

**VETERANS AFFAIRS COMMISSION MEETING**  
**MAY 30, 2002**  
**SUMMARY**

The Veterans Affairs Commission members were introduced to the NYS Division of Veterans' Affairs' senior staff who were present during the Commissions' meeting. Each Deputy Director gave a synopsis of their particular region.

Director Basher informed the Commission members that the Division now has a counseling office in all 12 VA Medical Centers. Basher continued by stating that the Division has shed four employees within the last year. This is due to retirements and currently the Division is unable to back fill position.

General McGuire from the Division of Military and Naval Affairs gave an update of what was taking place throughout New York State in regards to the guard, airmen, Port Authority and protection of citizens within New York State against terrorism.

A question was asked of Mr. Basher: "What are the needs of the returning veterans?" This issue needs to be identified and the legislature needs to know the answer.

The Commission meeting was adjourned and the members were on their way to the Governor's mansion for a reception for the grand event of the WWII Memorial Ceremony.

**NEXT VAC MEETING:**

August 27, 2002

1 PM

Location to be announced.