



AUSA BACKGROUND BRIEF



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SUMMARY OF QUADRENNIAL DEFENSE REVIEW

On 19 May 1997 Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen issued an assessment of the nation's defense requirements, based on emerging threats to U.S. security over the next two decades and a strategy that maintains American leadership, engagement and military superiority into the 21st century (figure 1). The report was submitted to Congress as mandated in the FY 1997 Defense Authorization Act.

The Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR) is based on an analysis of the "threats, risks and opportunities for U.S. national security." The QDR reviewed all aspects of the U.S. defense strategy and program, including force structure, infrastructure, readiness, intelligence, modernization and people. The review involved the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Joint Staff, military services and unified commands.

The QDR calls for a defense strategy that balances continued American engagement today with a focused modernization effort to meet tomorrow's challenges (figure 2). To promote and protect U.S. interests, the QDR strategy has three main elements: first, the ability to **shape** the international environment by promoting regional stability, preventing or reducing conflicts and threats, and deterring aggression and coercion on a day-to-day basis in key regions of the world; second, the need to **respond** quickly to the full spectrum of crises, from conducting concurrent smaller-scale contingency operations to fighting and winning two major theater wars (MTW); and third, the mandate to **prepare** now to meet the security challenges of an unpredictable future and discourage prospective rivals from embarking on a military competition with the United States. This strategy was the conceptual foundation of the review and the QDR programmatic decisions.

The QDR recommends modest cuts in personnel strength and weapon programs. These reductions, along with systemic improvements in the infrastructure, will allow the U.S. military to meet the near-term requirements of shaping and responding, and the long-term need for modernization to prepare for the future, ending the "procurement holiday" of recent years. The QDR assumes that defense spending will remain relatively constant in the future (\$250 million in 1997 constant dollars).

As part of the restructuring of the force, the total active duty end strength will be reduced from the previously planned level of 1.42 million to 1.36 million (figure 3). Reserve component forces will decline to 835,000 from 890,000, and the civilian force will fall to 640,000 from 720,000. The major force structure and modernization decisions include (figure 4):

Army: Acceleration of Force XXI modernization plan; retention of 10 active, combat-ready divisions; reduction of the force by 15,000 active duty personnel by deactivation, consolidation and realignment of headquarters and support facilities; and reduction of its reserve component by 45,000 through restructuring, deactivation and conversion.

Navy: Retention of 12 carrier battle groups and 12 amphibious ready groups; reduction of surface combatants in the fleet from 128 to 116; reduction of attack submarines from 73 to 50; increase of the Navy's planned Joint Strike Fighter buy to 480 aircraft; reduction of the planned F/A-18E/F buy from 1,000 to between 548 and 785; reduction of active duty personnel by 18,000; and reduction of reserve component by 4,100 personnel.

Air Force: Shifting of one fighter wing from active to reserve component (total force becomes 12 active and eight reserve wings); consolidation of fighter and bomber units; reduction of force structure for continental air defense; reduction of active duty personnel by 27,000; and reduction of planned F-22 procurement from 438 to 339.

Marine Corps: Retention of three Marine Expeditionary Force capability; restructuring of support responsibilities; and acceleration of MV-22 procurement while reducing buy to 360.

Missile Defense: Retention of National Missile Defense as high priority, adding \$2 billion to its development; and deceleration of THAAD theater missile defense program due to technical problems.

Nuclear Forces: Retention of current START I force structure. After Russian Duma ratification, reduction of START II levels, negotiation of further reductions following the START III framework.

Infrastructure: Request of authority from Congress for two rounds of Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC), including a consolidation of laboratories and research, development and test facilities; seeking additional outsourcing and opportunities to reengineer DoD business practices; and calling for broad infrastructure deregulation to permit more efficient operations.

The report reaffirms the commitment to achieve a \$60 billion procurement program (figure 5). This increased investment in modernization will exploit the revolution in military affairs and provide the military with cutting-edge technology to dominate tomorrow's battlefield.

Secretary Cohen stated:

We need to cut our support tail in order to preserve our combat tooth and protect our people and their quality of life. Our infrastructure is still too large for our force structure today. Our purchasing system is still too cumbersome, slow and expensive. We still do too many things in-house that we can do better and cheaper through outsourcing.

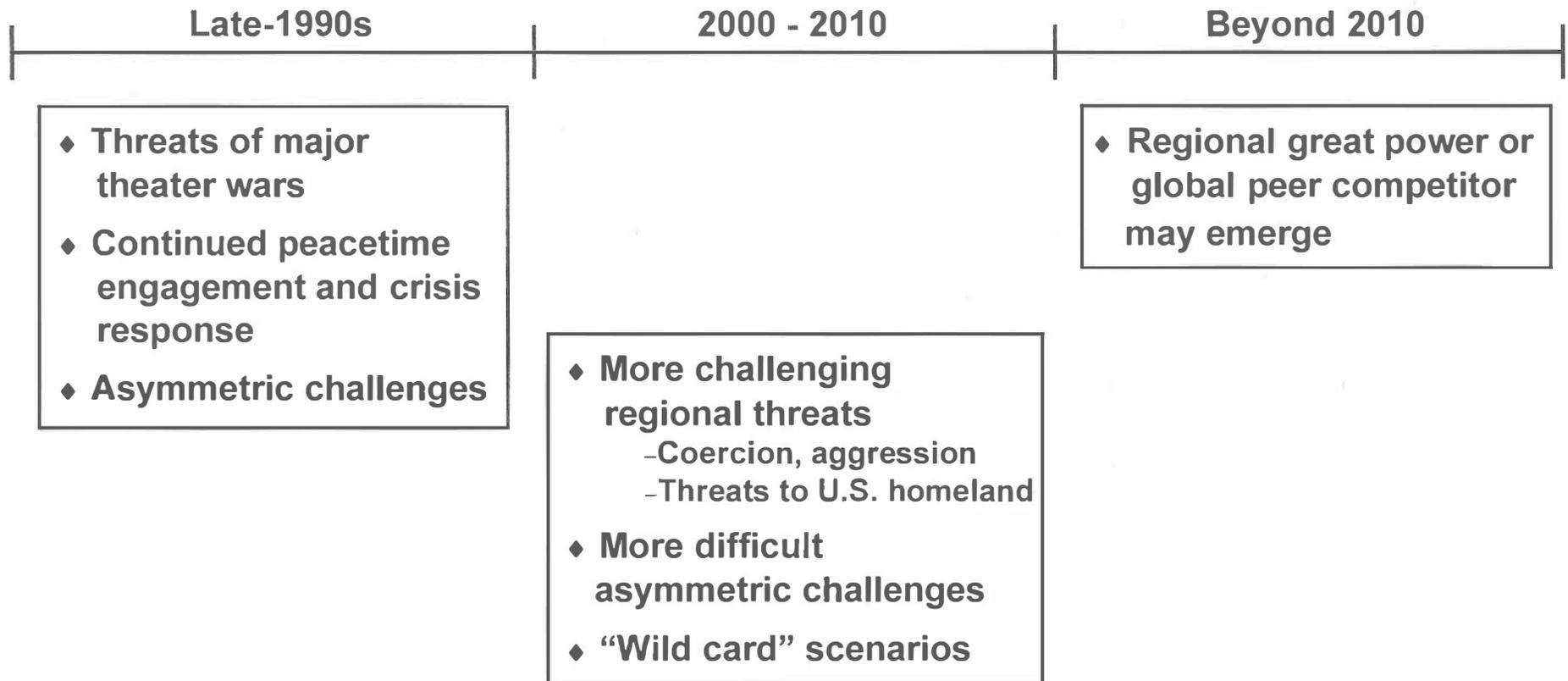
In addition to the actions proposed by the QDR, Secretary Cohen established a Defense Reform Task Force to review the Office of the Secretary of Defense, DoD agencies and field activities, and the military departments. Its purpose is to find ways to consolidate functions, eliminate duplication of effort and improve efficiency within the department. This initiative was based on requirements identified during the QDR. The task force will work with the National Defense Panel, which will review the QDR, and report to Congress at the end of the year.

NOTE: A copy of the QDR report and related materials are on DefenseLink, a World Wide Web server on the Internet, at: <http://www.dtic.mil/defenselink/topstory/quad.html>.

Summary of the

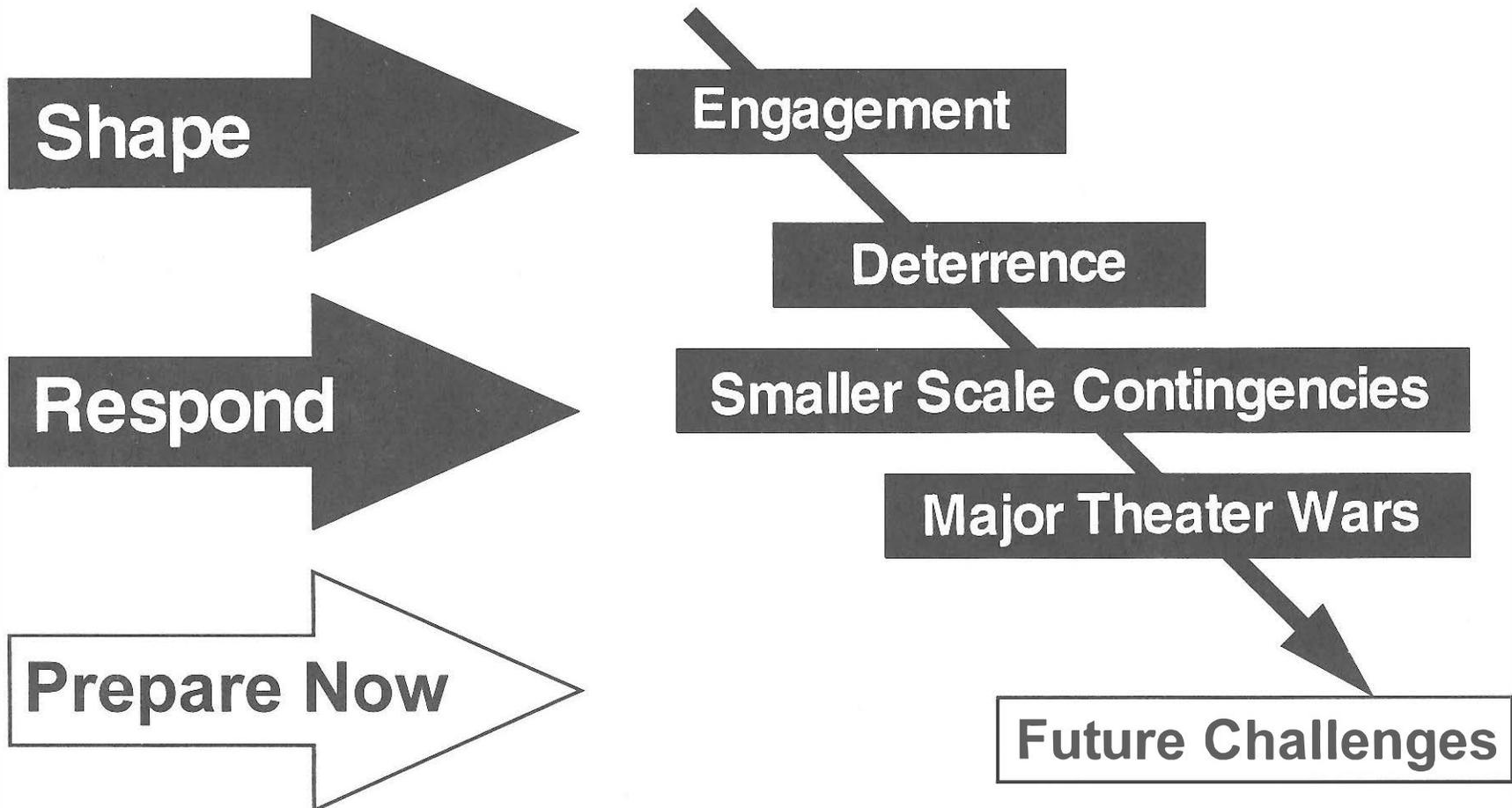
**Quadrennial
Defense
Review**

Security Environment



Critical assumption: Continued U.S. engagement

U.S. Defense Strategy



Meet shape/respond challenges while transforming future force

End Strength Reductions

<u>Endstrength</u>	<u>1989</u>	<u>1997</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>QDR Endstrength</u>	
Active:	2,130	1,450	1,420	1,360	(-60)
Reserve:	1,170	900	890	835	(-55)
Civilian:	1,110	800	720	640	(-80)

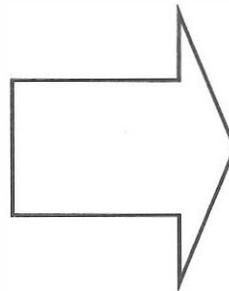
Personnel in thousands

- ◆ Total protection of Quality-of-Life programs
- ◆ Extention of transition support programs

Force Structure

Current Force

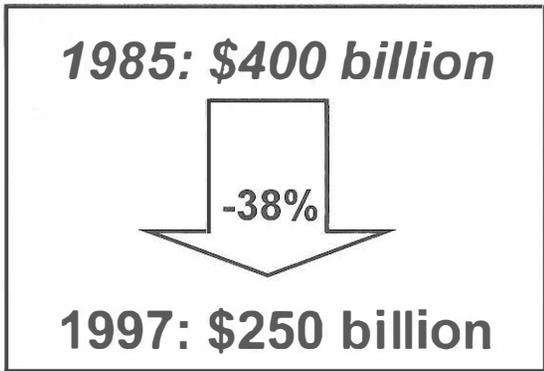
QDR Force



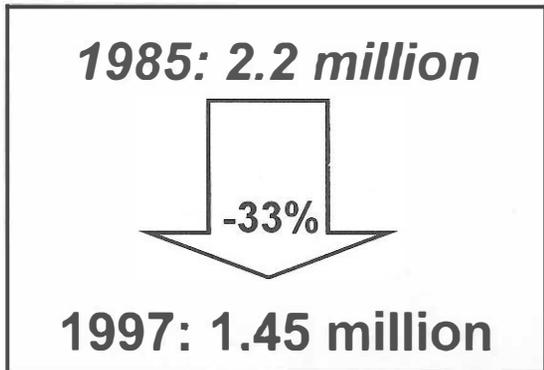
Preserves combat power with a leaner force

Investment Challenge

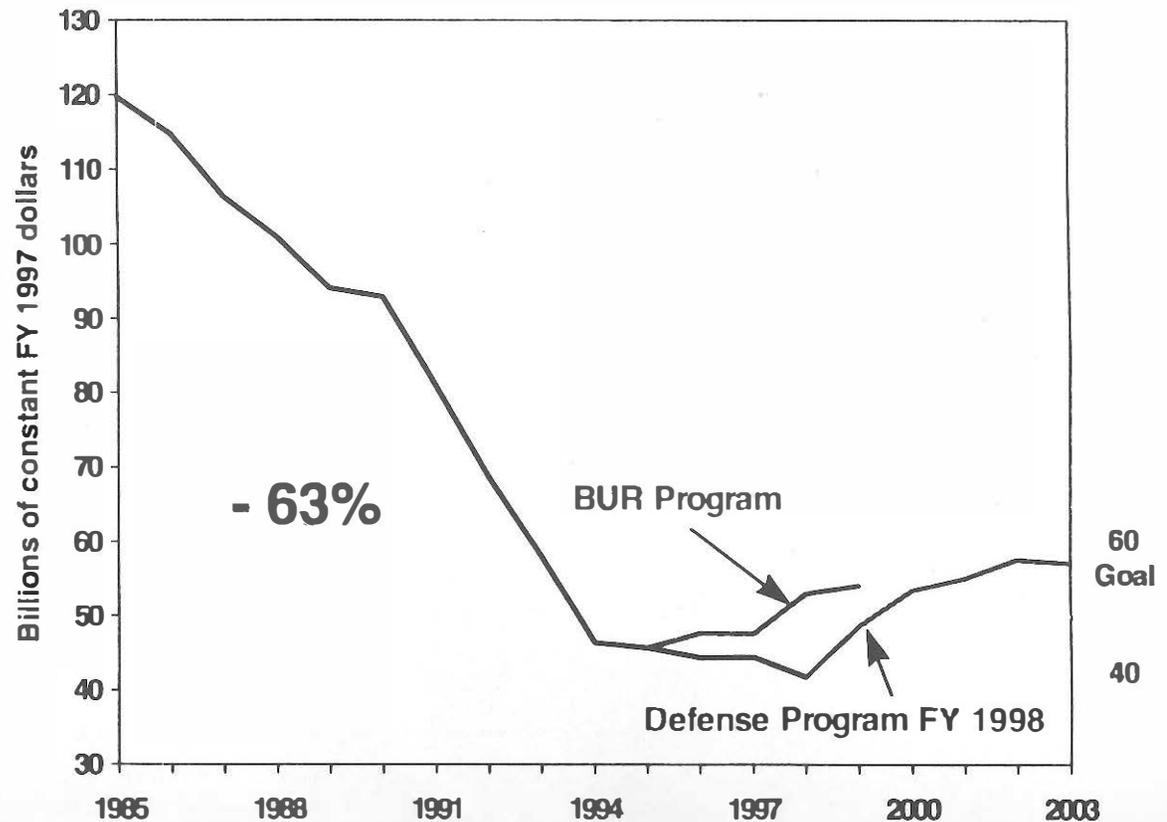
DoD Budget Trends (in constant FY 1997 dollars)



Force Drawdown



Procurement Trends (1985 - 2000)



The end of the Post-Cold War dividend: Modernization must rebound