

Readiness

10-07 Resourcing the Army

The United States Army has been engaged for more than eight years in continuous conflict while undertaking a revolutionary modernization of its forces to better meet the many challenges facing our nation. The United States is the bastion of freedom, and it is from this freedom that the strength of our nation flows. With our abundant resources and our dynamic, productive population we wield enormous global political and economic power. However, without a strong military to protect those interests at home and abroad, our freedom is at risk. Our All-Volunteer Army is a high quality Army, and America must stand ready to fund the cost of that force. This includes funding officer commissioning programs, recruiting and retention of the enlisted force and expansion of the Junior ROTC program. This requires investment of our national resources in support of a strong military to protect that freedom. In this context, the Army's resource challenge is only a part of a larger defense budget shortfall.

In recent years, our military operations have been supported by Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO) funding. The result is an Army base budget that faces an uncertain future. We should no longer fund base requirements with overseas contingency operation dollars, and resist any attempt to migrate current base dollars to OCO. Rather we should include such enduring programs in our base budget. For example, the level of funding in the Army base is insufficient to maintain current operational commitments while simultaneously resetting the Current Force and transforming to the Future Force. The Defense base budget must also increase; likewise, an increase in the Army's base budget as a percentage of the overall Defense base is required.

These are challenging and extraordinarily dangerous times. Since 1995, all of the Army's combat divisions (active and reserve) have seen action in Bosnia, Kosovo, Afghanistan or Iraq. Simultaneously, our Army is transforming to take advantage of 21st Century technology and applying new concepts of organization in order to remain the world's premier armed force. Additionally, the Army must prepare for contingencies to defend the nation from other emerging threats. To meet today's challenges, the Army is executing a continuously adaptive cycle of innovation and experimentation based on experience and new concepts.

The Army's sustained rotation of forces is a reflection of the challenging and different 21st Century operational environment. The nation must continue to adjust capabilities and redirect more resources to win in an era of persistent conflict while preparing for future challenges. The Army continues an aggressive organizational transformation necessary to sustain continuous and enduring rotational commitments worldwide by creating a force of 76 Active Component (AC) and Reserve Component (RC) modular Brigade Combat Teams (BCT). The increased number of BCTs provides broad-spectrum capabilities, sustains rotational employment and will provide the agility to support the broad range of missions from combat to peacekeeping operations.

The funded end strength of our Active Army must be increased to at least 700,000 Soldiers, the Army National Guard must increase to 371,000 and the Army Reserve to 215,000.

All Army programs are highly interdependent and tightly integrated in support of the unit rotation plan, unit conversions in support of modularity, recapitalization, and technologies into the Current Force. Reduction or delay of either base program dollars or overseas contingency operations funding will introduce increasingly unacceptable risk and turbulent disruptions to the force. The most significant near-term resourcing challenges facing the Army are to gain additional timely funding to the current base program, to transform the Army, to sustain the rotation of combat forces in support of an Army totally engaged at war, to execute current Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) decisions, and to prepare for future commitments while resetting an Army at war without degradation to the Army's investment in the Future Force. The

Army requires considerable resources to sustain the current pace of operations while at the same time modernizing our force for the future. Current Congressional appropriations recognize this need, but we need the continued support of Congress to prevent sliding back into that condition of impoverishment.

There is a decade-long funding deficit for Army facilities and installations, resulting in a backlog of repairs and maintenance of more than \$17 billion. As a result, facilities on Army installations have an average age of more than 40 years and a recapitalization cycle of approximately 144 years. Our goal is to revitalize on a 67-year cycle. Our FY 2010 recapitalization rate for Active, National Guard and Army Reserve is 47.2 years based on projected recapitalization investments and Army Plant Replacement Value (PRV). The Army Military Construction (MILCON) request has been adjusted to reflect BRAC installation decisions and now contains the vital MILCON funds to support the Army Force Generation (ARFORGEN) model and Global Defense Posturing Review (GDPR) unit rotation and basing requirements. Delayed MILCON funding induces serious risk as it affects total synchronization. Increased funding must be provided to achieve the Army's target of reducing the facilities recapitalization cycle to 67 years. National Guard Armories and Army Reserve Centers are often the most visible Army presence in communities throughout the United States. Many armories and centers and most facilities to which RC units are assigned when mobilized are aging, outdated or unsafe and need to be renovated or replaced. The Army Reserve and Army National Guard need timely funding to execute a tightly-woven, operationally synchronized stationing plan that integrates base closures and military construction.

Rapidly changing demands and the increasing complexity of the 21st Century battle space require speed and useful materiel solutions to enhance mission capabilities and reduce risk to the Soldier. Additional investment dollars commensurate with mission requirements must be allocated for training, maintenance, reset, recapitalization and modernization of the Current Force, and for accelerating the research and development in support of the Future Force. The Army continues to commit resources toward promising future technologies through the Brigade combat Team Modernization and has begun to "spin out" technologies into the Current Force to enhance broad-spectrum capabilities and force protection.

Timely and adequate Operations and Maintenance (O&M) funding directly supports AC and RC readiness by enabling sufficient training and supply of equipment repair parts and other consumables. Adequate O&M funding for AC and RC units is essential. Full time manning and funding for RC units is also a direct determinant of RC readiness and training.

As the Army leads the fight to protect the nation, it is also transforming into a modular force and repositioning units throughout the world via the GDPR. As the Army implements these two unprecedented undertakings, it is also preparing to execute installation realignment and closure decisions flowing from Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC). The task is massive in scope: fight a war, transform to a modern modular force, and reposition about 70,000 Soldiers and 100,000 Family members from consolidated installations and facilities around the globe while realigning and closing selected installations. Failure to fully resource these tasks on a timely basis will negatively impact unit readiness and unit rotations, thus placing immeasurable strain on and reducing quality of life for Soldiers and their Families.

Installation transformation is an integral part of the overall Army Transformation to a modular force and requires continued improvement and sustainment over time if installations are to become "flagships of readiness". There cannot be a "time out" for readiness at installations. Soldier quality of life, a critical component to overall unit readiness, is nonnegotiable. We must provide our Soldiers, Civilians and their Families a quality of life commensurate with those they serve. Costs associated with the approved base closures and GDPR must also be funded up-front by the Congress.

The Army's operational fleet (Aviation, Wheeled and Tracked Vehicles) support and complement every facet of military operations. Readiness of the fleet is critical for full spectrum Army mission success. The increased Operational Tempo (OPTEMPO) of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, combined with harsh environments, combat damage and attrition, has taken a heavy toll on the Army's fleet. To ensure the Army is fully prepared to satisfy contingency operation requirements, support synchronization of deployments and continue transformation, it is imperative that the Army is fully resourced in a continuous and timely manner to reset its operational fleet

WE THEREFORE RESOLVE to urge the Administration and Congress to:

- Increase the Army share of the DoD base budget to at least 28 percent
- Increase base defense budget funding to at least 5 percent of the GDP
- Continue creation and fielding of 76 modular Brigade Combat Teams (48 AC, 28 Army National Guard {ARNG}).
- Authorize and fund an Active Army end strength increase as soon as possible to at least 700,000 Soldiers; the Army National Guard must grow to at least 371,000 and the Army Reserve to at least 215,000 all within the Army base budget, to include all associated costs
- Fund timely, non-offsetting overseas contingency operations (OCO) concurrent with the execution of the Army's global missions and other unprogrammed contingencies to prevent diversion of other programmed funds
- Provide full and timely funding for base closures and global rebasing to include personnel, infrastructure and quality of life costs
- Continue to fund facilities revitalization.
- Continue to fund new construction for the Reserve Component to replace aging, outdated and unsafe facilities
- Fund in a timely manner overseas contingency operations support for resetting the force
- Authorize and fund Army RC full-time manning requirements and Army Civilian Workforce authorizations at 100 percent
- Continue funding for the Stryker BCTs

- Fund Operations & Maintenance to sustain individual and unit readiness
- Fund spare parts in the FY11 Base and OCO requests so there are no shortages
- Continue to fund Army recruiting and retention programs
- Fully fund the Army's equipment and technology initiatives including BCT modernization.
- Continue emphasis on modernization of RC equipment
- Support the rebalance of the force between the AC and the RC