



WASHINGTON UPDATE



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THE ARMY INTRANSITION. Here is a brief update on what's happening concerning strength cuts, changes to major combat units and base closures and realignments:

PERSONNEL. In one year, active U.S. Army strength was reduced by 78,392 spaces (from 744,035 on March 31, 1991, to 665,643 on March 31, 1992). To meet the FY92 authorization of 640,700 by Oct. 1, 1992, the Army must cut another 24,943 spaces. A cut of another 41,800 spaces (to 598,900) is proposed in the FY93 Army budget. Proposed selected reserve strength cuts for end-FY93 are as follows: Army National Guard from end-FY92 authorization of 431,200 to FY93 end strength of 420,000, a reduction of 11,900 spaces; Army Reserve from 301,840 to 263,000, a drop of 38,840 spaces.

The FY93 budget reduces the Army officer corps from 103,000 in FY91 to 79,000 in FY95. For enlisted personnel, the reduction is from 630,000 to 452,000. Army civilian employee strength is to be cut from about 365,500 to about 303,000.

FORCE STRUCTURE. VII Corps, Germany, was inactivated in January 1992, as were 8th Inf Div, 3d Armd Div and 2d Armd Cav Regt. 3d Armd may give name to 5th Inf Div (Mech) when 5th moves to Fort Hood. 2d Armd Cav Regt could redesignate 199th Sep Inf Bde (Mtzd) when 199th moves to Fort Polk. 2d Armd Div and 9th Inf Div (Mtzd) have been inactivated.

V Corps remains in Germany with 1st Armd Div, 3d Inf Div (Mech) and 11th Armd Cav Regt. 2d Inf Div stays in Korea, adds 81st Inf Bde (Mech) (Washington ARNG) as roundout unit. Also adding roundout or "roundup" brigades are: 1st Cav Div and 1st, 4th, 5th and 24th Inf Divs (Mech).

7th Inf Div (Lt) moves from Fort Ord to Fort Lewis. 25th Inf Div (Lt), Hawaii, 82d Abn Div, Fort Bragg, and 101st Abn Div (AASLT), Fort Campbell, remain in place.

In the Army National Guard, the 26th Inf Div and the 50th Armd Div will be consolidated into the 42d Inf Div. Two of the remaining eight Guard divisions will be redesignated as cadre divisions with about 40 percent strength and a minimum of equipment. Fourteen reserve component combined arms brigades and armored cavalry regiments are slated for inactivation.

BASE REALIGNMENTS/CLOSURES. The four major Army posts scheduled to be closed are:

Fort Devens, MA. Army Intelligence School's 1,900 personnel move to Fort Huachuca by 1995. 10th Special Forces Group's move to Fort Carson has been delayed until 1994 by construction delays there. Inactivation of 39th Engr Bn is underway. 36th Med Bn moves to Fort Hood this year.

Fort Sheridan, IL. 4th Army inactivated September 1991, clearing way for post to close in late FY 1993, after Army Recruiting Command moves to Fort Knox.

Fort Benjamin Harrison, IN. Closes in FY 1996; DoD still to decide where to relocate Defense Finance and Accounting Center.

Fort Ord, CA. 7th Inf Div (Lt) makes a phased move to Fort Lewis over next three years, clearing way for closure by the end of FY 1995.

Major realignments are planned for:

Fort Lewis, WA. 9th Inf Div has been inactivated, leaving 199th Sep Inf Bde (Mtzd), which will move next year to Polk where it will be redesignated 2d Armd Cav Regt (Lt). 7th Inf Div from Ord becomes major Lewis tenant.

Fort Polk, LA. 5th Inf Div (Mech) moves to Hood (to become 3d Armd Div?), leaving room for 199th/2d Armd Cav Regt.

Fort Hood, TX. 2d Armd Div inactivated, gains 5th Inf Div from Polk plus numerous III Corps combat support/service units withdrawn from Europe or moved from closed U.S. bases.

TRANSITION PROGRAM IN FULL SWING at more than 60 installations and communities in the United States and overseas, providing job and benefits counseling, job-search training and referral services (through the Army Employer Network) to separating soldiers, civilian employees and family members. The Army Career and Alumni Program's 62 transition assistance offices and 55 job assistance centers have provided services to 60,000 people in the past year. Program eligibility was recently extended for up to 60 days after separation to aid those who must separate on short notice and those at remote locations. For additional information, call, toll-free, 1-800-445-2049.

GUARD/RESERVE TRANSITION PACKAGE has been proposed by Sen. John Glenn (D-OH). Aimed at National Guard and Reserve troops whose units are abolished under the military drawdown, the package would include:

- an immediate reduced retirement annuity for those with 20 years or more of service;
- retired pay at age 60 for those with 15 to less than 20 years' service if they leave the service now;
- involuntary separation pay for those with 6 to 14 years' service whose units are abolished;
- Montgomery GI Bill benefits for those contributors with less than six years' service.

15-YEAR RETIREMENT NOT DEAD YET, at least as far as some Army and Air Force officials are concerned. While DoD has gone on record that a 15-year retirement plan for career service members is unnecessary and could be detrimental to military effectiveness, there remains strong service-level support for the plan put forth earlier this year by Senate Armed Services Committee chairman Sam Nunn (*UPDATE*, Feb. 1992). The services argue that an early-retirement program with specific eligibility guidelines targeted at specific skills and pay grades could be an effective force-reduction tool without creating the unbalanced grade mix predicted by Defense officials.

ARMY RESERVE COMMAND CORRECTION (Vol. 4, No. 4, *WASHINGTON UPDATE*, April 1992, page 3): Command and control of Special Forces, Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Reserve units will remain with the U.S. Army Special Operations Command, headquartered at Fort Bragg, NC.

26,000 SEEK EXIT BONUSES, according to Army figures released April 30. Of 21,106 applications to leave active duty received from enlisted soldiers, 19,693 were for the lump-sum Special Separation Benefit and only 1,413 for the Voluntary Separation Incentive annuity. The VSI annuity drew 1,851 officer applications, while 2,545 officers opted for the lump-sum SSB. Officials say only a very few applications are likely to be disapproved. Approval notices will be sent out in mid-May, with separations to begin after July 1. Every effort will be made to release soldiers as close to the requested dates as possible, but all release dates will be contingent on readiness requirements.

The Army continues to offer voluntary separation bonuses to Category 4 soldiers (those denied reenlistment under the Excellence in Retention Program). Also, on May 18 the Army reopened the SSB and VSI programs for enlisted Categories 1 and 2 (those who face involuntary separation because of changes in the retention control point system). Applications in all three categories must be approved and soldiers separated by Sep. 29 to qualify for a bonus. Details of a more tightly controlled bonus program for 1993 will be announced by early summer.

GAO: EUROPE DRAWDOWN COSTLY as the U. S. meets its obligations to foreign national employees affected by the reduction in force. By 1995, 27,200 of 47,000 Germans employed at bases in Europe will have lost their jobs, at a cost to the U.S. of about \$183 million in severance pay. GAO also reports that the drawdown of civilian employees in Europe (some 70 percent of them foreign nationals) is running behind schedule and that U.S. Army Europe will still have 44,000 civilians on the books at the end of 1993. Civilian cutbacks must lag the military because of the requirement to support the military and installations drawdown, various status-of-forces agreements and termination liability laws.

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ASPIN, ATWOOD DIFFER ON TANK UPGRADE

while the future of the Lima, Ohio, tank plant hangs in the balance. House Armed Services chairman Les Aspin (D-WI) wants the Pentagon to reinstate the \$225 million program for upgrading 60 M1A1 tanks to M1A2 configuration. Deputy Defense Secretary Donald J. Atwood is holding fast to the position that, with 8,000 tanks in the inventory, "there are enough tanks available now to meet any perceived contingency, and there is enough time to reconstitute the tank industrial base if a global threat emerges."

Congress has 45 days to act on DoD's April 9 rescission list.

HOUSE, SENATE DEVISE OWN RESCISSION LISTS, both quite at odds with President Bush's proposals of \$7.8 billion in savings from previously approved programs. The president proposes canceling two Seawolf submarines saving almost \$3 billion; additional savings would be realized by cutting \$225 million from the M1A1 tank upgrade program, \$143 million from Navy F-14 fighter modifications, \$130 million for the Standoff Land Attack Missile, and more than \$1 billion in reserve equipment.

The Senate list cuts \$8.2 billion, including \$1.3 billion from the Strategic Defense Initiative, \$1 billion from the B-2 stealth bomber, \$500 million from inventory spending, \$131 million from the National Aerospace Plane and \$49 million from the kinetic energy antisatellite weapon. The Seawolf, M1A1 upgrade, Standoff Land Attack Missile and Guard and Reserve equipment cuts were excluded from the Senate proposal.

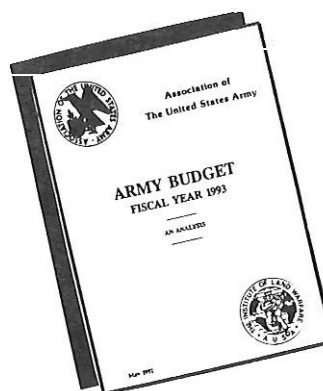
The House proposes cuts totaling \$5.8 billion, including one Seawolf submarine, \$244 million for Air Force missile procurement (MX and Advanced Cruise Missiles) and \$50 million from Bradley Fighting Vehicle upgrades. The House list did not include cuts for the tank upgrade, F-14 fighter modifications or Standoff Land Attack Missile.

A compromise bill will be hammered out in conference between the House and Senate and then sent to the president for signature. The administration has already threatened to veto the Senate version based on its SDI and B-2 cuts.

HASC CUTS ALMOST \$7 BILLION from FY93 Defense budget request. The House Armed Services Committee May 13 approved \$274 billion in defense budget authority and \$287 billion in outlays for FY93. Here are some highlights of the HASC mark, from the Army view:

- agreed to keep active Army end strength at 598,900, a cut of 41,800 from FY92;
- proposed cut of 11,200 from Army National Guard, vice 48,100 requested;
- cut Army Reserve 38,840; Army's proposed cut was 44,340;
- approved 3.7 percent pay raise effective Jan. 1, 1993;
- repealed requirement that all officers be initially appointed Reserves;
- directed Army to spend \$225 million to upgrade M1 tanks to M1A2;
- fully funded Comanche helicopter program and added \$250 million for 36 AHIP armed OH-58D helicopters;
- increased Multiple Launch Rocket System request by \$109 million;
- added \$89.2 million for procurement and \$31.8 million for upgrade of Bradley Fighting Vehicles.

AUSA RELEASES FY93 BUDGET ANALYSIS,



which provides a discussion of the Army's amended budget in the context of the overall DoD budget. It identifies the issues and debates in Congress, discusses the status of actions and sizes up the shortfalls. To obtain a copy of *Army Budget Fiscal Year 1993: An Analysis*, call 1-800-336-4570, extension 308.

LONGER-RANGE MLRS PLANNED despite DoD's earlier request to Congress to rescind \$10 million previously appropriated for the program. DoD's recently released Desert Storm report praised the Multiple Launch Rocket System's mobility and performance but cited the need for an extended-range rocket. Army Missile Command wants to improve the bomblet warhead to lower the dud rate, improve the weapon's accuracy and extend its current range of less than 20 miles.

JAVELIN DESTROYS SOVIET TANK in a recent test conducted at Redstone Arsenal, AL. In its first test using a live warhead, the shoulder-fired antitank missile was fired at a stationary T-62 tank from a distance of 1,000 meters. The Javelin locked onto the target, tracked it automatically through a top-attack trajectory and struck just forward of the turret, destroying the tank.

In eight previous guided flight tests (using telemetry packages in lieu of live warheads), the missile scored seven hits; the only miss occurred when a fin malfunctioned and the Javelin failed to hit a moving tank.

ARMORED GUN SYSTEM BIDS ARE IN, with the contract expected to be awarded by early June. Teams competing for the limited (300-vehicle) Armored Gun System (AGS) contract include Cadillac Gage Textron, Warren, MI; FMC Corp., Chicago; General Dynamics and Teledyne Continental Motors, Muskegon, MI; and Haggelunds Vehicle AB, Ornskoldsvik, Sweden.

The AGS, light enough at 17 to 25 tons for transport by cargo aircraft, is intended to replace the rapid-reaction light forces' Vietnam-era M551 Sheridans. The vehicle will feature a 105mm gun and a heat-detecting thermal sensor similar to that of the M1 Abrams main battle tank. The first delivery is scheduled for late 1996.

DOD EYES BIGGER ARMY CLOSE AIR ROLE.

Frank Kendall, the Defense Department's director of tactical warfare programs, has joined former Joint Chiefs chairman Adm. William Crowe and others in publicly advocating that Army attack helicopters play a major role in future close air support missions. Kendall, who also serves as chairman of the Pentagon's Conventional Systems Committee, thinks the Army's AH-1 Cobra, AH-64 Apache and RAH-66 Comanche helicopters — armed with Longbow radar systems and Hellfire missiles — should be utilized for front-line close air support while Air Force F-16s concentrate on launching standoff systems as far as 50 kilometers beyond the forward line. Joint Chiefs chairman Gen. Colin Powell, who opposes any increase in the Army's CAS mission, recently reiterated his position that close air support for the Army will remain the responsibility of the Air Force and, where appropriate, the Navy.

GEN. CROSBIE E. SAINT IS RETIRING after 34 years of service, the last four as commander in chief of U.S. Army Europe. During his tenure in that assignment, he witnessed the fall of the Berlin Wall and oversaw preparations for the withdrawal of VII Corps, only to have the corps deploy for Operation Desert Storm instead. He will be replaced by Lt. Gen. David M. Maddox, commander of V Corps, pending confirmation of his nomination for appointment to general.

PRESIDENT TAPS NEW SACEUR to replace retiring Gen. John R. Galvin, who has served as commander of NATO forces and U.S. forces in Europe since June 1987. Lt. Gen. John M. Shalikashvili has been nominated for appointment to general and assignment as Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, and Commander-in-Chief, U.S. European Command. Shalikashvili, a native of Poland, is currently serving as Gen. Colin Powell's assistant. Before his assignment to the Joint Staff in August 1991, he was the commander of Operation Provide Comfort and deputy commander of U.S. Army Europe and Seventh Army.

AUSA TELEVISION SERIES "Why An Army?" was launched May 21 with the Washington area broadcast of the first show, featuring Army Chief of Staff Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan.

AUSA's guest for the second program is Hon. Susan M. Livingstone, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Installations, Logistics and Environment, who will address the process through which Army installations have been identified for closure and the economic and environmental impact of those closures on local communities and military civilian personnel. Moderator Peter Hackes will be joined by panelists Andrew Weinschenk of *Defense Week* and Robert McNeil of States News Service. The 30-minute program will air in the Washington area on Thursday, June 18, at 7:00 p.m. on Northern Virginia Public Television station WNVT-53.

"Why An Army?" is available via satellite to public television stations across the country. Check local listings or contact your local station manager for broadcast schedules outside the Washington area. For more information about the series, call Sandra Daugherty at 1-800-336-4570, extension 317.