



THE NAMING COMMISSION

FINAL REPORT TO CONGRESS

PART II: U.S. Military Academy and U.S. Naval Academy



Acknowledgments

The Naming Commission wishes to acknowledge the many individuals, organizations, government officials and agencies that provided us their views and insights.

We are deeply grateful to the Department of the Army, which served as our supporting agency, and all the Department of Defense employees whose assistance was so essential to the success and functioning of the Commission.

The Commission

COMMISSION ON THE NAMING OF ITEMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE THAT
COMMEMORATE THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA OR ANY PERSON WHO
SERVED VOLUNTARILY WITH THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA



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Executive Summary

This is Part II of the Naming Commission's Final Report, which addresses assets on the United States Military Academy (USMA) at West Point and the United States Naval Academy (USNA) at Annapolis and fulfills the requirements mandated by the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, Section 370 for those institutions.

Understanding the five major duties of the Commission and the mandated timeline, the Commission quickly established several lines of effort to determine the scope of Confederate States of America-affiliated assets across the Department of Defense. This included obtaining lists of all Service assets based on Commission criteria; gathering public feedback through base visits, discussions with local elected officials, and direct public input via an official website; and identifying those assets not under the Commission's remit, such as museums and state-controlled Army National Guard bases. As a result of these multiple data inputs – and with Senate Armed Services Committee/ House Armed Services Committee concurrence – the Commission determined the best way forward was for the Commission to handle the base renamings and the Services to manage all Confederacy-affiliated asset changes on their bases.

The Commission also determined it has all necessary data to issue a final report on USMA and USNA. The Commission decided to submit a final report for Confederacy-affiliated assets on the academies because it meets the intent for the military departments to remediate all Confederacy-affiliated assets, there are few Confederacy-affiliated assets on either campus, neither has a base renaming requirement, and both institutions have well-established memorialization processes. All Section 370 requirements for the academies are met with this report, leaving no reason to delay the Services from implementing necessary changes.

The Commission recommends that the Secretary of Defense authorize the Secretaries of the Army and Navy to commence its recommended removal and renaming activities at USMA and USNA using those bases' long-standing memorialization procedures. The Commission identified a small number of Confederacy-affiliated assets on both campuses that require renaming, relocating, modification, or removal. Some Confederacy-affiliated assets on West Point, while identified as not being under the remit of the Commission, are recommended for a final disposition review by West Point using its memorialization process.

The William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (Public Law No: 116-283) [hereafter FY21 NDAA], at Title III Operation and Maintenance, Subtitle E Other Matters, Section 370, directed the establishment of a commission relating to assigning, modifying, or removing of names, symbols, displays, monuments, and paraphernalia to assets of the Department of Defense (DoD) that commemorate the Confederate States of America or any person who served voluntarily with the Confederate States of America.

As mandated by Section 370, the Commission is comprised of eight members – four appointed by the Secretary of Defense, one appointed by the Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee (SASC), one appointed by the Ranking Member of the SASC, one appointed by the Chairman of the House Armed Services Committee (HASC), and one appointed by the Ranking Member of the HASC.

Section 370 at subsection (c) requires the Commission to perform the five duties, listed to the right, related to the assigning, modifying, or removing of Confederacy-affiliated names, symbols, displays, monuments, and paraphernalia within the Department of Defense.

Additionally, while monuments are subject to the requirements of Section 370, grave markers are exempt. The Commission is thus required to define what constitutes a “grave marker” since that term is not defined in Section 370.¹ There are no Confederacy-affiliated grave markers at the United States Military Academy (USMA) or the United States Naval Academy (USNA).

Initial Commission discussions in March 2021 established a need to obtain an asset inventory by military Service, base visits to solicit local stakeholder input, and additional visits to USMA and USNA, as Commissioners were aware that each of these prominent institutions possess assets at issue.

Given the volume of Confederacy-affiliated assets across the DoD – predominantly the United States Army – the Commission decided the best approach would be for it to address base renaming only. The Commission would develop processes and guidance by which the military Services could address all Confederacy-affiliated names, symbols, displays, monuments, and paraphernalia within the DoD.

During the Naming Commission’s early work to gather data related to USMA and USNA, a representative from West Point provided a brief to the Commission in March 2021 highlighting all assets on West Point affiliated with the

Duties of The Naming Commission (Per Section 370, FY21 NDAA)

1. Assess the cost of renaming or removing names, symbols, displays, monuments, or paraphernalia that commemorate the Confederate States of America or any person who served voluntarily with the Confederate States of America.
2. Develop procedures and criteria to assess whether an existing name, symbol, monument, display, or paraphernalia commemorates the Confederate States of America or a person who served voluntarily with the Confederate States of America.
3. Recommend procedures for renaming assets of the DoD to prevent commemoration of the Confederate States of America or any person who served voluntarily with the Confederate States of America.
4. Develop a plan to remove names, symbols, displays, monuments, or paraphernalia that commemorate the Confederate States of America or any person who served voluntarily with the Confederate States of America from assets of the DoD, within the timeline established by this Act (i.e., not later than January 1, 2024).
5. Include in the plan procedures and criteria for collecting and incorporating local sensitivities associated with naming or renaming of DoD assets.

Confederate States of America along with the Academy's well-established memorialization process:

- ♦ Memorializations for deceased individuals,
- ♦ Dedications for living individuals (*requires Secretary of the Army approval*), and
- ♦ Naming – a non-permanent naming of Army real property after famous battles and events), in line with the Army regulation that governs this process.²

The Commission requested this briefing to ensure full awareness by its members that Confederacy-affiliated assets exist at West Point (and also at Annapolis).

Additionally, all Services provided briefings to the Commission in April 2021 – the Navy's included a section on their academy. The Services also provided lists of all assets in their inventories, highlighting those with Confederate names along with the estimated costs for their renaming or removal. These lists included Confederacy-affiliated assets on USMA and USNA.

Finally, the Commission visited both USMA and USNA, which provided confirmation of both the low number of Confederacy-affiliated assets and their well-established memorialization processes. These visits also allowed the Commission to engage with senior leaders and other key stakeholders to obtain their feedback and input on potential candidates for renaming consideration.

Having completed these actions, the Commission recommends that USMA and USNA move forward in naming, renaming and removing, as appropriate, their Confederacy-affiliated assets. This recommendation is based on the following:

- ♦ there are no base renaming requirements,
- ♦ there are few Confederacy-affiliated assets at both institutions,
- ♦ both institutions have well-established memorialization processes,
- ♦ this report meets all Section 370 reporting requirements, and
- ♦ there is no reason for delay.

This report describes the Commission's methodology for determining the assets at issue; the costs associated with the modification, relocation, removal or renaming of assets; the criteria used to assess assets; and the methods of collecting and incorporating local sensitivities associated with the removal or renaming of assets.

The next two sections provide the respective details and specific recommendations for USMA and USNA. The report concludes with pertinent appendices and notes for reference.



A mounted marker at the United States Military Academy bears the words "Ku Klux Klan." The Commission visited West Point and worked closely with leaders and historians there to identify assets such as these that have clear ties to the Confederacy, while also gathering information to determine whether or not those assets fall within the Commission's remit.

Starting at the Commission's first meeting in early March 2021, the Commission established several objectives in order to understand the background and scope of the problem.

RENAMING, REMOVAL, AND NAMING CRITERIA

In accordance with Section 370, the Commission developed procedures and criteria to assess whether existing names and property have any affiliation with the Confederacy and, if so, whether the asset should be modified, removed, or renamed.

Between March and June 2021, the Commission established renaming, removal and naming criteria. An adjustment was approved in June to the criteria for select National Guard assets, since the Commission determined the majority of Army National Guard assets are state-owned and therefore not within the remit of the Commission. The naming criteria were developed to assist bases (using their respective memorialization processes) and the Commission when considering and selecting base names for recommendation to the Secretary of Defense.

Renaming Criteria

- ♦ Asset is owned by the DoD. This includes bases that currently meet FY21 NDAA guidance for renaming due to commemorating the Confederacy or any person who served voluntarily with the Confederacy.
- ♦ National Guard assets procured, constructed, or maintained by DoD in support of Title 10 activities.
- ♦ Asset is not a grave marker.
- ♦ Asset is not an exhibit in a museum.
- ♦ Consideration for assets commemorating individual federal service prior to, or after, the Civil War.
- ♦ The commemoration of the Confederacy or persons who served voluntarily is not the core purpose of the asset; asset can be renamed with minor cosmetic changes or sign changes.
- ♦ Consider historical context of original naming decision.

Removal Criteria

- ♦ Asset is owned by the DoD.
- ♦ National Guard assets procured, constructed, or maintained by DoD in support of Title 10 activities.

- ♦ Asset is designated as one that honors or commemorates the Confederacy or a person who served voluntarily with the Confederacy.
- ♦ Asset is not a grave marker.
- ♦ Asset is not an exhibit in a museum.
- ♦ Consideration for assets commemorating individual federal service prior to, or after, the Civil War.
- ♦ The commemoration of the Confederacy or a person who served voluntarily with the Confederacy is the core purpose and presentation of the asset.
- ♦ Removal is reasonably necessary to expunge the commemoration.
- ♦ Consider historical context of original naming decision.

Naming Criteria

- ♦ Asset is determined as requiring renaming by Naming Commission established standards.
- ♦ Commissioners have visited the site and received update from base/installation leadership and have notified/considered input from local leaders and civic groups.
- ♦ Have received naming recommendations from stakeholders.
- ♦ Potential name considerations:
 - Individual is deceased.
 - If a person/persons, man or woman; that person during their life distinguished themselves through courageous and valorous acts and/or through a life of service to the United States of America.
 - Although not required, a person/persons will ideally have some affiliation with the state the base is located in or the mission of the base.
 - All potential nominees will be vetted appropriately on their history and background.
 - The names selected will honor either a person(s) or a subject/theme (such as Duty, Honor, Country) that exemplifies the core values of the U.S. military and nation.
 - Has the passage of time shown the individual or activity to be assessed in a larger context of history and its significance realized or better understood.
 - Aggregated list of candidates reflects the Armed Forces population.

ASSET INVENTORIES AND COST ESTIMATES

Once the renaming and removal criteria were completed, the Services were tasked to inventory their assets according to those criteria. The responses included a list of all Confederacy-affiliated assets and associated costs for renaming or removal. The latter addressed the Section 370 requirement to assess costs of renaming or removal of Confederacy-affiliated assets.

In conjunction with the military Service inventories, the Commission wanted assessments from each Service on their existing work on asset renaming and gain an understanding of their perspectives on renaming. In mid-April, the military Services, National Guard Bureau, Arlington National Cemetery, and National Park Service provided these briefings to the Commission.

As part of these assessments, the Commission requested West Point's existing plan to rename or remove assets that commemorate the Confederacy. A USMA representative provided an overview of the Military Academy's inventory of Confederacy-affiliated assets and West Point's renaming process. Based on that briefing, the Commission determined visits were necessary to view assets with Confederacy-affiliated names at the Service academies – West Point and Annapolis in particular.

RENAMING ASSETS AND REMOVAL PLAN

From the onset, the consensus was that the Commission would not be able to directly address the potentially thousands of assets, such as roads, buildings, and paraphernalia, in the allotted time frame. The Commission quickly determined

that the Commission would most likely address the base renaming itself, and develop processes by which the Services could address other items.

However, the commissioners required data to determine the scope of the issue. All military Services briefed the Commission in April 2021, including a separate briefing on West Point. As part of the briefings, the Commission asked the Services to provide lists of all assets in their inventories, highlighting those as Confederacy-affiliated as well as cost estimates to rename, modify, or remove applicable assets. These lists included Confederacy-affiliated assets on the Military Academy and Naval Academy. The Commission also visited USMA and USNA which allowed the Commission to see all Confederacy-affiliated assets, verify their well-established memorialization processes, and receive input from their local stakeholders. This data reinforced the Commission's initial assessment that the Commission would handle the base renamings and the Services would address all Confederacy-affiliated assets on their bases using their memorialization processes.

Regular discussions with the SASC and HASC supported this view that the Commission work at the macro-level and allow the military Services to work the remaining items on a base. This macro approach allowed the Commission to move with speed and generate momentum for renaming efforts by the military Services.

As such, this approach – the Commission handles the base renamings while the military Services manage changes to assets on their bases – is how the Commission will

meet the Section 370 requirement to recommend procedures for renaming assets and a plan to remove names, symbols, displays, monuments, or paraphernalia affiliated with the Confederacy.

The intent of this report is to identify those Confederacy-affiliated assets at USMA and USNA under the Commission's remit, and to recommend renaming, modifying, relocating, removing, or no change, as appropriate. Additionally, items not in the remit of the Commission will be identified for USMA and USNA to address as warranted.

LOCAL SENSITIVITIES

To meet the Section 370 requirement to collect and incorporate local sensitivities, the Commission decided on three ways to solicit input.

First, the Commission would visit every base under consideration for renaming to understand local sensitivities.

The Commission could view any Confederacy-affiliated assets in context, engage with base leadership and staff, understand any existing internal process for renaming, educate and obtain community sensitivities regarding the renaming process, and receive renaming recommendations from local stakeholders.

The Commission's entry point into each visited base was through the base or garrison commander, whose influence was essential to arrange meetings with community leaders and other key stakeholders. To maximize time on the ground, the bases provided command briefings approximately one week ahead of visits.

The Commission provided guidance on its specific desires (engagements with stakeholders, mil-



The Naming Commission chair, retired Navy ADM Michelle Howard, along with her fellow commissioner, Mr. Jerry Buchanan, receive recommendations and input from faculty and alumni during an engagement session at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, August 26, 2021.

itary personnel, civilian workers, and senior leaders, along with opportunities to see Confederacy-affiliated assets) and the base leadership developed the itinerary and selected the various stakeholders to engage. The community engagements included mayors, city council members, local chambers of commerce, historical and genealogy societies, civil rights organizations (e.g. League of United Latin American Citizens, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People), state and federal elected officials and staff, rotary clubs, school board members, churches, Civilian Aides to the Secretary of the Army, retirees, and military affairs councils and alliances.

Next, in advance of base visits, the Commission engaged with senators, representatives, and governors for the respective states. The purpose was to educate them on the Commission's mandate and upcoming engagements with base and local communities in their jurisdiction. It also provided a platform to obtain feedback from these elected officials.

Finally, while the Commission met with community stakeholders across the visited bases to get a sense of local sensitivities, they wanted to ensure those they were not able to meet – and the American public at large – were afforded an opportunity to have their voices heard in this process. The Commission established an official website allowing anyone to provide base name recommendations, or other feedback, directly to the Commission. The public comment period for input via the website was open from September 4 to December 1, 2021. More than 34,000 submissions were received.

GRAVE MARKERS

Section 370 requires the Commission to further define what constitutes a grave marker since grave markers are exempt under Section 370. The Commission received a briefing from the Office of Army Cemeteries in April 2021 with information on definitions of markers, memorials, and monuments and relevant statutes, regulations, and policies in order to better understand and develop what constitutes a grave marker. The Commission defined grave markers as: Markers located at the remains of the fallen. A marker, headstone, foot stone, niche cover, or flat marker containing inscriptions commemorating one or more decedents interred at that location. This definition aligns with the existing 38 U.S. Code § 2306 – Headstones, markers, and burial receptacles. As such, no grave markers at the United States Military Academy or the United States Naval Academy – nor at any base under the remit of the Commission – would be considered for removal.

MUSEUMS

The Commission decided that Confederacy-affiliated assets in base museums fall outside the remit of the Commission, since the purpose of these museums is to collect, preserve, exhibit, and interpret historically significant artifacts pertaining to that base, mission, or other focus area. As such, any Confederacy-affiliated assets maintained within the United States Military Academy or the United States Naval Academy museums – or within the museums of any other military base – are not within the remit of the Commission.

United States Military Academy

BACKGROUND

West Point ranks amongst the oldest and most venerated of our national institutions. In seniority it surpasses the Smithsonian, the National Parks, and all but four Executive departments. Likewise, it holds a high rank and prominent place among American educational institutions – few colleges surpass it in its tenure of service or in the achievements of its graduates. Its storied history serving the defense of the United States makes it especially incongruent for Confederate commemoration.

On the grounds of West Point, future Soldiers train amidst the memories of past leaders. Cadets live in barracks named after Ulysses Grant, Douglas MacArthur, John Pershing, Benjamin O. Davis, William Sherman, and Winfield Scott. Throughout the grounds, plaques adorn almost every building and entrance, honoring the names and lives of West Point graduates who demonstrated exceptional devotion to the defense of the United States and the advancement of its ideals.

Commemorating the Confederacy alongside those graduates honors men who fought against the United States of America, and whose cause sought to destroy the nation as we know it.

Although formal mission statements did not appear until the 20th century, West Point has always placed service to the United States and the defense of its values at the forefront of its purpose. Upon establishing the Academy in 1802, Thomas Jefferson and his administration charged and entrusted its staff “to furnish the Army a supply of efficient officers; to the Militia an intermixture of well-trained citizens, qualified on emergency, to discipline that last and best arm of republics.”³

From the first class of cadets onward, military expectations for USMA graduates were clear: maintaining a well-functioning regular army in times of peace, and leading great numbers of volunteer citizen-soldiers in times

of war. West Point graduates were also to be educated in knowledge and traditions to reinforce their leadership and nurture their sense of duty as citizens. A Congressional committee repeated this charge in 1831, and it resonated several other times throughout those early eras as well.⁴

Before the Civil War, West Point both figuratively and literally represented a premier place of national unity. This tradition of national service especially mattered during the outbreak of the Civil War: although approximately three-quarters of the cadets from Confederate-aligned states did depart West Point for Confederate service in 1861, four-fifths of the larger graduate pool, including those from secessionist states, remained loyal to the United States.

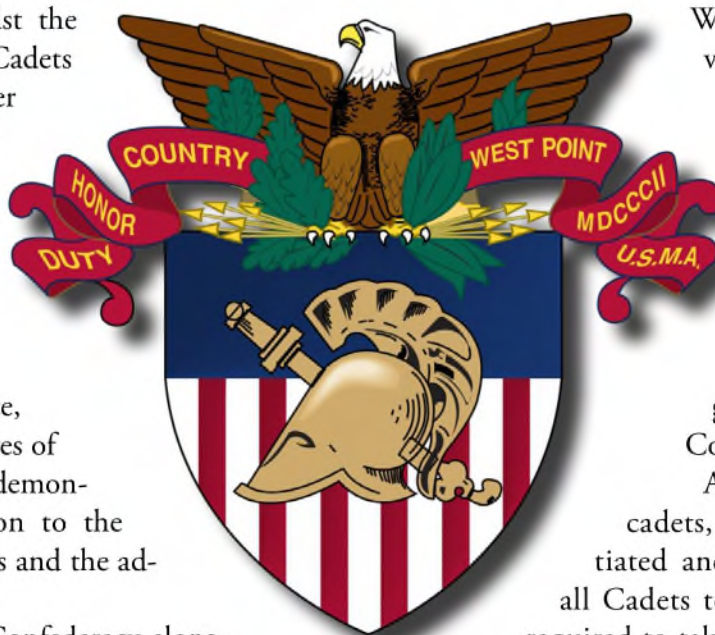
This constituted a substantially greater percentage of devotion to the United States than found among graduate pools at Harvard, Yale, Columbia, or Princeton.⁵

After this 1861 departure of cadets, Congress and the Army initiated and required a loyalty oath for all Cadets to take; to this day cadets are required to take that same oath upon induction. After the war, antipathy towards Confederates ran long and deep.

Although the Civil War ended in 1865, no Confederate leader was invited to West Point until 1898. For more than 60 years after the war’s end and well into the 20th century, no Confederate monuments existed at the Military Academy. Attempts to establish them were consistently met with solid resistance.⁶

For example, when West Point built Cullum Hall in 1898 to serve as both the Academy’s social center and a memorial to West Point cadets killed in action, they did so with the specific proviso that no Confederate name was to be commemorated or even mentioned within it.

It was not until 1930 and 1931, at a time when the “Lost Cause” sentiment gripped the nation, that West Point accepted and installed Confederate memorials. Due



to external pressures, the Army felt compelled to change its policy. Over the subsequent decades, additional Confederate affiliated items were added at West Point. In 2020 however, Congress decided these items should be removed or renamed (see Appendix A).

Pursuant to Section 370's provisions (see Appendix B), the Naming Commission has identified items that must be modified, relocated, removed or renamed, as well as other features that fall outside of its specific remit, but that it feels present an immediate and compelling case for removal or modification.

There are several Confederate names memorialized on a variety of assets, to include: two places, a barracks, housing area, road, gate, portrait, plaza, triptych, and monument. These commemorate, portray, and/or depict Confederate Generals P. G. T. Beauregard, William J. Hardee, and Robert E. Lee; Lieutenant Generals Stonewall Jackson and Joseph Wheeler; Major Generals J.E.B. Stuart and Fitzhugh Lee; and Commander John M. Brooke (Confederate States Navy).

The Commissioners do not make these recommendations with any intention of "erasing history." The facts of the past remain and the Commissioners are confident the history of the Civil War will continue to be taught at all Service academies with all the quality and complex detail our national past deserves. Rather, they make these recommendations to affirm West Point's long tradition of educating future generations of America's military leaders to represent the best of our national ideals.

Cadets of the present who devote their lives to national service should do so in an environment and setting that honors the greatest examples, traditions, and leaders of our past.

ROBERT E. LEE

No doubts exist that Robert E. Lee fought for the Confederacy: he was its most effective and storied leader, and by the end of the Civil War, Lee had risen to General in Chief of the Armies of the Confederate States. Before the Civil War, he served in the U.S. Army for over 30 years. At the start of the Civil War, Lee turned down the post of top field commander of the U.S. Army and chose to fight for the Confederacy.⁷ The consequences of his decisions were wide-ranging and destructive. Lee's armies were responsible for the deaths of more United States Soldiers than practically any other enemy in our nation's history.



P.G.T. BEAUREGARD

Before the Civil War, Pierre Gustav Toutant Beauregard had long been an ardent supporter of enslavement, secession and rebellion. He briefly served as the superintendent of West Point but was fired after five days and he joined the Confederacy. During the Civil War, Beauregard served as a Confederate volunteer and was known as one of the Confederacy's foremost military leaders. After the war, he considered fleeing overseas but ultimately stayed, due to the leniency offered to former Confederates.

WILLIAM HARDEE

William Hardee served in the U.S. Army for 23 years to include five years as the USMA commandant. At West Point in 1855, he literally wrote the book on infantry movements: *Hardee's Tactics* came to define many leading tactics and battles of the Civil War.⁸ Hardee joined the Confederate Army in 1861 and was an effective commander against the U.S. in many battles of the war's Western Theater. He and his armies inflicted significant violence and casualties upon the U.S. Army.

RECONCILIATION PLAZA

In 2001, West Point installed "Reconciliation Plaza" – a series of markers presented by the USMA Class of 1961 on the occasion of its 40th reunion and one hundred forty years after the graduation of the Classes of May and June 1861. The stated intent was to "...commemorate the reconciliation between North and South and dedicate this memorial to our classmates who died in service to our nation." A series of markers depict acts and events between 1861 and 1913 to serve as examples of reconciliation.

Several aspects of Reconciliation Plaza commemorate Confederates or their actions. For example, four historical markers and a bas-relief image commemorate Confederates during the Civil War. Marker 3 highlights then-BG P.G.T. Beauregard leading Confederate forces in insurrection against Fort Sumter, South Carolina. Marker 4 portrays a Confederate soldier providing water to a U.S. Soldier wounded by Confederate guns. Marker 5 depicts Confederate BG Lewis Armistead's last words as relayed to his close friend, U.S. Army MG Winfield Hancock. Armistead was killed invading Pennsylvania and attacking U.S. Soldiers. Marker 6 commemorates Confeder-

ate MG Stephen Ramseur and two U.S. Army classmates from West Point who comforted him as he lay dying after a surprise attack by Ramseur's army failed. Finally, to the left and right of Marker 8, there are two busts of Confederate Army GEN Robert E. Lee and U.S. Army GEN Ulysses Grant. Additionally, several other markers commemorate the actions of former Confederates in the 50 years following the war.

USMA METHODOLOGY

As part of the data gathering process as related to USMA, a West Point representative provided a brief in March 2021 highlighting its Confederacy-affiliated assets. Part of that briefing included their well-established memorialization process (Memorializations for deceased individuals; Dedications for living individuals, requiring the Secretary of the Army's approval; and Naming, a non-permanent naming of Army real property after famous battles and events) in line with an Army regulation which governs this process. Additionally, the Commission visited West Point to verify and see all Confederacy-affiliated assets in context, engage with leaders and local stakeholders, and confirm the Academy's well-established memorialization process.

As part of this visit, the Academy provided both a walking tour and bus tour of the campus to help the Commissioners understand the context of monuments, buildings and structures located on West Point. Finally, the Commission undertook a comprehensive historical review of the individuals commemorated in association with the Confederacy, and assessed the list of assets using the Commission's renaming and removal criteria.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Commission reviewed assets that commemorate the Confederacy or those who voluntarily served with the Confederacy at the U.S. Military Academy. In addition, the Commission engaged with community and local stakeholders on the Commission's efforts and the naming process. The Commission believes USMA is well-postured to start the modification, relocation, removal or renaming of DoD assets as described in Section 370 of the 2021 NDAA.

Rename

1. The Commission unanimously recommends that the Secretary of Defense authorize the Secretary of the Army to commence the modification, relocation, removal or renaming process at USMA using its long-standing memorialization process, and the Commission unani-

mously finds that the following DoD assets fall within the remit of the Commission and should be renamed:

- a) Beauregard Place: named for GEN P. G. T. Beauregard.
- b) Lee Barracks: named for GEN Robert E. Lee.
- c) Lee Housing Area: named for GEN Robert E. Lee.
- d) Lee Area Child Development Center: named for GEN Robert E. Lee.
- e) Lee Road: named for GEN Robert E. Lee.
- f) Lee Gate: named for GEN Robert E. Lee.
- g) Hardee Place: named for GEN William J. Hardee.

Relocate or Remove

2. The Commission unanimously agrees the following paraphernalia should be relocated or removed: the portrait of Robert E. Lee in Confederate uniform with the rank of general indicated on the plaque, currently displayed in Jefferson Hall. The Commission unanimously finds that the Reconciliation Plaza at West Point falls within the remit of the Commission. The Commission recommends the Plaza should be reviewed by West Point to remove the engraved images that commemorate individuals who voluntarily served in the Confederacy. In addition, West Point should remove or modify monuments within the plaza that commemorate the Confederacy. Modifications of the plaza should contextualize historical aspects.

Modify or Remove

3. The Commission agrees the depiction of historical United States events on the triptych mounted at the entrance to Bartlett Hall contains elements that fall within the remit of the Commission. Two of the panels specifically commemorate people who voluntarily served in the Confederacy: Lee, Stuart, Jackson and Brooke. The Commission believes these markers should be modified to remove the names and images from the panels that specifically commemorate individuals who voluntarily served in the Confederacy.

Remove

4. There is a monument referred to as "Honor Plaza" that consists of a central panel engraved with the West Point Honor Code, surrounded by quotes from notable Americans concerning the ideal of honor. The monument lists then-MAJ Robert E. Lee (when he served honorably in the U.S. Army as Superintendent at West Point). However, the associated quote is



from a time-frame when Lee served as a general officer with the Confederacy. The Commission believes this aspect of the monument represents an effort to commemorate Lee's time with the Confederacy, and therefore falls within the remit of the Commission. The Commission recommends removal of the references to Lee and the quote.

Deferred to West Point

5. The Commission believes that brass tablets and markers inside buildings depicting the names of graduates Joseph Wheeler and Fitzhugh Lee commemorate their participation in the Confederacy, and as such should be reviewed within the USMA renaming process for final disposition. The Commission encourages USMA to consider modifications or additional markers that contextualize historical facts.

No Change

6. Separately, there is a roll call of graduates in the entry way of Cullum Hall. The roll call simply denotes the Confederate or United States Army service of listed individuals. Due to the limited factual nature of the roll call, the Commission believes it may remain as structured.

Outside Remit of the Commission

7. On the triptych at the entrance to Bartlett Hall, there is a mounted marker bearing the words, "Ku Klux Klan." The marker falls outside the remit of the Commission; however, there are clearly ties in the KKK to the Confederacy. The Commission encourages the Secretary of Defense to address DoD assets that highlight the KKK in Defense Memorialization processes and create a standard disposition requirement for such assets.

8. The Commission finds that images or references to then-MAJ Robert E. Lee that strictly reflect his U.S. Army service as superintendent at West Point, and that do not conflate his Confederate service, are historical artifacts and may remain in place.

In the short time from notification to the Commission's visit to West Point, USMA did due diligence to identify Confederacy-affiliated assets prior to the Commission's arrival. After the visit, USMA continued to review its inventory of assets and identified more items. It is probable even more Confederacy-affiliated items will continue to be identified as USMA employs the memorialization process. Any additional assets that commemorate the Confederacy or individuals who voluntarily served in the Confederacy should be included in USMA's memorialization process for disposition.

West Point should update its Memorialization regulation or policy with language that reflects the 2020 NDAA to prohibit the memorialization of Confederacy-affiliated personnel or items (see Appendix A).

COSTS

The U.S. Army provided the following cost estimates to rename USMA assets:

1. Beauregard Place. \$1,000.
2. Lee Barracks. \$3,000.
3. Lee Housing Area. \$3,000.
4. Lee Area Child Development Center. \$3,000.
5. Lee Road. \$3,000.
6. Lee Gate. \$3,000.
7. Hardee Place. \$1,000.
8. Jefferson Hall (Library). \$2,500.
9. Reconciliation Plaza. \$300,000.
10. Bartlett Hall. \$100,000.
11. Honor Plaza. \$2,500.
12. Cullum Hall. \$2,000.

United States Naval Academy

BACKGROUND

The Naval Academy began in 1845 from the determination to modernize the United States Navy by training midshipmen who could defend our nation's interests along its shores and advance our nation's interests upon the seas. Its location in the Chesapeake symbolized the importance of its mission; in an age well before air power, Annapolis guarded sea access to the national capital at Washington, as well as maritime routes to Baltimore, Philadelphia, and much of the Mid-Atlantic interior. Early classes of midshipmen trained at Annapolis to protect and defend the United States by sea precisely on the grounds of one of the main points of naval defense for the nation.

During the Civil War, the majority of those Sailors performed their duties with distinction. Perhaps the greatest testimony to their service was the effectiveness of the U.S. naval blockade against Confederate-controlled areas: by the war's end the United States was intercepting one out of every three ships sailing to or from a Confederate port. The naval war was essential in destroying the Confederate economy, delaying its lines of supply and transport, prohibiting access to meaningful amounts of foreign aid or materiel, and hastening the end of Confederates' ability to successfully make war against the United States.⁹

Yet not all midshipmen maintained their allegiance to the nation that trained them for the sea and entrusted them with its defense. Although, in 1861, the Naval Academy had far fewer graduates than West Point, approximately one out of four midshipmen joined and fought for the Confederacy.

Only two Confederate names ever became memorialized at Annapolis. Each memorialization started in 1915, during the ascendant years of the "Lost Cause."

That year, the Naval Academy named one of its new Academic buildings Maury Hall in honor of Matthew Fontaine Maury, an early oceanographer and one-time director of the Naval Observatory. Today this building houses the Naval Academy's Systems and Weapons Engineering Department.



It simultaneously named the road leading to the Superintendent's residence Buchanan Road, honoring the Naval Academy's first superintendent, Franklin Buchanan. In 1976, the residence itself was named Buchanan House to keep consistency with the road leading to it.

MATTHEW F. MAURY

Before the Civil War, Matthew Fontaine Maury was well known in the United States, having served in the U.S. Navy for more than 30 years and was known as one of the nation's first and most prominent oceanographers and climatologists. Despite these contributions, he viewed African Americans as unworthy of life, liberty, or the pursuit of happiness. Maury envisioned a series of vast American territories in Central and South America, where enslaved humans would produce commodity crops like cotton, rubber, and sugar.¹⁰ During the Civil War, Maury fought for these goals as a political lobbyist in Europe, beseeching foreign nations to recognize the Confederacy and purchasing ships for the Confederate Navy. He ultimately failed in both aims.

FRANKLIN BUCHANAN

By the time the Civil War began, Franklin Buchanan had been a sailor longer than many other officers had been alive. Over 45 years, he served in many capacities, including as an officer in the Mexican-American War, a steamboat commander in Commodore Perry's expedition to Japan, and as the first Superintendent of the U.S. Naval Academy. Shortly after the start of the Civil War, Buchanan joined the Confederacy, quickly rose to the rank of admiral and commanded the CSS Virginia. Under his command in several naval battles, his efforts killed hundreds of U.S. Navy sailors.

USNA METHODOLOGY

As part of its fact-finding process, the Naming Commission was provided a briefing by the United States Navy officials that included initial Navy asset data. Based on a review of that information, the Commission determined a visit to the U.S. Naval Academy would be necessary.

The Commission met with the senior leadership of the U.S. Naval Academy, received an installation and memorialization overview, conducted a campus tour, and held two engagement sessions with faculty, staff and alumni, and also met with midshipmen and newly commissioned officers.

This visit validated the low number of Confederacy-affiliated assets at USNA, allowed for feedback from installation leaders and local stakeholders, and provided confirmation of the Naval Academy's well-established memorialization process.

RECOMMENDATIONS

At Annapolis, the Commission reviewed assets that commemorate the Confederate States of America or those who voluntarily served with the Confederate States of America. In addition, the Commission engaged with community and local stakeholders to discuss the Commission's efforts and the naming process, and to obtain their feedback.

The Commission believes USNA is well-postured to start the naming, modification, relocation or removal of DoD assets as described in Section 370 of the FY21 NDAA. The Commission endorses the United States Naval Academy's long-standing memorialization process and recommends that the Secretary of Defense authorize the Navy Secretary to commence the Naval Academy's naming processes.

Located near the center of its campus in Annapolis, Maryland, Maury Hall is one of the U.S. Naval Academy's few Confederacy-affiliated assets.

Rename

1. The Commission unanimously agrees the following DoD assets at Annapolis fall within the remit of the Commission and should be renamed:
 - a) Buchanan House (USNA Superintendent's Quarters): named for ADM Franklin Buchanan.
 - b) Maury Hall (USNA Engineering Building): named for CDR Matthew F. Maury.
 - c) Buchanan Road: This is a 510-foot road adjacent to Buchanan House, named for ADM Franklin Buchanan.

No Change

2. Inside Memorial Hall is a memorial column with a roll call of USNA graduates who died during naval operations. The roll call simply states Confederate or U.S. service after the graduate's name. Due to the limited factual nature of the roll call, the Commission believes it may remain as structured.

The Academy may identify additional Confederacy-affiliated items in the future. If this is the case, those items should be included in USNA's memorialization process for disposition. USNA should update its memorialization regulation or policy with language that reflects the FY20 NDAA to prohibit the memorialization of personnel or items affiliated with the Confederacy (see Appendix A).

COSTS

The U.S. Navy provided the following cost estimates to rename USNA assets:

1. Buchanan House. \$12,000.
2. Maury Hall. \$12,000.
3. Buchanan Road. \$3,000.

Appendices & Notes

APPENDIX A: SECTION 1749, FY20 NDAA

S.1790 - National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020, Title XVII Reports and Other Matters, Sec. 1749

Public Law No: 116-92

SEC. 1749. PROHIBITION ON NAMES RELATED TO THE CONFEDERACY.

(a) PROHIBITION ON NAMES RELATED TO THE CONFEDERACY.—

In naming a new asset or renaming an existing asset, the Secretary of Defense or the Secretary of a military department may not give a name to an asset that refers to, or includes a term referring to, the Confederate States of America

(commonly referred to as the “Confederacy”), including any name referring to—

- (1) a person who served or held leadership within the Confederacy; or
- (2) a Confederate battlefield victory.

(b) ASSET DEFINED.—In this section, the term “asset” includes any base, installation, facility, aircraft, ship, equipment, or any other property owned or controlled by the Department of Defense or a military department.

(c) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in this section may be construed as requiring a Secretary concerned to initiate a review of previously named assets.

APPENDIX B: SECTION 370, FY21 NDAA

H.R.6395 - William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021, Title III Operation and Maintenance, Subtitle E Other Matters, Sec. 370

Public Law No: 116-283

SEC. 370. COMMISSION ON THE NAMING OF ITEMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE THAT COMMEMORATE THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA OR ANY PERSON WHO SERVED VOLUNTARILY WITH THE CONFEDERATE STATES OF AMERICA.

(a) REMOVAL.—Not later than three years after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Defense shall implement the plan submitted by the commission described in paragraph (b) and remove all names, symbols, displays, monuments, and paraphernalia that honor or commemorate the Confederate States of America (commonly referred to as the “Confederacy”) or any person who served voluntarily with the Confederate States of America from all assets of the Department of Defense.

(b) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Defense shall establish a commission relating to assigning, modifying, or removing of names, symbols, displays, monuments, and paraphernalia to assets of the Department of Defense that commemorate the Confederate States of America or any person who served voluntarily with the Confederate States of America.

(c) DUTIES.—The Commission shall—

(1) assess the cost of renaming or removing names, symbols, displays, monuments, or paraphernalia that commemorate the Confederate States of America or any person who served voluntarily with the Confederate States of America;

(2) develop procedures and criteria to assess whether an existing name, symbol, monument, display, or paraphernalia commemorates the Confederate States of America or person who served voluntarily with the Confederate States of America;

(3) recommend procedures for renaming assets of the Department of Defense to prevent commemoration of the Confederate States of America or any person who served voluntarily with the Confederate States of America;

(4) develop a plan to remove names, symbols, displays, monuments, or paraphernalia that commemorate the Confederate States of America or any person who served voluntarily with the Confederate States of America from assets of the Department of Defense, within the timeline established by this Act; and

(5) include in the plan procedures and criteria for collecting and incorporating local sensitivities associated with naming or renaming of assets of the Department of Defense.

(d) MEMBERSHIP.—The Commission shall be composed of eight members, of whom—

(1) four shall be appointed by the Secretary of Defense;

(2) one shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

(3) one shall be appointed by the Ranking Member of the Committee on Armed Services of the Senate;

(4) one shall be appointed by the Chairman of the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives; and

(5) one shall be appointed by the Ranking Member of the Committee on Armed Services of the House of Representatives.

(e) APPOINTMENT.—Members of the Commission shall be appointed not later than 45 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(f) INITIAL MEETING.—The Commission shall hold its initial meeting on the date that is 60 days after the enactment of this Act.

(g) BRIEFINGS AND REPORTS.—Not later than October 1, 2021, the Commission shall brief the Committees on Armed Services of the Senate and House of Representatives detailing the progress of the requirements under subsection (c). Not later than October 1, 2022, and not later than 90 days before the implementation of the plan in subsection (c)(4), the Commission shall present a briefing and written report detailing the results of the requirements under subsection (c), including:

(1) A list of assets to be removed or renamed.

(2) Costs associated with the removal or renaming of assets in subsection (g)(1).

(3) Criteria and requirements used to nominate and rename assets in subsection (g)(1).

(4) Methods of collecting and incorporating local sensitivities associated with the removal or renaming of assets in subsection (g)(1).

(h) FUNDING.—

(1) Authorization of Appropriations.—There is authorized to be appropriated \$2,000,000 to carry out this section.

(2) OFFSET.—The amount authorized to be appropriated by the Act for fiscal year 2021 for Operations and Maintenance, Army, sub activity group 434 - other personnel support is hereby reduced by \$2,000,000.

(i) ASSETS DEFINED.—In this section, the term “assets” includes any base, installation, street, building, facility, aircraft, ship, plane, weapon, equipment, or any other property owned or controlled by the Department of Defense.

(j) EXEMPTION FOR GRAVE MARKERS.—Shall not cover monuments but shall exempt grave markers. Congress expects the commission to further define what constitutes a grave marker.

NOTES

1 The Office of Army Cemeteries briefed the Commission in April 2021 on the definitions of markers, memorials, and monuments; and relevant statutes, regulations, and policies to help its members develop an understanding of what constitutes a “grave marker.” Subsequently, the Commission defined “grave markers” as: “Markers located at the remains of the fallen. A marker, headstone, foot stone, niche cover, or flat marker containing inscriptions commemorating one or more decedents interred at that location.” This definition aligns with 38 U.S. Code § 2306 – Headstones, markers, and burial receptacles.

2 Army Regulation 1-33, *The Army Memorial Program*, October 25, 2018.

3 Garrison Davidson, *Superintendent’s Curriculum Study: Report of the Working Committee on the Historical Aspects of the Curriculum for the Period 1802-1945*. West Point, New York: 1958, 7.

4 *Documents, Legislative and Executive, Of The Congress of the United States, From the Second Session of the Twentieth to the First Session of the Twenty Second Congress, Inclusive. Volume 4, Military Affairs*. Washington: Gales and Seaton, 1860, 603.

5 George Callum, *Biographical Register of the Officers and Graduates of the United States Military Academy, Volume 1*. West Point, New York: 1868, 12-14.

6 Ty Seidule, *Robert E. Lee and Me: A Southerner’s Reckoning With the Myth of the Lost Cause*. New York: McMillan Publishing, 2021, 178-210.

7 Seidule, *Robert E. Lee and Me: A Southerner’s Reckoning With the Myth of the Lost Cause*, 222-224.

8 Terry Jones, *Historical Encyclopedia of the Civil War*, 643-645.

9 James McPherson, *The Battle Cry of Freedom*, 369-427.

10 Matthew Maury, “The Direct Foreign Trade of the South,” 147.



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THE NAMING COMMISSION



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