



WASHINGTON UPDATE



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MERRITT: PROPOSED FORCE WON'T CUT IT.

Testifying before the House Armed Services subcommittee on military forces and personnel on Oct. 27, AUSA President Gen. Jack N. Merritt, USA Ret., stated: "I am absolutely convinced that if the present trends continue and the recommendations of the recently completed Bottom-Up Review are implemented, our country's national security will be endangered by the risk of breaking the land warfare capability of the United States Army."

He continued: "I am also convinced that the drawdown of the Army since our victory in the Persian Gulf has brought us to a position where it is unlikely that we could execute Desert Storm today. And, it would be **impossible** to accomplish with the force recommended in the Bottom-Up Review."

"I strongly disagree with the {Review's} resource allocation for the Army, which must bear most of the burden," he added. "Simply stated, the Army is not given sufficient dollars to meet the implicit mission."

Gen. Merritt challenged the Review's proposed force of 495,000 soldiers in 10 divisions. "For America's Army, there is no Chapter 11 bankruptcy; there is only the mission to fight and win the nation's wars," he said. "That is why the Army must remain at 12 active divisions with 560,000 active soldiers and a reserve component strength of 630,000. This requires a funding level of some \$68 billion a year over the near future."

Copies of Gen. Merritt's statement on "**Resources for the Future Army**" can be obtained by writing to AUSA's Institute of Land Warfare, 2425 Wilson Boulevard, Arlington, VA 22201, or calling 1-800-336-4570, extension 308.

GEN. JOULWAN TAKES COMMAND AS SACEUR.

Sworn in by Defense Secretary Les Aspin on Oct. 23 as the Supreme Allied Commander Europe and Commander-in-Chief, United States European Command was Army Gen. George A. Joulwan. As SACEUR, Joulwan commands all allied forces assigned by their nations to support NATO. As CINCUSEUCOM, he also commands all U.S. forces assigned to the European Command theater, which includes Europe, Israel and parts of Africa. When nominated by President Clinton for the new assignment, Gen. Joulwan was serving as commander-in-chief of U.S. Southern Command, headquartered in Panama. He had responsibility for all U.S. military activities in Latin America (except Mexico and the Caribbean) and for implementing U.S. national security policy and strategy in the region.

SHALI: FORCE CUTS COULD PRECLUDE ANOTHER DESERT STORM.

Responding to questions from the Senate Armed Services Committee during his confirmation hearings, the new chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Army Gen. John Shalikashvili, said the proposed 100,000-troop level in Europe "constrains our operational capabilities" to conduct missions the size of Desert Storm without reinforcements from stateside. In written answers submitted to the committee, he said: "The force structure lacks the ability to immediately respond to an operational level conflict like Desert Storm and will most likely require reinforcement or backfill when responding to other crises."

CIB AUTHORIZED FOR SOMALIA.

Army Chief of Staff Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan signed a directive Oct. 8 authorizing the awarding of the Combat Infantryman Badge, one of the Army's most prestigious awards, to soldiers serving in Somalia. Dating back to World War II, the CIB is awarded only to infantry and special forces troops who have engaged in active ground combat while assigned to infantry, special forces or ranger units.

2.6% COLA ASSURED — BUT YOU GOTTA WAIT, thanks to the Clinton budget plan. The cost-of-living adjustment, based on the September 1993 Consumer Price Index, will go to about 50 million people, including Social Security, federal and military retirees. Only Social Security recipients will receive the adjustment in January 1994 — all others must wait until April.

STATUS OF FISCAL 1994 DEFENSE BUDGET.

Both the **Authorization** and the **Appropriations** Bills are in joint conference, requiring the passage of a series of Continuing Resolutions to keep the government running. The conference on the **Authorization** Bill came up with a surprise move (Nov. 5) which bars the Army from reducing active duty strength below 555,000 after April 30 unless the Defense Secretary certifies how the service will carry out two major regional conflicts simultaneously, excluding troops in peacekeeping operations.

The House passed its \$239.6 billion version of the **Appropriations** Bill on Sep. 30 after eliminating a provision that would have restricted the president's use of troops on "humanitarian" missions. The Senate made few changes when it approved (Oct. 21) its \$239.1 billion bill. Like the House, the Senate spent considerable time debating U.S. foreign policy from Haiti to Bosnia to Somalia, ending up with a package that was unrestrictive of the president's authority. The **Military Construction** Bill was signed into law by President Clinton on Oct. 21, despite the fact that Congress had approved a \$10.1 billion package that was \$729 million short of his request.

PRESIDENT SEES DEEPER CUTS COMING.

To make good on promises he made to gain approval for his budget package in August, President Clinton has proposed more than \$11 billion in additional spending cuts over the next five years. Clinton sent Congress (Oct. 26) a proposal that he said would pare the budget by more than \$9 billion, most of it in the form of savings to result from implementation of Vice President Al Gore's "reinventing government" proposals. On Nov. 2, Congress received from the White House proposals for an added \$2 billion in cuts in spending for military construction, energy programs and highway and water projects. It is not clear what portions of the proposed savings would come from recisions to the fiscal 1994 appropriations or what would come from future budgets.

ASPIN APPEALS DOD BUDGET CUTS. In his annual "heartburn" letters to conferees on both the Authorization and Appropriations Bills, Defense Secretary Les Aspin expressed concern over cuts to a host of weapons systems as well as provisions that might undermine force readiness. To the Armed Services Committee chairs he expressed anxiety over a \$779 million House cut to Operations and Maintenance accounts that he says "adds a serious risk to readiness." Aspin also expressed disagreement with provisions of the **Authorization Bill** that would terminate the Defense Business Operations Fund, limit DoD depot maintenance options, reduce funding for Ballistic Missile Defense programs and cut funds for the C-17 airlifter plane.

In his appeal to the **Appropriations** conferees, Aspin reiterated many of these same concerns. Some Army-specific items in the second letter include: restoration of research and development funds for Search and Destroy Armor missile systems and reconsideration of a \$135 million cut for Avenger anti-aircraft missile production. Also opposed were a \$40 million cut to the Bradley program and a \$35 million cut to the Non-Line of Sight missile. We intend to track these and other Army programs as both conferences proceed.

ARMY, MARINES TO PUSH FOR CORPS SAM.

On the heels of less than wholehearted support from the Pentagon's Bottom-Up Review and the Senate Appropriations Committee's \$31.9 million cut to the program, the Army and Marines appear on the verge of joining forces in support of the Corps Surface-to-Air Missile program. Army Chief of Staff Gen. Gordon Sullivan has reportedly initiated a dialog with the Marines aimed at expressing the two services' strong support for the theater-level air defense program. OSD has lately been chatting up Germany on the possibility of joint U.S.-German development of a Corps SAM-type system.

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Col. Tom Byrne, USA Ret. - Editor
Santee Daugherty - Assistant Editor
2425 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22201
Phone: 703-841-4300 FAX: 703-525-9039

MUCH-NEEDED ROPMA GATHERS DUST following House passage of the measure in May 1993. The Senate Armed Services Committee has yet to take action on the Reserve Officer Personnel Management Act, designed to bring the personnel system for National Guard and Reserve officers more in line with the active duty system. ROPMA would offer such advantages as higher rank upon entry into a reserve component, faster promotion, and a better chance of staying in the Selected Reserve until eligible for retired pay at age 60. Reservists could, however, face greater competition than under the current system. The SASC is expected to take up the measure, which is not viewed as particularly controversial, next spring; enactment is likely by summer 1994.

GEN. JIMMY D. ROSS TO RETIRE after more than 35 years of service. Since January 1992, he has served as Commanding General, United States Army Materiel Command, Alexandria, VA. The change-of-command ceremony is scheduled for Feb. 18, 1994.

LTG Leon E. Salomon has been nominated for appointment to the grade of general and assignment as Commanding General, U.S. Army Materiel Command. He has served as the Army's Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics since January 1992.

MG Johnnie E. Wilson has been nominated for appointment to the grade of lieutenant general and assignment as Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics. He has served as Chief of Staff, U.S. Army Materiel Command, since July 1992.

HAC ADDS \$20M TO AC²V BUDGET REQUEST. The House FY94 defense appropriations bill contains \$28.6 million in research and development funds for the Advanced Command and Control Vehicle — \$20 million more than the Army's budget request — with \$2 million earmarked for integration of the vehicle intercom system and mission module. According to a committee report, during Operation Desert Storm the old M577A2 Command and Control Vehicle (C²V) "could not maintain pace with the maneuver force and lacked mobility, reliability, and survivability and should be moved up to be more in line with the M1A2 program and the Army's Horizontal Battlefield Program." The current estimated fielding date for the AC²V is FY 1999.

SECDEF, CHIEF OF STAFF LAUD AUSA. At the 18 October opening ceremony of AUSA's 1993 Annual Meeting, Secretary of Defense Les Aspin praised AUSA's support of a strong national defense, particularly a strong U.S. Army: "As the President has said, we're committed to maintaining the best-equipped, best-trained and most effective fighting force in the world. AUSA is going to help us keep on track."

Army Chief of Staff General Gordon R. Sullivan, in remarks prepared for the 19 October Eisenhower Luncheon, also expressed his appreciation to AUSA: "This convention is only one of the many ways AUSA supports the Army. The most important thing AUSA does is to bring us together — soldiers, civilians, retirees, industry, and academia. AUSA brings us together, gives us a strong voice on matters important to the Army family, and helps us get the word out. AUSA is an important part of America's Army."

U.S. ARMY MEDICAL COMMAND ACTIVATED provisionally on Oct. 1 in San Antonio, with Army Surgeon General Lt. Gen. Alcide M. LaNoue at the helm. MEDCOM, which will encompass Health Services Command and some elements of the Office of The Surgeon General (OTSG), has been established to improve efficiency in the command structure of the Army Medical Department. Under the new structure, health-care professionals will provide field care, regional medical centers will provide care for soldiers and their families, and MEDCOM will provide long-range guidance. This will result in major changes for the Office of The Surgeon General, whose staff of more than 400 will be cut by almost 80 percent; those jobs will be relocated to MEDCOM and to major medical centers. Health Services Command will continue to exist until full activation of MEDCOM, expected in October 1994.

MILITARY GOLF COURSES LATEST TARGET. Sen. Dennis DeConcini (D-AZ) and Rep. Gerald Kleczka (D-WI) are cosponsors of a bill to open up some 175 military golf courses to the public, with greens fees comparable to those at public courses. Of the profits generated, it is proposed that 10 percent go to base recreation funds, with the balance to be earmarked for deficit reduction. Active and retired military personnel would continue to pay their same low greens fees and be given priority for tee times.

SUPREME COURT LIFTS BAR TO GAY BAN, paving the way for the military to implement the Clinton administration's "don't ask, don't tell" policy and to resume discharging homosexual service members. At the request of the Pentagon, the Justice Department had asked the high court for a partial stay of U.S. District Judge Terry Hatter's Sep. 30 order barring the services from disciplining gay military members. The request was granted based on the limitations of a judge's authority rather than on the merits of *United States v. Meinhold*, the case of discharged Navy Petty Officer Keith Meinhold, upon which Hatter's order was based.

1995 BASE CLOSING LIST MAY BE BIGGEST YET, thanks to Defense Secretary Les Aspin's plan to make additional force cuts. Aspin's goal is a force of 1.4 million (10 active and five reserve Army divisions, an Air Force of 13 active and seven reserve wings, and a 346-ship Navy). That's more than 12 percent smaller than the Bush administration force (12 active, six reserve and two cadre Army divisions, 15 active and 11 reserve Air Force wings, and a 425-ship Navy) upon which earlier base closures were based. According to a report in *Army Times*, logistics and training bases, along with supply storage facilities, will be particularly vulnerable to the ax.

SOMALIA FORCE STRENGTHENED. Following last month's battle, the Defense Department has authorized the deployment of some 3,000 Army troops, backed up by about 3,600 Marines stationed off the shores of Somalia. Security enhancement forces from the Army, announced on Oct. 14, include:

2nd Bn, 22nd Infantry, 10th Mountain Div
(675 personnel from Ft Drum, NY)

1st Bn, 64th Armor, 24th Infantry Div
(1,420 personnel from Ft Stewart, GA)
- 2 armor companies
- 3 mech infantry companies
- 1 artillery battery

43rd Engineer Battalion
(500 personnel from Ft Benning, GA)

5th Special Forces Group
(40 personnel from Ft Campbell, KY)

9th PSYOPS Bn/96th Civil Affairs Battalion
(30 personnel from Ft Bragg, NC)

ASPIN LISTS RESERVE END STRENGTH, calling for a combined Army Reserve and National Guard strength of 575,000 in FY 1999, down 127,300 from a programmed strength of 702,300 at the end of FY 1993. The FY 1999 figure would support a combat force of about 37 brigades, including 15 enhanced readiness National Guard brigades, organized and resourced for quick mobilization, training and deployment.

"AMERICA'S ARMY" returns in December for a look at the technology that shapes the modern battlefield. Peter Hackes' guests for the 30-minute television program will be George T. Singley III, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Research and Technology, and LTG William H. Forster, Military Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Research, Development and Acquisition).

"America's Army: The Modern Battlefield" will air in the Washington metropolitan area on Thursday, December 16, at 7:00 p.m. on WNVN-TV.

AUSA's "America's Army" series is available via satellite to public TV stations across the country. Check local listings for broadcast schedules outside the Washington area. Tapes of the programs are also available through AUSA. For more information, call 1-800-336-4570, extension 317.

ILW PUBLICATIONS:

A Glimpse of the Digitized Battlefield at the National Training Center (Landpower Essay 93-7), by LTC George H. Del Carlo, USA, addresses the situational awareness advantages offered by the Intervehicular Information System (IVIS).

Battle Space: The Commander's Tool on the Battlefield of the Future (Landpower Essay 93-8), by MG Paul E. Funk, USA, examines the concept of battle space as a planning and execution tool to help commanders impress their will upon the enemy and control the fight.

Defense Acquisition Reform (Background Brief 59) addresses the increased impetus to reform the DoD acquisition process in the face of the current defense drawdown and the corresponding decrease in the defense budget.

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