

N.Y. Adjutant General Speaks at First Defense Working Group Meeting

Preserving New York's military facilities and assets focus of group

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, **U.S. Representatives Richard Hanna (R-NY)** and **Timothy Bishop (D-NY)**

hosted the inaugural New York Defense Working Group meeting with special guest speaker **Major General Patrick A. Murphy, the Adjutant General of New York**

Hanna and Bishop last month formed the bipartisan New York Defense Working Group, which is aimed at promoting and protecting military facilities and assets throughout New York state.

From Upstate to Long Island, New York is home to many units that provide exemplary service to the security of not only our state but the nation. With possible impending defense cuts, Hanna and Bishop are spearheading a bipartisan alliance to highlight the value of New York defense assets.

About 18 New York House offices were represented at the meeting that included Members of Congress and staff. Representatives from Governor Andrew Cuomo's office also attended.

Maj. Gen. Murphy is Commander of the New York Army National Guard and Commissioner of the Division of Military and Naval Affairs for the State of New York. Maj. Gen. Murphy spoke during the congressional briefing about the current status of the New York National Guard and the challenges and opportunities it could face in the future.

It is anticipated that in 2015 there could be a new round of Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) processes.

Hanna said he is pleased with the turnout at the meeting and interest in the Defense Working Group and thanked General Murphy for his remarks.

"We need to work together as a delegation to ensure that New York's military assets are not unduly and negatively impacted," said Congressman Hanna, whose district includes several entities in Rome, N.Y. at the former Griffiss Air Force Base. "I'm working to ensure the operations in Rome and elsewhere in New York are not only preserved but bolstered and strengthened. Today's meeting was just the beginning of a long-term, proactive effort. "