY TO WORK WITH THE STATE
VETERANS COMMISSION ... THE DEPARTMENT OF
MILITARY AND VETERANS AFFAIRS ... AND THE
VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS ON THE
MANY ISSUES AT HAND, IN THE 2003-2004
LEGISLATIVE SESSION."

THANK YOU.