

*Remarks for the  
National Guard Press Conference  
September 28, 2001*

Good afternoon. Yesterday, President George Bush asked the nation's governors to assist in efforts to enhance airport security by activating National Guard units.

Today, in accordance with President Bush's request, I am issuing an executive order authorizing Mississippi National Guard Adjutant General James H. Lipscomb III to call up National Guard personnel to aid civilian authorities at airports around the state.

Seven airports in Mississippi have been identified for assistance from National Guard personnel:

- Mid-Delta Regional Airport,  
Greenville
- Gulfport-Biloxi Regional Airport,  
Gulfport
- Golden Triangle Regional Airport,  
Columbus
- Jackson International Airport, Jackson
- Key Field Airport, Meridian
- Hattiesburg-Laurel Airport, Moselle
- Tupelo Regional Airport, Tupelo.

I wanted our state soldiers to perform this mission with clear, focused goals as to what their jobs will actually be. They will receive training from the FAA in checkpoint security and screening.

The Mississippi National Guard has always answered it's country's call, and is doing so again. I am proud of the men and women of our Guard, and of their leadership. I would ask Major General Lipscomb to say a few words regarding this mission.

(General Lipscomb speaks; then open up for questions)

