

Thursday, June 12, 2008

AFA Members and Civic Leaders, I have spent most of the past few days talking with people ... to include the press ... about the most recent leadership changes in the Air Force.

Your AFA has been very active on this from the beginning.

- Within hours of notification AFA came out with a press release. It is worth repeating it here:

The Air Force Association notes with the utmost regret the announced departures today of Secretary of the Air Force Michael Wynne and Chief of Staff General Michael Moseley. Both Secretary Wynne and General Moseley made significant contributions to our Air Force during their tenure. "Their visionary leadership in articulating legitimate Air Force requirements is precisely what our Air Force needs during these challenging times," said AFA Chairman of the Board Bob Largent. "AFA remains confident that the institution of the United States Air Force will meet this challenge and emerge even stronger...Airmen as individuals make the difference." AFA's volunteers and the professional staff, led by President/CEO Mike Dunn, will continue to work with senior Air Force leaders to make the strongest case possible for an Air Force worthy of our great nation, second to none.

- Secondly, I was asked for my views on the news. I put them in the form of talking points I could use with the press and with Congressional members and their staffs. You can find it on our web site. It is only a page and one-half ... and I think worth the read. [http://www.afa.org/PresidentsCorner/Other/TalkingPoints\\_6\\_6\\_08.pdf](http://www.afa.org/PresidentsCorner/Other/TalkingPoints_6_6_08.pdf)
- Thirdly, when the new leadership team was announced, AFA also released a press announcement which applauded the selection of Mr. Donley and Gen Schwartz.

The Air Force Association today roundly praised the selection of a new leadership team of the United States Air Force. Defense Secretary Robert Gates has announced the nominations of Michael Donley to be Secretary of the Air Force and General Norton Schwartz to be Chief of Staff. "There are significant challenges ahead for the U.S. Air Force with an aging fleet and limited resources," said AFA Chairman Bob Largent. "Times of transition are never easy, but having a complete leadership team in place is an important step." Mike Dunn, President of AFA, said, "I have worked with Gen Schwartz in the past. He's a great leader. I am sure Mr. Donley and he will quickly level the wings of the Air Force and get them on an upward vector." The Air Force Association looks forward to working with both leaders.

Members and civic leaders, these are tough times ... but I am confident that our Air Force will emerge from this stronger and more capable. AFA congratulates Secretary Wynne and Gen Moseley and wishes them the very best as they complete their service to our nation. Their leadership ... and that of thousands of other Airmen have kept us safe in these perilous times.

Respectfully

Mike

Michael M. Dunn, Lt Gen (Ret)

President/CEO