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2002-12170-96919 Minutes (2002-10-21-23-59-15).doc	2002-09-04 16:53



cited in Cameranesi v. Dep't. of Defense, No. 14-16432 archived on May 4, 2017

Board of Visitors
Western Hemisphere Institute
for Security Cooperation

MEMORANDUM THRU SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

FOR SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

SUBJECT: Minutes of Session, 3-4 June 2002 of the Board of Visitors for the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation

- 1. General. The Board of Visitors (BoV) for the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHINSEC), a federal advisory committee established under Public Law 106-398 (The Floyd D. Spence National Defense Act for Fiscal Year 2001) and Public Law 92-462 (The Federal Advisory Committee Act) and chartered on 1 February 2002, convened in Room 219, Building 35 (Ridgeway Hall), WHINSEC, Fort Benning, Georgia at 0905 hours on 3 June 2002 and concluded session at 1230 hours on 4 June 2002. All sessions were open to the public. At Enclosure 1 is a listing of Board members, representatives consultants and other attendees and briefing personnel. At Enclosure 2 is a copy of the BoV's itinerary (agenda). At Enclosure 3 is a copy of each of the presentations made to the BoV. At Enclosure 4 is a copy of the BoV Charter.
- 3. Purpose. This was the inaugural session for this advisory committee in compliance with PL 106-398 (Title 10 United States Code 2166). The WHINSEC BoV met to organize itself and to gather information on the Institute's organization, curriculum, operations, resources and activities since its activation on January 17, 2001.
- 4. Summary. This was the BoV's first session after the filing of its charter on 1 February 2002 and therefore the members focused on gathering information on WHINSEC and organizing themselves. While their collective initial observation is that this institute has an important role and appears to be meeting the requirements of the authorizing legislation, the members decided to schedule their annual meeting for December 12-13, 2002 and to continue their review of WHINSEC in the interim before reporting their final observations and making any recommendations to the Secretary of the Army, the executive agent, and the Secretary of Defense.

5. Details of Session.

a. The session permitted the BoV members, advisors, the executive secretariat and WHINSEC faculty and staff to get to know one another and enabled the BoV to learn about WHINSEC and its operations. The BoV received detailed briefings on the Institute's activities since its activation on 17 January 2001; met with WHINSEC faculty,

SUBJECT: Report of Session, 3-4 June 2002 of the Board of Visitors for the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation

staff and students in discussions covering a myriad of topics; met with local post and civilian governmental officials and toured the Institute's facilities. Members of the BoV had a very positive initial impression of the Institute.

b. Ten members of the U.S. general public (including four journalists) attended various portions of this meeting. One member addressed the BoV noting his opposition to the institute and U.S foreign policy in the Hemisphere but stating that the BoV appeared focused on providing independent oversight as called for by the law.

Results of Session.

- a. The BoV decided that this session would be of organization and information gathering. It will convene for its annual meeting on December 12-13, 2002. While the BoV members observed that the Institute was meeting the requirements of the legislation, they wanted to look more deeply and broadly into the Institute's activities before providing their formal observations and recommendations to the Secretary of Defense.
- b. The members elected as Chairman, Ambassador (ret) Dennis Jett and as Vice Chairman, Mr. Steven Schneebaum and approved a curriculum sub-committee with Dr. Lincoln and Dr Avant as co-chair and Ambassador Sorzano volunteering to serve and MG Speer and Deputy Assistant Secretary Fisk stating that they would send representation for their respective agencies. This sub-committee will meet and report its observations and recommendations to the other board members prior to the annual session. The Board also approved a liaison with the WHINSEC Human Rights Committee. Vice Chairman Schneebaum will serve as the HR Liaison and attend Human Rights committee sessions and report his observations to the BoV members.

d. The Board decided to:

- (1) modify its draft By-Laws and vote them final at the annual session. The Board's executive secretariat will assist the Board.
- (2) look into legislative wording to assist the Institute with its guest instructor program.
- (3) conduct an interim visit by the BoV Curriculum Sub-committee before the annual session.
- e. The DFO will file all information with the appropriate agencies and make the information available to the public as required by Army and DOD policy

John C. Speedy, III
DAMO-SS, Army G3
Designated Federal Official and Executive
Secretary to the BoV WHINSEC

Dennis Jett Chairman, BoV WHINSEC