Strategic Ports

Port of Virginia
Maritime Administration
Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command
Port of Beaumont, Texas
Panelists

• Bill Burket: Director, Port of Virginia Maritime Incident Response Team

• Kevin Tokarski: Associate Administrator for Strategic Sealift, MARAD

• Colonel Lillard D. Evans: Deputy Commander, SDDC

• Ernest Bezdek: Director of Trade Development, Port of Beaumont, TX
Port Readiness Committee

Mission Statement: The Virginia Area Maritime Security (VA AMS) Port Readiness Subcommittee will meet as directed by the designated chairperson, to evaluate existing and future federal, state, and local policy and regulations related to military outload operations.

The overarching goal of this subcommittee shall be to provide the VA AMS Executive Committee with a clear and consolidated picture of the readiness of the Port of Hampton Roads in preparation for and during the conduct of a military deployment operation.
Port Readiness Committee

• Re-established the Hampton Roads PRC August 2018
  • Identified Committee Members
  • Conducted Table Top Exercise
  • Developed training program for labor (Port and US Army Partnerships)
  • Conducted two SDDC Missions
    • December 2018 at Newport News Marine Terminal
    • August 2019 at Portsmouth Marine Terminal
Port Partners

- United States Coast Guard
- Surface Deployment and Distribution Command
- Maritime Administration
- Military Sealift Command
- Army Corp of Engineers
- Customs and Border Patrol
- Federal Bureau of Investigations
Port Partners

- POV (Terminal Operations, Security, MIRT, Contracts)
- Virginia Port Authority Police
- Norfolk Southern
- CSX
- Norfolk Beltline
Objectives
Newport News Marine Terminal Deployment

- December 2018
- All cargo arrived by truck
- 175 Engineering Pieces
- Successful Operation
- Identified Training Needs
Port of Virginia Training

- Developed by the POV and the US Army
  - POV Operations and Safety
  - US Army 11 Battalion
  - US Army 841st
- Focus on Types of vehicles / equipment
- Conducted August 2019 @ Ft Story
- 50 ILA / Stevedore / POV attendees
Portsmouth Marine Terminal Re-Deployment

- August 2019
- All cargo departed by rail
- 276 Piece Striker Battalion
- Successful Operation
The Maritime Administration
Strategic Ports Program

Kevin Tokarski
Associate Administrator for Strategic Sealift
Purpose

The commercial Strategic Seaports Program, administered by both DOT/MARAD and DOD, is intended to establish, and maintain, relationships with commercial ports to ensure rapid response to defense needs in times of crisis or war while minimizing disruption to commerce.
U.S. Commercial Strategic Seaports

“A strategic seaport is a U.S. commercial or military seaport designated by SDDC to support the deployment of U.S. Armed Forces assets in the event of war, contingency, or other national emergency or disaster.”

- NPRN MOU Rev. 7.2
Strategic Seaport Designation

- The designation authority is Commander, Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command (SDDC).
- Designations are requirements-driven and tied to DOD’s contingency planning.
- SDDC considers and designates new strategic seaports only if a shortfall exists or if their deployment scenarios change.
- SDDC has determined that current strategic seaport capacity on all costs is adequate.
Strategic Seaport Implementation Process

- Negotiated consensus on port facilities for military use
  - SDDC identifies facilities requirements and the port confirms availability
- Port Readiness Plan
  - MARAD transmits PRP to port
- Ongoing Readiness Reporting
  - Port reports, at least quarterly, on its ability to provide specified facilities to SDDC
- Port Readiness Committee
- Biennial review and adjustment of Port Readiness Plan
Port Readiness Plans (PRPs)

• Port-specific pre-emergency plan issued annually to each commercial strategic port.
• Specifies **specific** facility requirements for:
  • Vessel berths;
  • Open and covered staging areas;
  • rail spurs;
  • etc.
• Outlines the TPAS process and DOD timeframes
• Formerly called Port Planning Orders (PPOs)
Strategic Seaport Designee Requirements

• Maintain readiness to comply with PPO and provide listed facilities within 48 hours.
• Promptly report any change in readiness.
• Participate in Port Readiness Committee, strategic port meetings, workshops, and exercises.
• Maintain security clearances and secure custody of MARAD-furnished classified equipment.
• Execute and implement Federal Port Controller’s Service Agreement with MARAD.
Strategic Seaport Designee Benefits

- Enhanced port preparedness and readiness for military deployments
- Minimize commercial disruption
- Advance coordination, planning and collaboration
- Pre-negotiated consensus on port facilities for military use
National Port Readiness Network (NPRN)

- Interagency coordination network of nine federal agencies and military commands which support military deployment through U.S. seaports.
- Chaired and administered by MARAD
NPRN Membership

NPRN Member Organizations

- MARAD: Promotes Maritime Industry, NDFR, RRF, VSSA, VTA, NATO/SThong Ports Administration and Chair NPRN/NPSG & NPRAWS
- USCG: COTP, SAR, Maritime Safety and Security, Chair PRB
- USSACE: Navigation Projects, Channel Construction, Real Estate Acquisition
- TSA: Air and Surface Transportation Security, NSTS-TS, SSP SSA
- USNORTHCOM: Homeland Defense, Defense support of civil authorities
- USAFORTHQ: Army service forces provider in CONUS
- USTRANSCOM: DOD Single Manager for Transportation & Ports (SDCC, MEC, MAC, IECC, DPO, DISA, DCP)
- SDCC: TRANSCOM's army component, DOD Surface and Intermodal transportation, terminals, liner services
- MSC: TRANSCOM's naval component, DOD Ocean Transportation & common user shipping

Port Readiness Committees

- Anchorage
- Beaumont
- Charleston
- Corpus Christi
- Gulfport
- Hampton Roads
- Jacksonville
- Long Beach
- Morehead City
- Wilmington
- Oakland
- Philadelphia
- Savannah
- Port of Tacoma
- Port of Oakland
- Port of GULF PORT
- Port of NORTHERN VIRGINIA
- Port of JAXPORT
- Port of PORT OF NORTH CAROLINA PORTS
- Port of PORT OF OAKLAND
- Port of Tacomas
What Can the Strategic Ports Do Better?

• Ensure accurate and timely readiness reporting
• Ensure PRC meetings, annual readiness assessments and exercises provide real value to the strategic ports and address your issues
• Share lessons learned by the port on the NPRN Portal
• Jointly develop recommendations to the NPRN Steering Group for process improvements to the strategic ports program
• Enhance cyber security for the contested environment
What Can the NPRN Do Better?

• Attend PRC meetings
• Participate in exercises/MOLs at the ports
• Advocate for stronger linkages between the ports and their military partners
• Get labor more involved so they can gain experience with military cargo movement
Further Information

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Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command

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Strategic Ports
Prospective from a Commercial Port

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