

News Call

U.S. Options in Syria: How Military Force *Could* Be Used

In July, GEN Martin E. Dempsey, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, presented five military options to deal with the civil war in Syria that range from the least to the most involved and expensive and would take “several hundred to several thousand” U.S. troops. It was the first time the military has described approaches to the problem.

In a letter to the Senate Armed Services Committee, the general explained how the United States might shift the balance of power away from Syrian President Bashar al-Assad to the opposition while suggesting that a mission would be expensive as well as risky for the United States. He detailed the logistics and cost of each option, pointing out that his advice was on “how military force *could* be used in order to decide whether it *should* be used.”

Civilian leaders must make the decision on what action to take, said GEN Dempsey, but “once we take action, we should be prepared for what comes next. Deeper involvement is hard to avoid.” He also said the use of force “is no less than an act of war” and “we could inadvertently empower extrem-

ists or unleash the very chemical weapons we seek to control.”

The first option, which would cost approximately \$500 million per year, is to use ground troops to train rebels in tactics and the use of weapons. Conducting limited airstrikes to attack Syrian air defense systems and other military targets is the second option, but it could result in unintentional civilian casualties as well as retaliatory strikes. The third option is establishing a no-fly zone, which would ground Assad’s aircraft and thus prohibit attacks and aerial resupply, but this would cost as much as \$1 billion a month for a year and could result in the loss of American aircraft. It might also be ineffective since Syrian forces depend heavily on mortars and artillery. A fourth option—setting up sanctuaries beyond the control of the Syrian government where rebel forces could train and refugees could get humanitarian aid—would demand thousands of U.S. ground troops. It would require a limited no-fly area to prevent the government from attacking refugees, and it would cost at least \$1 billion a month. In addition, it would be

risky because the buffer zones could become bases for extremists. The last option calls for destroying parts of Syria’s stockpile of chemical weapons, preventing their shipment, and confiscating and securing weapon components. It would call for thousands of special operations forces and other troops on the ground as well as hundreds of aircraft, ships and other assets.

Afghanistan Outlook. GEN Martin E. Dempsey, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, met with Afghan President Hamid Karzai in late July and came away optimistic that the United States and Afghanistan can sign a bilateral security agreement by October. The pact will provide the basis for the U.S. and NATO mission in Afghanistan after December 31, 2014—when the current agreement expires—and will include legal protections for U.S. servicemembers based there. A similar NATO agreement is expected to follow. Together, the two would set troop numbers beginning in 2015.

Through the summer fighting season, the United States is maintaining some 60,000 troops in Afghanistan. That number will fall to 34,000 by February 2014 and will remain there for 90 days after the Afghanistan presidential election, which is scheduled for April 5, 2014. If the elections are postponed, it will be difficult to meet the withdrawal deadline.

During a news conference in Kabul, Afghanistan, after the meeting, GEN Dempsey said that he does not “recommend a zero option” in response to questions about the withdrawal of all U.S. troops from Afghanistan after the International Security Assistance Force mission ends. He noted that signing the agreement just over a year before the current mandate ends will give the two countries time to prepare and adjust for the new follow-on mission, which NATO has named Resolute Support.



U.S. Army/SSG Shane Hamann

U.S. soldiers quickly move away after loading a wounded Afghan border policeman into a UH-60 Black Hawk medevac helicopter on Forward Operating Base Spin Boldak in Kandahar Province, Afghanistan. Several policemen were wounded in the July incident while conducting security operations near the base.

Hagel Announces Budget Cuts. During a July visit to military bases, Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel announced 20 percent budget cuts for not only his office but also that of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff as well as the Pentagon headquarters offices of the four service chiefs.

The cuts, which will take effect from 2015 to 2019, are based on the work of the Strategic Choices and Management Review and will be implemented even if Congress lifts the sequester mandating automatic, across-the-board cuts.

The cuts will target civilian and contract personnel and are projected to save \$1.5 million to \$2 million over the five-year period.

DoD is planning for the full range of sequester reductions that could add up to \$500 billion in defense spending cuts over the next 10 years, Hagel said. "I've got to prepare this institution and our people for the facts of life and the reality as it is and the law that is now in place," he said. Force reductions and further cuts in personnel may be required in order to sustain military readi-

ness and training. "You can't buy back readiness," he said.

New Army Combat Uniform. The Army has begun issuing a new Army combat uniform (ACU) designed to better fit female soldiers. The ACU-Alternate (ACU-A) was designed for women but has been approved for use by both sexes, fitting a wide range of body types and coming in many more sizes than the old ACU.

The uniform trousers are wider at the hips, waist and rear and have elas-

GENERAL OFFICER CHANGES



LTG E.C. Cardon from CG, 2nd Inf. Div., ROK, to CG, ARCYBER, Fort Belvoir, Va.



LTG F.D. Darpino from CG/Cmdr., TJAGLCS, Charlottesville, Va., to JAG, USA, Washington, D.C.



LTG K.E. Tovo from Cmdr., CSTC-A/Cmdr., NTM-A, OEF, Afghanistan, to Dep. CG, USSOUTHCOM, Miami, Fla.



LTG M.S. Tucker from Asst. DCS, G-3/5/7, USA, Washington, D.C., to CG, First U.S. Army, RIA, Ill.



MG T.E. Ayres from CG, USALSA, Arlington, Va., to DJAG, Washington, D.C.



MG M.W. Boor, USAR, from Dep. Dir. for Logistics Ops., J-4 (IMA), Jt. Staff, Washington, D.C., to Cmdr. (TPU), 99th RSC, Fort Dix., N.J.



MG M.X. Garrett from CG, US-ARAK/Dep. Cmdr, ALCOM, Fort Richardson, Alaska, to CoS, USCENTCOM, MacDill AFB, Fla.



MG C.M. Nichols from CG, ACC, Redstone Arsenal, Ala., to Dep. CG for Spt./CoS, IMCOM, Fort Sam Houston-JB San Antonio, Texas.



MG J.E. Phillips, USAR, from Asst. Dep. CoS, G-1 (IMA), ODCS, G-1, USA, Washington, D.C., to Dep. CG (AR) (IMA), TRADOC, JB Langley-Eustis, Va.



MG D.J.H. Pittard from CG, 1st Armored Div., Fort Bliss, Texas, to Dep. CG, USARCEN/Third U.S. Army, Kuwait.



MG W.F. Roy, ARNG, from Dep. Dir., Ops., Readiness and Mobilization, G-3/5/7, USA, Washington, D.C., to Dep. CG, US-ARNORTH/Fifth U.S. Army, Fort Sam Houston, Texas.



MG M.H. Shields from Dir., PACC, J-5, Jt. Staff, Washington, D.C., to CG, USARAK/Dep. Cmdr., ALCOM, Fort Richardson, Alaska.



MG N.P. Tooliatos, USAR, from Dep. CG (AR) (IMA), TRADOC, JB Langley-Eustis, Va., to Cmdr. (TPU), 63rd RSC, Mountain View, Calif.



MG W.D.R. Waff, USAR, from Cmdr. (TPU), 99th RSC, Fort Dix, N.J., to Asst. Dep. CoS, G-1 (IMA), ODCS, G-1, USA, Washington, D.C.

Brigadier Generals: **J.G. Ferrari** from Dir., Jt. and Futures, ODCS, G-8, USA, Washington, D.C., to Dep. Dir., Program Analysis and Evaluation, ODCS, G-8, USA, Washington, D.C.; **T.C. Harrison** from CG, ECC, Redstone Arsenal, Ala., to CG, ACC, Redstone Arsenal; **C.P. Hughes** from Dep. CG (Maneuver), 3rd Inf. Div./Dep. Cmdr. for Maneuver, RC-S, ISAF, NATO, OEF, Afghanistan, to Dep. Cmdr., CGSC/Dep. CG, Leader Dev. and Education, CAC, Fort Leavenworth, Kan.; **D.P. Hughes** from Dep. CG, RDECOM/Senior Cmdr., NSSC, APG, Md., to PEO, C3T, APG, Md.; **R.L. Walter Jr.**, USAR, from Dep. CG, INSCOM, Fort Belvoir, Va., to Asst. Dep. CoS, G-2, USA, Washington, D.C.

ACC—Army Contracting Cmd.; **ALCOM**—U.S. Alaskan Cmd.; **APG**—Aberdeen Proving Ground; **AR**—Army Reserve; **ARCYBER**—U.S. Army Cyber Cmd.; **ARNG**—Army National Guard; **C3T**—Command, Control and Communications (Tactical); **CAC**—U.S. Army Combined Arms Center; **CG**—Commanding General; **CGSC**—U.S. Army Command and General Staff College; **CoS**—Chief of Staff; **CSTC-A**—Combined Security Transition Cmd.-Afghanistan; **DCS**—Dep. Chief of Staff; **DJAG**—Dep. Judge Advocate General; **ECC**—U.S. Army Expeditionary Contracting Cmd.; **IMA**—Individual Mobilization Augmentee; **IMCOM**—Installation Management Cmd.; **Inf.**—Infantry; **INSCOM**—U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Cmd.; **ISAF**—International Security Assistance Force; **JAG**—Judge Advocate General; **JB**—Joint Base; **NATO**—North Atlantic Treaty Organization; **NSSC**—Natick Soldier Systems Ctr.; **NTM-A**—NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan; **ODCS**—Office of the Dep. Chief of Staff; **OEF**—Operation Enduring Freedom; **Ops.**—Operations; **PACC**—Pakistan/Afghanistan Coordination Cell; **PEO**—Program Executive Officer; **RC-S**—Regional Cmd.-South; **RDECOM**—U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Cmd.; **RIA**—Rock Island Arsenal; **ROK**—Republic of Korea; **RSC**—Regional Support Cmd.; **Spt.**—Support; **TJAGLCS**—The Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School; **TPU**—Troop Program Unit; **TRADOC**—U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Cmd.; **USA**—U.S. Army; **USALSA**—U.S. Army Legal Services Agency; **USAR**—U.S. Army Reserve; **USARAK**—U.S. Army Alaska; **USARCEN**—U.S. Army Central; **USARNORTH**—U.S. Army North; **USCENTCOM**—U.S. Central Cmd.; **US-NORTHCOM**—U.S. Northern Cmd.; **USSOUTHCOM**—U.S. Southern Cmd.

*Assignments to general officer slots announced by the General Officer Management Office, Department of the Army. Some officers are listed at the grade to which they are nominated, promotable or eligible to be frocked. The reporting dates for some officers may not yet be determined.

tic at the waist instead of a drawstring.

They also feature a shorter crotch length, along with adjusted pockets and knee-pad inserts. The jacket has slimmer shoulders, a thinner and more fitted waist, and a longer and wider bottom, as well as adjusted rank and name tape positioning, pockets, and elbow-pad inserts. Buttons replace Velcro on the pockets. The ACU-A jacket and trousers come in 13 sizes. ACU-As are available at Fort Sam Houston-Joint Base (JB) San Antonio, Texas; Fort Lee, Va.; and JB Myer-Henderson Hall, Va. They will become available at Fort Sill, Okla., near the end of the year.

Female body armor and a female flight suit are also being developed, along with black and yellow physical training uniforms.

Deseret Chemical Depot Closes. After 70 years storing chemical weapons and conducting demilitarization operations, Deseret Chemical Depot, Utah,



U.S. Army/Julia Hemming

SMA Raymond F. Chandler III (center left) and Army Vice Chief of Staff GEN John F. Campbell (center right) joined other Army leaders and warrant officers to cut a cake at the 95th birthday celebration of the Warrant Officer Corps. The Corps was established in July 1918, when an act of Congress created the Army Mine Planter Service as part of the Coast Artillery Corps, and has grown to encompass 17 of the 20 branches of the Army.

formally closed in July.

For its first five decades, the 20,000-acre installation safely stored a majority of the country's stockpiles of chemical agent weapons. For the last 20 years, the depot safely destroyed the nation's largest chemical weapons stockpile. More than 1.1 million chemical munitions containing more than 13,600 tons of agent were safely eliminated there.

The installation's acreage, personnel and property were transferred to nearby Tooele Army Depot. It will be known as Tooele Army Depot, South Area, and will store and distribute conventional ammunition.

NCO Online Training. Beginning January 1, 2014, the Army will require noncommissioned officers (NCOs) to complete online training before they become eligible for promotion, and NCO schools will no longer be waived. The Army is formally linking completion of structured self-development (SSD) training with professional military education courses for promotion eligibility. Over the past decade of conflict, NCOs have gained operational experience at the expense of education and training.

Army Directive 2013-15 mandates that waivers for the warrior leader course (WLC) as a requirement for pro-

COMMAND SERGEANTS MAJOR CHANGES*



CSM B. Jones from 2nd BCT, 10th Mountain Div. (LI), Fort Drum, N.Y., to 25th Infantry Div., Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.



CSM R.E. Orosz from First Army Division West, Fort Hood, Texas, to ATEC, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.



CSM P. Ramos from Fort Belvoir Community Hospital, Fort Belvoir, Va., to USAPHC, Edgewood, Md.



CSM J.W. Troxell from I Corps and JB Lewis-McChord, Wash., to USFK, Yongsan Garrison, Korea.

■ **ATEC**—U.S. Army Test and Evaluation Cmd.; **BCT**—Brigade Combat Team; **JB**—Joint Base; **USAPHC**—U.S. Army Public Health Cmd.; **USFK**—U.S. Forces Korea.

*Command sergeants major positions assigned to general officer commands.

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Army Chief of Staff GEN Raymond T. Odierno traveled to India in July, where he met with Gen. Bikram Singh, chief of army staff, in New Delhi. The U.S. Army is increasing its engagement in the Asia-Pacific region, and such visits are critical to sustaining military partnerships and strengthening opportunities for engagement.

SENIOR EXECUTIVE SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS



P.K. Hallinan, Tier 3, from Superintendent, ANC, to Exec. Dir., Army National Military Cemeteries, OSA, both in Arlington, Va.



G.B. O'Keefe, Tier 3, from Dep. AA/Exec. Dir., U.S. Army Resources and Programs Agency, OAASA, to AASA, OSA, both at the Pentagon, Arlington, Va.



J.P. Bentz, Tier 2, from Dep. AG, ALT Audits, to Principal Dep. AG, USAAA, Fort Belvoir, Va.



U. Fiore, Tier 2, from Dir., Soldier and Family Legal Services, OTJAG, to CoS, MEDCOM, Falls Church, Va.



H. Hallock, Tier 2, from Dir., Acquisition Center, AMC, Warren, Mich., to Dep. ASA (Procurement), OASA (ALT), Washington, D.C.



R.R. Naething, Tier 2, from Dir., Capability Development Integration Directorate, CAC, TRADOC, Fort Leavenworth, Kan., to Dep. CG, US-ARNORTH, Fort Sam Houston-JB San Antonio, Texas.

Tier 1: **V. Grewatz** to Regional Business Dir. (North Atlantic Div.), USACE, New York, N.Y.; **T.E. Webber** to Dir., Space and Cyberspace Technology Directorate, SMDC, Redstone Arsenal, Ala.

AA—Administrative Assistant; **AASA**—Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of the Army; **AG**—Auditor General; **ALT**—Acquisition, Logistics and Technology; **AMC**—U.S. Army Materiel Cmd.; **ANC**—Arlington National Cemetery; **ASA**—Assistant Secretary of the Army; **CAC**—U.S. Army Combined Arms Center; **CoS**—Chief of Staff; **JB**—Joint Base; **MEDCOM**—U.S. Army Medical Cmd.; **OAASA**—Office of the Administrative Assistant to the Secretary of the Army; **OASA**—Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army; **OSA**—Office of the Secretary of the Army; **OTJAG**—Office of the Judge Advocate General; **SMDC**—U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Cmd.; **TRADOC**—U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Cmd.; **USAAA**—U.S. Army Audit Agency; **USACE**—U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; **USARNORTH**—U.S. Army North.

motion eligibility to staff sergeant will no longer be permitted. Among the requirements for advancement:

- Specialists and corporals must complete SSD-1 before they can be recommended to sergeant.
- Staff sergeants must finish SSD-3 before they are eligible for sergeant first class (SFC).
- SFCs must complete SSD-4 before they can be recommended for master sergeant.

Soldiers previously granted waivers for the WLC must graduate from the course no later than the end of September 2014.

Those who are deployed when the changes go into effect on January 1 will have 270 days after redeployment to finish the course, and reserve component soldiers will have 270 days after release from active duty. Soldiers who do not complete the course will be removed from the promotion list or demoted to sergeant.

To read the directive, go to www.apd.army.mil/pdf/files/ad2013_15.pdf. ★

Army Casualties In Afghanistan

The following U.S. Army soldiers were reported killed supporting Operation Enduring Freedom from July 1 to July 31, 2013. All names have been released through the Department of Defense; families have been notified.

- SPC Nicholas B. Burley, 22
- SPC Hilda I. Clayton, 22
- SGT Eric T. Lawson, 30
- SPC Anthony R. Maddox, 22
- PVT Errol D.A. Milliard, 18
- SGT Stephen M. New, 29
- SPC Rob L. Nichols, 24
- SPC Caryn E. Nouv, 29
- 1LT Jonam Russell, 25
- SGT Stefan M. Smith, 24
- 1SG Tracy L. Stapley, 44
- SSG Sonny C. Zimmerman, 25