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NUNN TO REVIEW ROLES AND MISSIONS, something that hasn't been seriously addressed since DoD's creation in 1947. In a July 2 Senate floor speech, the chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee took aim at what he called "tremendous redundancy and duplication among the military services." In addition to eliminating much duplication, the Georgia senator cited multibillion-dollar savings to be realized from reshaping the military to meet post-Cold War threats. The committee's ranking Republican, Virginia Senator John Warner, promptly joined in the debate, citing the need for prompt action to avert interservice wars over which service can do which job best. Most of the senators' initial remarks were aimed at duplication of functions in two or more of the services, but they also stressed the need to reduce the administrative overhead in the individual services as well as in the unified commands. Look for this to be a topic of intense debate throughout the Senate's consideration of the FY 1994 DoD Authorization and Appropriation Acts.

7TH QRMC WOULD REVAMP PAY SYSTEM, putting emphasis on promotions and experience in computing basic pay, as contrasted with the present system of recognizing longevity. The Seventh Quadrennial Review of Military Compensation draft recommendations also stress differences in living costs in various regions and would revise the way the services compute special and incentive pays to better recognize critical skills or jobs that entail unusual risks. If adopted, the commission's proposals would result in a much different military pay system than that now in effect, while protecting those now in uniform from taking a pay cut. The earliest any of these changes could take effect would be in early 1994 since all must be cleared with the services, with DoD and with the White House before being sent to Congress for inclusion (with or without changes) in the FY94 budget. Then too, earlier quadrennial review panels have not had great success in getting their recommendations approved at all stops along the way.

AUSA ON THE HILL. Personnel items of interest addressed by AUSA on Capitol Hill during the second session of the 102nd Congress include:

- force structure and end strength (expressed concerns that precipitous reductions beyond those reflected in the president's budget could result in an undermanned, underequipped, undertrained and spiritless Army and impose extensive hardships on soldiers and their families);
- health care issues (continued efforts to make CHAMPUS the second payer to MEDICARE for all military beneficiaries over age 65 and to assist in development of a single integrated dental plan for active duty dependents and retirees and their dependents);
- military compensation (seeking active duty pay raise commensurate with inflation; COLA equity for retirees; increased temporary lodging expenses; improved transition benefits; equalization of benefits between Special Separation Benefit and Voluntary Separation Incentive programs);
- reserve component issues (seeking RC access to morale, welfare and recreational facilities; additional AGR support at all levels of the Guard and Reserve).

Legislative initiatives ongoing from the first session of the 102nd Congress include:

- extension of earned income tax credits to eligible military personnel assigned overseas;
- amendment of current tax law as applied to SSB to permit a tax-free roll-over into an IRA or income averaging;
- study (with the Military Coalition) of Coordinated Care and CHAMPUS benefits;
- provision for an 18-year retirement sanctuary for enlisted personnel;
- approval for concurrent receipt of disability and retired pay;
- reinstatement of Dependents Indemnity Compensation;
- elimination of dual compensation laws.

ARMY MOBILITY PLANS IN DRAFT FM 100-17 would seek to deploy two heavy divisions anywhere in the world within 30 days. The new field manual calls for mobilization of one brigade in four days and a full division in 12 days, by which time a heavy brigade prepositioned at sea would have arrived in the theater of operations. The Army has set 1998 as the target for meeting the mobility requirement; success in meeting that goal will depend on the status of the Navy sealift and Air Force C-17 airlifter programs.

REVISED ARMOR SYSTEMS PLAN OKAYED by OSD in early June must now face a program review before the Pentagon's Conventional Systems Committee. The new Armored Systems Modernization package reflects drastic cuts — from \$59 billion to less than \$23 billion — in the total cost of the program. The program will now focus on development of the Advanced Field Artillery System (AFAS) and the Future Armored Resupply Vehicle-Ammunition (FARV-A). The common chassis concept, which originally encompassed six vehicles, has been dropped, and the two existing contracts (with Teledyne Continental Motors and General Dynamics-led AVTA) are expected to be terminated by the second quarter of FY93. A draft request for proposals for the two remaining vehicles is expected by FY94.

PLAN TO FIX APACHE IS READY for congressional review, with the Army seeking release of \$21 million in FY92 funding and restoration of \$40 million cut from the FY93 request to begin upgrading the fleet of 811 attack helicopters. Modifications, resulting from lessons learned in the Gulf War, include adding a high-frequency radio and global positioning system and improving communications. The Apache's targeting and night vision system and its 30mm chain gun would also be improved.

ARMY PRESSES SENATE FOR C-17 following the House decision to cut FY93 funding for the Air Force transport aircraft from eight planes to six. The Army, hoping by 1998 to be able to deploy two heavy divisions anywhere in the world within 30 days, says that goal may not be achieved if the C-17 program is delayed. The airlifter program, long a priority for the Army, has taken on even greater significance since the United States shifted from a forward-deployment strategy to one of CONUS-based power-projection

BARRACKS FIX-UP HIGH ON LIST, as reflected by the Army's \$190 million-a-year Whole Barracks Renewal Program. Barracks will be upgraded to two separate rooms with a shared bathroom. The plan also includes an increase in living space as well as improved recreation, laundry and day rooms, landscaping and parking areas. "We want to improve the barracks," said Gen. Dennis J. Reimer, Army vice chief of staff. "This is one of our primary concerns — to improve the quality of life of single soldiers."

HOUSING WINS IN \$8.6 BILLION DEFENSE MILCON BILL passed by House June 23. Base closing funds also got a boost above the administration's request. The family housing allocation of \$4 billion (\$1.5 billion for the Army) and the \$2 billion allocated for base closing come at the expense of other military construction projects requested by the administration for FY93. The House bill calls for appropriations for military construction projects to be reduced from FY92's \$4.2 billion to \$2.6 billion for FY93. The Senate Appropriations Committee's proposal allows \$340 million less than the House's \$8.6 billion total for military construction.

ARMORED GUN SYSTEM CONTRACT TO FMC, the Pentagon announced in June. The \$119 million contract calls for FMC Corp.'s Ground Systems Division, located in San Jose, CA, to design and build six prototypes of the lightweight tank over the next four years. The FMC Close Combat Vehicle Light, with its ability to be parachuted from a C-130 Hercules transport plane as well as from the larger C-17 specified by the program, reportedly won by a very narrow margin over strong competition from Cadillac Gage/Textron, General Dynamics/Teledyne Continental Motors and Team Hagglunds USA. Follow-up contracts for production of 300 more of the light tanks by 2001 could increase the Army's total program worth to about \$800 million.

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ATWOOD BUYS HEALTH CARE FIXES, tells assistant secretary of defense for health affairs to adjust the Coordinated Care Program (CCP) accordingly. In March of this year, AUSA's president, Gen. Jack Merritt (USA Ret.), wrote to deputy defense secretary Donald Atwood outlining AUSA's concerns about some of the provisions contained in the Pentagon health chief's CCP plan. In June, Atwood directed the following changes:

- elimination of the higher CHAMPUS deductible and the lock-out from military treatment facilities of non-enrollees;
- inclusion of a preferred provider option;
- adjustment of cost-sharing levels in states where the CHAMPUS Reform Initiative does not apply to parallel those in states where CRI applies;
- preservation of the CRI model, benefits and management design for California and Hawaii for the period necessary for a full CRI demonstration.

FY92/93 LIEUTENANT RETENTION BOARD is set for October, to be held in conjunction with the FY93 captains' promotion board. This will eliminate the need for a separate lieutenant retention board previously announced for May 1992. It will also extend officers who would have separated in FY92 into the second quarter of FY93 and allow additional time for the lieutenants' files to develop. Reserve officers will be allowed to extend on active duty to meet eligibility requirements for these boards. The Army is also offering officers in the zone of consideration the opportunity to participate in the Voluntary Early Release and Retirement Program.

AUSA SEEKS VETERANS' BENEFITS. Col. Erik Johnson, USA Ret., the association's director of Legislative Affairs, testified recently before the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs in support of draft legislation extending both employment opportunities for veterans and educational opportunities under the Montgomery GI Bill. At the same time he expressed AUSA's reservations about legislation currently under consideration in the House to change the status of education benefits under the Montgomery GI Bill from a resource toward college tuition to income in determining a veteran's eligibility for Pell Grants and other student financial aid. "If enacted it would reduce considerably the amount of financial aid for which veterans are currently eligible," Johnson told the committee. "We ask that this committee oppose any such changes."

RIFED MAJORS KNOW BY NOW of their selection for involuntary separation from the Army. According to the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, the Army's drawdown plan calls for reducing the number of basic-branch majors in the 1978 year group from 2,500 to 1,625 by the end of FY92, through a combination of voluntary and involuntary separations. Since more than 600 in that year group opted to separate voluntarily with an exit bonus, the March reduction-in-force board was required to select only 244 majors for involuntary separation. The Army then extended the application deadline for exit bonuses from Feb. 29 to May 1 and began encouraging those majors likely to be vulnerable to RIF to apply for the voluntary separation bonuses. Thanks to that effort, fewer than 100 majors were expected to receive the RIF notices delivered in mid-June.

BETTER HEALTH CARE AUSA AIM. With that in mind, Col. Erik Johnson, AUSA's director of Legislative Affairs, testified recently in support of two health care bills which have since been approved by the House Veterans' Affairs Committee:

- H.R. 5193, which would authorize VA and DoD to expand services provided through cost-sharing agreements and would permit VA to provide services on a space-available basis to any CHAMPUS beneficiary;
- H.R. 5263, which would establish a VA/Medicare test program permitting a three-year demonstration project at three to seven sites, where VA would be reimbursed by Medicare for services provided to certain Medicare-eligible veterans and their spouses.

UNKNOWN SOLDIERS NO MORE as DNA cataloging begins at Fort Knox. Specimens now being taken from new recruits, aviators and rapid deployment personnel include blood samples and oral swabs, to be used only for identification purposes. DNA testing, first performed in the military during Operation Desert Storm, allows for comparison of stored samples (unique to each individual) with unidentified remains for positive identification.

According to Maj. Victor Weedn, chief of the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory, "By the turn of the century we expect to have specimens on every servicemember."

AUSA JOB FAIRS, which offer job-search help to soldiers leaving the Army, have been held this year at Forts Hood, Campbell and Riley and at the Presidio of San Francisco. The fairs, which give participants an opportunity to talk with representatives of various companies around the country, are free and do not require AUSA membership. Job fairs coming up:

- Aug. 7-8, Fort Sill, OK;
- Sep. 11, Fort Meade, MD.

AUSA TELEVISION SERIES "Why An Army" features as its fourth guest Gen. Edwin H. Burba, Jr., Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Army Forces Command. Potential topics for discussion include BOLD SHIFT (an initiative to strengthen cohesion between active and reserve component units) and the impact of the draw-down in Europe.

Joining moderator Peter Hackes for the 30-minute program will be panelists Harry Summers (author, military analyst and syndicated columnist for the *Los Angeles Times*) and *Atlanta Journal/Constitution* reporter Ron Martz. The show will air in the Washington area on Thursday, Aug. 20, at 7:00 p.m. on Northern Virginia Public Television station WNVTV-53.

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

ILW'S RECENT PUBLICATIONS:

- *A New Strategy for Defense Acquisition*, a briefing on a proposed industrial base strategy based on the findings of a series of joint AUSA/ADPA seminars;

- *Prospects for America's Defense Technology and Industrial Base* (Landpower Essay No. 92-2), by William W. Mogan, an AUSA Sustaining Member; this publication was identified in the June *Update* as *Critique of the "Report to the Congress on the Industrial Base."*

To obtain copies of ILW publications, write to ILW at 2425 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22201, or call 1-800-336-4570, extension 308.

JOB BANK USA, INC., a premier job referral service, is now available to AUSA members at the rate of \$21.00 per year (a 30 percent discount off the nonmember rate). (AUSA corporate members are charged just \$80.00 per job search — 20 percent off the nonmember corporate rate.) Job Bank USA provides a nationwide electronic employment data base listing the employment qualifications of individuals in virtually every profession, craft and trade, and at all skill and experience levels. Some of the world's largest corporations, such as Boeing Aerospace, Ernst & Young, Gannett, Holiday Inn Worldwide, Marriott, Matsushita/Panasonic, MCI and Sony, use Job Bank USA to fill job openings from entry level to top management positions, as do such regional and local firms as Alaska Airlines, Atlantic Food Services, the Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Council, Fortune Bank and Hechinger. For more information or to request an enrollment form, call (toll-free) 1-800-296-1USA.

GULF WAR MANUSCRIPTS SOUGHT by AUSA's Institute of Land Warfare. ILW is looking for original manuscripts (5,000 words or less) documenting the professional experiences of soldiers and civilians who participated either directly in or in support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Papers will be reviewed by an editorial board for overall significance of subject matter, quality and readability. No honorarium is provided. For more information, call Col. Jim Blundell, USA Ret., at 1-800-336-4570, extension 320.

ARMY CIVILIAN PERSONNEL AWARDS PRESENTED recently at the 24th annual Kushnick Award Banquet. The William H. Kushnick Award recognizing the most outstanding singular achievement of an Army employee in civilian personnel administration was presented to Mrs. M. E. Schuler, Regional Civilian Personnel Officer, Baumholder, Germany. This year's recipient of the John W. Macy, Jr. Award for demonstrated excellence in the leadership of civilians by an Army military or civilian supervisor was Col. William C. Pendleton, garrison commander at Fort Bragg.

"STRATEGIC FORCE — DECISIVE VICTORY" will be the theme for AUSA's 38th Annual Meeting, to take place Oct. 12-14 at the Sheraton Washington and Omni Shoreham Hotels in Washington, D.C. This year's meeting will examine the Army's role in the post-Cold War environment.