

Department of Defense Bloggers Roundtable With Bob Carey, Director,  
Federal Voting Assistance Program Via Teleconference Subject: Federal  
Voting Assistance Program Time: 2:02 p.m. EDT Date: Thursday, October 27,  
2011

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PETTY OFFICER WILLIAM SELBY (Office of the Secretary of Defense  
for Public Affairs): And I guess we're all ready to go. Is Mr. Carey  
ready to go?

BOB CAREY: I am.

PETTY OFFICER SELBY: Roger that, sir.

Well, with that, I'd like to welcome you all to the Department  
of Defense's Bloggers Roundtable for Thursday, October 27th, 2011. My  
name is Petty Officer William Selby with the Office of the Secretary of  
Defense Public Affairs, and I will be moderating the call.

Today we are honored to have as our guest Mr. Bob Carey,  
director of the Federal Voting Assistance Program, who will discuss how  
these disparate findings measure up against each other from the DOD  
Live blog that we have up.

Sir, if you have an opening statement on those findings and on  
your blog, you can go ahead with that now.

MR. CAREY: OK, great.

Well, we're -- you know, we're happy about where things have  
been going. We showed -- as we discussed before in our original press  
release, we had a 21 percent increase in the voter participation rate  
amongst the military, with the most dramatic increase is about 33 percent  
of the 18 to 24-year-old voter.

And we have been focusing a lot of our efforts on those 18 to  
24- year-old voters because they are the ones that had had the greatest  
disparity between their voter participation rates and those of the  
general population 18 to 24-year-olds. And given that they're oftentimes  
the most likely to be deployed military personnel and also the first-time

voters, we wanted to be able to make sure we provided as many resources to them as possible.

We're also heartened that the percentages of military personnel that both received and returned ballots went up 24 (percent) and 25 percent respectively and that also, there was a dramatic increase in the knowledge and the awareness of voters of the available voting assistance resources such as knowing who their voting assistance officer was, knowing about federal -- the FVAP.gov website, knowing about the Voting Assistance Guide. And again, those -- you know, those are generally in the 23 (percent) to 24 percent range for the overall military population, but in the 53 (percent) to 87 percent range for the 18 to 24-year-old population, which we really wanted to be able to make sure we reached out to specifically.

This paralleled many of the successes we had with our overall outreach program. We had a very aggressive advertising and outreach program to military voters as well as to overseas voters. And because of that, we saw a doubling of our website usage over 2006 and a tripling of form downloads, especially the federal postcard application and the federal write-in absentee ballot utilizing our new wizard.

On the downside, you know, we had a -- we had a dramatic increase in the percentage of people that said that they had never received their ballot. Approximately 112,000 personnel -- military personnel said they had -- they thought they had requested an absentee ballot but did not receive it. That was equivalent to about 29 percent of the -- of those that had requested absentee ballots, up from 16 percent in 2008.

Fortunately, of those that said they thought they were going to get an absentee ballot but never received it, approximately 46,000 were still able to vote. So we're glad also that our backup plans with the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot Wizard and the federal write-in absentee ballots being deployed to the -- deployed to the forces out of the -- out at sea and out in the field are at least getting partially out there.

And then lastly, we were also concerned about the high percentage of local election officials who indicate that although they know about the 45-day prior deadline for transmitting ballots to military and overseas voters, 44 percent of those jurisdictions still failed to send out their ballots at least 45 days prior to the election. And we're concerned that that may have been, you know, at least one of the partial causes for the increase in the number of voters that never received their ballot.

With that, I can open it up to any of the questions that folks may have.

PETTY OFFICER SELBY: Thank you very much, sir.

And a note to the bloggers: Remember to clearly state your name and blog or organization in advance of your question, and please keep your phone on mute if you are not asking a question.

The first on the line was Dale, so you can go ahead with your question, Dale.

Q: Yes, sir. Thank you, Mr. Carey, for taking the afternoon time to talk to us. I'm Dale Kissinger from militaryavenue.com.

MR. CAREY: How you doing?

Q: I'm doing well. I'm a veteran and also saw some problems getting my ballots in my 30-year career, and I appreciate what you've done to make it better for our troops.

MR. CAREY: Well, thank you very much. This is a team effort -- the entire -- of the Federal Voting Assistance Program along with the services and the state and local election officials.

Q: Well, that's great. I did pick up right away, though, on the 44 percent that failed to comply with the law. Is there anything being done between DOD and the Department of Justice to emphasize to these officials that they're responsible for complying with the law?

MR. CAREY: Oh, they know. They know. The issue -- and the Department of Justice had a pretty darn aggressive enforcement program this last time around. They had enforcement actions, I think, against 13 or 14 states.

The most -- you know -- you know, one of the things we're trying to figure out -- we still don't know how we're going to figure this out -- is the extent of this problem and the impact of this problem. There are approximately 7,800 election jurisdictions nationwide, and -- but 92 percent of the military ballots are transmitted by only 15 percent of those 7,800 election jurisdictions. So there are -- you know, there are -- what, there's -- 88 percent of the election jurisdictions only transmit 8 percent of the ballots.

So what you have is you have a lot of these small jurisdictions who may have, you know, one, two, 10, 15 total military and overseas ballots. And if they don't get the request until less than 45 days prior to the election, that ballot can't be sent out until, you know, less than 45 days prior. So what we're trying to figure out is, you know -- and we don't know how we're going to do this right now -- maybe -- I have a couple folks here from Defense Manpower Data Center; maybe they have some ideas about how we might be able to figure this out -- but is to determine, you know, whether it's big jurisdictions that are failing or small jurisdictions. Now, 22 percent of the large jurisdictions also said that they didn't start sending out their ballots until 22 -- until 45 days -- less than 45 days prior. So that also is of concern.

What we found in 2010 was that the failures appear to be very concentrated, specifically New York City and southern Illinois. Out of

the -- out of all the ballots that we know were delivered late in 2010, they represented about 90 percent -- 80-90 percent of the total number of ballots that were delivered late. So you know, focusing our efforts on those largest jurisdictions to make sure that voters know to get their ballots out -- ballot requests in as soon as possible and to provide the -- you know, the -- those large jurisdictions the awareness to make sure that they're getting those ballots out on time, and also the tools, I think, is probably going to be our best way to be able to do this.

But I know that, you know, the Department of Justice monitors this very closely and was very aggressive the last time around in implementing these enforcement actions. But of course, the goal is to not have an enforcement action in the first place.

So one of the things that we're doing is we have a \$20 million grant program that we're finalizing right now to provide states and local election officials with the tools to be able to provide the ballots online so that if a voter doesn't receive their ballot in time, it's at least still posted online so they can go and just download it and send it in themselves and not have to wait for the mail delivery of the ballot to get to them.

I think that's ultimately the best way for this to be able to go, is to provide those ballots online or provide it electronically through email delivery, so that instead of having to wait 20 or 30 days for the ballot to be delivered, we're waiting 20 to 30 milliseconds. And the voter can get their ballot 45 days prior and take -- and have the full 45 days to be able to get that ballot back.

Q: That sounds great. Thank you, sir.

PETTY OFFICER SELBY: And Leo Shane.

Q: Yeah. Hi, Bob. Leo Shane over at Stars and Stripes.

MR. CAREY: How you doing, Leo?

Q: I'm doing all right. Hey, a question about that 112,000 figure. Do you have any sense of how many of those folks may have been expecting ballots but didn't follow the proper procedures here? I know we had a lot of changes last cycle, and I don't know, with just the standard folks moving addresses and forgetting to update that, if you have any sense of how many of those folks it's -- I don't want to say it's their own fault, but how many of those folks was a self-inflicted ballot problem?

MR. CAREY: No, we don't. And, you know, one of the things that we did find out from the survey results as well is that, you know, there is 126,000 military personnel who did not vote but who did receive their ballot as well. They automatically received their ballot. And so, you know, what we're trying to figure out is whether they did not receive their ballot because they did things properly and it was never delivered to them, or they erroneously assumed that they were automatically going to receive a ballot because they requested a ballot in 2008, and with the

law being -- with the law being -- with that law being repealed, they erroneously relied upon that.

Q: Right.

MR. CAREY: So one of the things we're looking to do is we're looking to do some research this year, this year and early next, and we're probably going to be putting out some proposals about research. And maybe one of the areas that we can do research on is to actually go and, you know, do cross-analyses against, you know, people that thought they were going to get a ballot versus -- and then going back and actually checking the voter registration records to see if they had actually sent in an absentee ballot request. And, you know, we can do a -- we could do a small subsample of that sort of thing that might be very informative as to, you know, what extent this failure was because they didn't know the procedures or because they did things properly and the ballot just never got to them.

Q: OK. Great.

PETTY OFFICER SELBY: Jared, you were next.

Q: Yeah. Hi, it's Jared Serbu with Federal News Radio. The electronic delivery of the ballot sounds like a promising solution to some of these problems. Just to clarify, that's still just one-way electronic, right? You're still returning the ballot by mail?

MR. CAREY: Right. The Department of Defense is only -- is only funding these one way, the transmission of the ballot from the voter -- from the election official to the voter. In 2010, the Department of Defense funded 17 states in developing these programs, and then 14 more states did their own.

And one of the things that we found is that the states that did their own systems actually had much higher utilization than the states that used our system. And I think it's because, you know, using our system, it was federally procured, so it was a federal decision as to who the vendor was going to be. And so you're basically having to attach a third-party vendor to the pre-existing election administration systems that are already in place.

Q: Right.

MR. CAREY: And so, you know, it's very difficult for the election administrator to coordinate those systems so that they can automatically notify voters about the availability of the system. The states that did their own systems, funded it themselves, were able to integrate it. And so I think that was one of the reasons they had much greater utilization. That's why we're going to a grant program this year rather than a procurement program, so that the states can determine how to be able to build these systems themselves. We simply provide some funding. And that way, they can build upon what they already have in place.

I mean, for example, Maryland -- out of the 17 states that we had, there was about 3,500 ballots downloaded. Maryland alone had 1,125 ballots downloaded for their system. Michigan, three weeks before the election, had something like 950 ballots downloaded. Georgia had something like 1,400 ballots downloaded out of their system. So, you know, it indicates to me that when a state builds its own system, it can build it from the ground up integrated and they get much higher utilization. So I think that's a much -- you know, that's the future of how this needs to be built. Q: So does the federal system go away then? Can you wring out any savings from discontinuing that and putting it into the grant program, or are you obligated to run that for a little while longer?

MR. CAREY: Oh, no, what we did in 2010 was 2010 alone.

Q: Oh, gotcha, OK.

MR. CAREY: So -- and what we're trying -- and you know, the Federal Voting Assistance Program has been, to borrow a phrase, on a surge; we've been on a surge in terms of building our own systems through the online -- photo -- Federal Postcard Application wizard and online -- the online Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot wizard -- both of which are available at fvap.gov. And if there's one thing you guys could really help me out with is, tell people to go to fvap.gov, because -- I'll explain to you in a minute just why that's so important.

But we're surging to build our own portal that allows the voter complete access to the one-stop shop to be able to get access to all the state and local election official information and systems they need, to have an online wizard that helps them fill out the form themselves in five to seven minutes, gives them direct access to online ballot delivery systems that states may deploy, and then also to surge with the state and local election officials to put in place this infrastructure that can last for a longer period of time so that the voter can more easily access these ballots online in the future.

And once we get that -- and so, you know, we're in -- we're in the middle of that surge right now. And once we, you know, get these grant programs out, we hope to be able to start, you know, move back a bit, be more of a portal, of an interface between the voter and the -- and the election official who already has this system in place for them, for these voters, and we can, you know, get out -- we can, you know, basically be the intermediary to connect the two.

The reason that fvap.gov is so important is that we're not trying to build a federal system, a one -- you know, one-size-fits-all federal system that, you know, everyone has to adopt. The Constitution gives to the states the authority to run elections, and that ain't changing. So we need to figure out how to be able to support that and leverage that.

So with the fvap.gov website, not only do we provide the online wizards for the federal postcard application and the Federal Write-In Absentee Ballots, but we also provide the voter direct access to their

state systems. So if the state has an online voter registration system for military and overseas voters, they can go there. They don't even have to use our form. If the state has an online ballot delivery system, they -- it will send them directly there. And hopefully it will be seamless, intuitive, quick and easy for the voter so they don't even have to worry about how they're getting there. But again, that's fvap.gov.

Q: Let me sneak in one more quick one on e-voting. Is it an objective at all to make this a two-way process and actually vote electronically, or is that too far off?

MR. CAREY: Yes, it is. Yes, it is. I mean, the federal voting -- the Department of Defense has a mandate to do an Internet voting demonstration project for military voting -- for military voters. And we are working towards figuring out how to be able to do that.

Now the question is, you know, there are -- there are inherent security risks with that. But there are also inherent security risks with the current system, such as 112,000 people who think they're going to get a ballot, don't get it. That's a risk. And so we need -- you know, there's not going to be any electronic voting system that's ever going to be 100 percent secure, but also the current paper-based system is not 100 percent reliable, either. So we've got to accept that.

So we're trying to figure out, you know, whether federally procured systems are more secure than state-procured systems, whether we should -- you know, whether we should be trying to figure out, you know, whether we should make a federal system or whether we should support the states in building their own systems, and then also to figure out what exactly are the requirements in both security, reliability and privacy in order to be able make this system workable.

We're going to be coming out with a couple of reports here pretty soon. We just did a series of testing of the current online voting systems that are out there. We're going to be coming out with that report. And then we're also coming -- we also did some penetration testing. We had some of our 20-pound brains in the Department of Defense, in the federal government try to hack into some of these systems. And so we're going to be having a report coming out soon about the results of that as well. So these are things we need to work through methodically and rigorously and transparently, and we hope that we're going to be able to do that.

Q: OK. Great, thanks. I've got more, but hopefully we'll do a second round. Thank you.

PETTY OFFICER SELBY: Julie (sp), did you have a question?

Q: I do, about the e-voting system. Is there a time -- and I know it's always hard to do with these sort of things -- but is there a timeline when that may be up and running? MR. CAREY: We don't know, because right now we don't know what we don't know in terms of some of these security and reliability issues, especially for a federally procured system.

You know, I mean, think about it: For the bad guys out there, even if they don't hack into the system and actually change any of the votes, just defacing the web page would be a strategic communications victory for the bad guys, you know, especially if it's the DOD system.

So, you know, we've been developing a plan that has a number of iterative steps, a number of different lines of operation, each that may be able to reach this objective on their own or that can do it in conjunction with each other. And we have a number of decision points and interim tests along the way. You know, I would say it's very unlikely that we're going to be able to field a system before 2016 or 2018.

Q: But at some time in the future -- I mean, this is the direction where we're going?

MR. CAREY: This is -- now, there are states -- there are states that are developing -- that have in the past and are developing now Internet voting systems for military and overseas voters, that they have deployed in previous elections and will likely deploy in the 2012 election. And you know what? These are big boys and girls and they've been election officials for a long time, and they're the ones responsible for their election's reliability and integrity and security. And if they believe that the particular security risks and reliability risks associated with such systems in their particular instance are -- you know, if the benefits are worth that risk, that's their decision to make.

Q: Right.

MR. CAREY: And we're not going to tell them, you know, how to run their election. So there are -- there are some states that will very likely run Internet voting systems for military and overseas voters in the 2012 election. And as those states, you know, are determining that, we'll make sure the voters are aware of them.

Q: Sure. And that would be at that website --

MR. CAREY: Mm-hmm.

Q: -- which for now works as a portal linking you to those other sites?

MR. CAREY: Exactly. Q: OK.

MR. CAREY: Exactly. And in 2010, for the state -- you know, West Virginia had a system and we linked those -- we linked those voters directly to that system.

Q: OK.

MR. CAREY: Some states allow for the email or fax back of a voter ballot, and we gave the voter the directions about how that state does that.

Q: Wonderful. Great, thank you very much.

MR. CAREY: Mm-hmm.

PETTY OFFICER SELBY: And back around to Dale.

Q: Yes, sir. My question concerns military family members. Are they going to be included in the website, to be able to use it?

MR. CAREY: They are -- they are now. In fact, we do aggressive outreach program to military dependents as well. In fact, our first ad for this election cycle just ran in Military Spouse magazine, and we'll be running full-page ads in Defense Times, Stars and Stripes, Military Spouse, as well as online advertisements. But we're specifically reaching out to the military dependents, trying to make sure they understand that they have the same rights as their military member themselves, and also to make sure they know how to get voting assistance, either through the FVAP.gov website, or through their installation voting assistance office.

2010 is the first year that we did a survey of the military spouse. And of the 700,000 military spouses, we found that 35 percent of them voted. When you adjust for age and gender, that was approximately a four -- 50 -- what was the military spouse voter participation, adjusted voter participation for military spouses? I'll get it for you in just a second.

STAFFER: Fifty-two percent.

MR. CAREY: So when you adjust it for age and gender, the military spouse voter participation rate is 52 percent, compared to, you know, 45.5 percent for the general population.

But what was unique was that whereas two-thirds of the military voters vote by absentee ballot, only approximately 40 percent of the military spouses vote by absentee ballot. Most of them are, in fact, local voters; they vote in person at the local polling place, because they -- because they have different rules for determining residency for voting than the military member does themselves. And so we've actually -- the administration has actually made a recommendation to Congress to make those voting residency rules the same, so that military dependents can vote by absentee ballot in the jurisdiction they want to vote in, not have to vote in person in the jurisdiction in which they currently happen to reside.

Q: OK, thank you, sir. We could use some of that ad on MilitaryAvenue.com, too.

MR. CAREY: You need to talk to Scott Wiedmann, W-I-E-D-M-A-N-N, or Erin St. Pierre. And I think they're on the -- if we don't have your email address, we'll get -- we'll get that information to you; but more than happy to work that out with you.

Q: OK, thanks.

PETTY OFFICER SELBY: I'll send that email over -- address over to them, Dale.

And Leo, you were next.

Q: Yeah, not to make this whole thing about e-voting, but if we're expecting several states to take step forwards (sic) next year, by the time the DOD comes up with a system is it going to be obsolete?

MR. CAREY: Well, I don't know how many states are going to do it. I mean, one state did it in 2010 -- I think one. Is there anyone else who says it was --

Q: Arizona had that.

MR. CAREY: Arizona has an online upload. They don't have, like, you know, actual online voting. They had an online upload.

Q: OK.

MR. CAREY: So we're talking one, two states. I don't know how many are planning on doing it in 2012. But you know, absent --

Q: All right, so when you say -- when you say 2012, you're expecting more -- you're just expecting -- you don't know of states that are rolling out whole new systems in the next few months?

MR. CAREY: No.

Q: OK.

MR. CAREY: No, not yet, I don't. Not yet, I don't. I think most of them are -- you know, given the -- you know, the dire financial situations that most state and local election officials are in, absent federal funding, I don't know of a whole lot of states that are going to be able to deploy systems like this.

But the other element is that the iterative steps along the way, you know, of doing security analysis, reliability analysis, penetration testing, different technology testing, we'll be making -- you know, we'll be reporting on that as well. And hopefully, that will help these state and local election officials even before we come out with a final system.

So you know -- and then the final question is going to be, you know, do we develop a federal system that this is for the entire nation, or do we support states in deploying their own systems? And all other things being equal, I'd rather support states in deploying their own system. We'll see if that can -- if that can work out.

Q: OK, great.

PETTY OFFICER SELBY: Jared, back around to you. Q: Yeah, I'm just curious, in your postelection surveys, do you get into at all the reasons, motivations why people do or do not decide to vote?

MR. CAREY: Yeah, we ask -- we ask voters if they're interested in voting, if they planned on voting, and if they did not vote, why did they not vote and also, if they did not register, why they did not get registered.

MS. : (Off mic.)

MR. CAREY: And the remarkable thing I saw was that in -- yeah, I've got a copy of the report there.

MS. : Right behind you.

(Off-mic conversation.)

MR. CAREY: In -- so in 2008 the overall interest in voting was 85 percent. Eighty-five percent of the survey takers said they were either somewhat interested or very interested. In 2010 only 55 percent said they were interested. And so -- and where we saw almost all of that drop was in the "very interested."

So you know, the very interested are the most likely to vote. And so that's -- you know, and that should be expected. I mean, voters in general are less interested in nonpresidential elections than in presidential elections. And then in -- and same thing for "plan to vote." Now, where we saw -- you know, there was also a marked drop in the percentage of people that said they plan to vote.

And -- but where we saw the most marked drop was in the 18 to 24 and the 24 -- and the 25 to 29-year-olds. And they -- and you know, they make up 60 percent of the military. So you know, when you have that marked -- the -- you know, the percentage of -- the percentage of 18-year-olds who said that they were interested in the election in 2008 was 77 percent, but in 2010 only 41 percent. So when you -- when you have that type of, you know, massive drop amongst such a large portion of the population, you're going to have a lot less people voting.

You know, some of the reasons that people said they didn't vote was -- or didn't register was usually that they weren't interested, that the -- I don't know if was the majority reason. The biggest reason was that they were not interested or none of the candidates interested them. But there was also a significant portion of the population that said they didn't know how or they didn't -- or they could find the materials or they never received their ballot. But the most significant was they weren't interested.

I think we have that in the report here. Do we have -- do we have that in -- do we have it in the report? It's -- if not in the actual report, it's in the -- it's in the -- it's in the tabs. Q: OK, gotcha.

MR. CAREY: And if you want -- and why don't we get the specific question in the tab, in the active duty military and the spouse tab and the page number and send that -- is that Jared?

Q: Yeah, yeah.

MR. CAREY: OK, send that over to Jared so he can see that exact data.

Q: That would be great. Thank you. And then my --

PETTY OFFICER SELBY: Sir -- sorry, Jared, we are -- I just want to make sure we -- are -- do we have time for about one or two more questions, sir?

MR. CAREY: I am -- I'm free. I'll stick around.

PETTY OFFICER SELBY: All right. Roger that. Roger that.

And go ahead, Jared. Sorry.

Q: No, that's all right. I was just going to ask -- it sounds like DOJ, from what you said earlier, has a pretty good idea of what's happening throughout the local jurisdictions because they're launching enforcement actions. Are you working with them at all to combine their data with yours and figure out where to target your efforts to boost compliance?

MR. CAREY: There are some problems with that because their data is collected under court enforcement actions, and so sharing it with us apparently is problematic. We provide them all of our data. We post all of our data online. So you can see it, too.

You know, the Department of Justice has sole and exclusive enforcement authority for these issues. We are not an enforcement agency. And we -- frankly, we try to stay away from that type of activity because there's not a violation of federal law until a ballot doesn't go out. And we had a number of cases last year where we were able to figure out, you know, inventive ways to help the election jurisdictions get the ballots out 45 days prior.

Give you a case in point. North Dakota. They have their primary many months before the election, but they allow for ballot -- they allow for ballot initiatives to be put on the ballot up to, like, 60 days prior to the election. So they don't get their ballot proof back until 60 days prior, and then it takes another, you know, week to get them printed. So they're, like, we're not going to be able to make this; what do we do?

I said, hold it, hold it. You're getting your ballot proof back 50 days prior, right?

Yeah.

Well, just photocopy that and send it out 45 days prior or 49 days prior.

Oh, okay. If we didn't have that assistance relationship with the election officials, and instead they saw us as an enforcement agency, I doubt they would have brought it up with us in the first place. Now, as federal officials, if we are aware of a violation of federal law, it's our duty to tell Department of Justice of that; but, you know we want to be -- we want to make sure that these election officials understand that we're there to help them comply, and if they reach out to us early, they can very likely figure out ways to be able to comply that they may not have otherwise thought about.

But if you had specific questions about DOJ enforcement, I'd recommend we put you in touch with Department of Justice.

Q: Oh, sure. No, that was a totally adequate answer. Thank you, sir.

PETTY OFFICER SELBY: And Julie, did you have any more questions?

Q: Nothing more. They were answered. Thank you.

PETTY OFFICER SELBY: All right.

Well, with that, sir, I guess we can wrap up today's call.

MR. CAREY: Leo, did you have -- I thought you may have had another question there. Did you have another one, Leo?

Q: No, I'm all good.

MR. CAREY: Okay. Good.

PETTY OFFICER SELBY: Roger that, sir. And if you have any closing statement, you can go ahead with that now.

MR. CAREY: FVAP.gov. FVAP.gov. FVAP.gov. Really, if you just put in a little box that says -- and if you're a military overseas voter and you want to be able to figure out how to get your stuff, go to FVAP.gov. Now, if they're out in the field, they need to use their voting assistance officer. If they're out on a ship -- if they're out on a ship, they probably can use FVAP.gov too.

But, you know, we're really trying to make this as accessible to the voter directly as possible so they don't have to use paper forms, so they don't have to wade through a 390-page voting assistance guide. We've done that for them already with these wizards, and they can do it really easily through FVAP.gov.

PETTY OFFICER SELBY: Thank you very much, sir. And thank you to everybody who was on the line today.

Today's program will be available online in [dodlive.mil](http://dodlive.mil), where you'll be able to access source documents such as the audio file and a print transcript. Again, thank you very much, Mr. Carey and to our blogger participants.

This concludes today's event. Feel free to disconnect at this time.

Q: Thanks a lot.

MR. CAREY: Thank you all very much.

END.