



WASHINGTON UPDATE



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BOTTOM-UP REVIEW UNVEILED. Defense Secretary Les Aspin's much-heralded review of national defense strategy and the structure required to implement it was aired nationally in a Pentagon press conference on Sep. 1. Decisions emerging from the Pentagon's six-month-long strategy appraisal will define the Clinton administration's defense policies for years. Most immediately, it results in all-service cuts of 160,000 active duty personnel and some 115,000 civilian employees from the previous baseline.

JCS chairman Gen. Colin Powell briefed the force structure portion of the plan, announcing a reduction by 1999 to ten active Army divisions from the present 14. Changes planned for the Army National Guard include a shift in focus on enhancing the readiness of brigades rather than entire ARNG divisions. Future force structure anticipates 15 such enhanced readiness brigades. Improvements to Army Guard and Reserve support force readiness are also important elements in the plan.

Army force enhancements call for beefed-up Army prepositioned equipment; additional airlift and sealift to move Army forces to crisis regions; and improved antiarmor and precision-guided munitions.

U.S. troop strength (all services) in Europe will remain at around 100,000; in East Asia at about 98,000, including two Army brigades in Korea.

63,226 FEWER SOLDIERS IN ONE YEAR means the Army has contributed about 43 percent of the total reduction in armed forces personnel for the June 1992-June 1993 year. The latest DoD figures show the Army had 582,343 soldiers on active duty on June 30. Drawdown figures for the other services for the same period are: Navy -31,518; Marines -9,981; Air Force -42,503.

SHALIKASHVILI NAMED CJCS. President Clinton selected Army Gen. John M. Shalikashvili as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to replace retiring Gen. Colin L. Powell. Shalikashvili will assume the JCS chair on Oct. 1, pending Senate confirmation. He now serves as Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, and Commander in Chief, U.S. European Command.

Drafted into the U.S. Army at age 18, Shalikashvili was commissioned through Officer Candidate School in July 1959. He has served in a variety of command and staff positions in the continental United States, Germany, Vietnam and Korea.

During his last 14 months as Supreme Allied Commander in Europe, Shalikashvili helped to revamp NATO to a more flexible military and political force, according to President Clinton. He created a NATO rapid reaction corps to undertake peacekeeping missions and helped persuade NATO members to consider missions outside the traditional alliance boundaries.

WHITE HOUSE & CAPITOL HILL STILL SEEK PAY, COLA CUTS in an effort to find up to \$15 billion in additional budget savings. To ensure passage of his Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act, President Clinton had to promise a new round of spending reductions. Administration officials are reportedly pushing for a government-wide (military and civilian) pay freeze, which would reduce the FY94 budget by about \$2.5 billion. Clinton's proposal for a military pay freeze was rejected by Congress early in the FY94 defense budget process, but observers are unwilling to predict the outcome should the issue be brought to a new vote. Conservative House Democrats are looking at possible cuts in cost-of-living adjustments for federal civilian and military retirees and Social Security recipients.

ARMY TO PREPOSITION HEAVY BRIGADE by loading four ships with enough equipment for two armored and two mechanized battalions. This first part of a long-term plan to expand the prepositioning of Army equipment will include: 123 M1A1 tanks, 154 Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicles, 24 self-propelled howitzers, nine Multiple Launch Rocket Systems and 344 other tracked vehicles. A large number of wheeled vehicles are also included.

In addition, another three roll-on/roll-off ships will be loaded with sustainment supplies such as food and clothing. No helicopters will be prepositioned on these ships, which will be stationed in Southwest Asia, the Pacific, Korea or other potential flash points around the world. About 95 percent of the equipment for this brigade will come from stocks in Germany, where loading is expected to begin in mid-November.

\$160 MILLION ADDED FOR APACHES, BUT ... Both Armed Services Committees, hoping to plug a 19-month gap in Apache helicopter production, had added that amount to the Army's FY94 budget request. Apache upgrades are planned to get underway in 1995, and the House and Senate committees provided the additional funds to keep the McDonnell Douglas Helicopter Co. line open in the interim. However, the Clinton administration has expressed its opposition to the addition and reportedly plans to fight it. The Senate version of the FY94 defense bill gives the Army the option of buying 10 additional Apaches or using the funds to accelerate the fielding of the Longbow fire-and-forget radar — the critical and most expensive component in the upgrade program.

BUDGET CUTS WILL HURT ARMY PLANS. While Aspin hasn't yet put dollar figures on the decisions of his bottom-up review, there are strong indications that the Army will be subject to further fiscal constraints when the first all-Clinton budget comes out next January. Clinton made promises to cut additional billions from the budget in order to gain a very close call vote in August. At least half of the added cuts will likely come from Defense. Army leaders are especially concerned over the possible fate of their Long-Range Technology Plan and the Army Aviation Restructure Initiative.

WHOLE BRIGADE TO TRAIN BY SIMULATION for the first time, using an integrated network of devices previously used only to train individual soldiers and small units. The \$34 million demonstration, tentatively scheduled to begin in 1994 at the Army's Armor Center at Fort Knox, KY, is designed to assess the effectiveness of simulation vs. actual field maneuvers. When the simulation training cycle has been completed, the brigade will perform training exercises under actual battlefield conditions at the Army's National Training Center at Fort Irwin, CA, to assess the effectiveness of the "virtual brigade" concept. According to a recent report in *Defense News*, the 194th Armored Brigade at Fort Knox is the most likely candidate for the experiment.

SPEED-UP URGED FOR ARMY COMMAND VEHICLE. One of the critical force enhancements emerging from Defense Secretary Les Aspin's bottom-up review was improved command, control, communications and intelligence assets. And the Army seems to be moving ahead on this one. Army officials plan to speed development of a new command and control vehicle by mounting a command center module, along with advanced communications equipment, on a Multiple Launch Rocket System chassis; the prototype vehicles will be tested at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, CA, beginning next March.

COMANCHE SHORT \$696 MILLION, but the funding shortfall should not impede development of the RAH-66 helicopter, according to DoD and Army officials. The shortfall covers the FY94-99 period and was surfaced through two studies: a congressionally-mandated study by OSD and the Pentagon's bottom-up review. Both studies agree there is a shortfall, although there are differing opinions on its magnitude and the risk involved with the program — which is the Army's top acquisition priority.

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THE CLINTON BUDGET AND YOU. Here are some ways President Clinton's budget plan will affect soldiers and their families:

Less tax for some enlisted—Families with one child and income of up to \$23,760 will qualify for the Earned Income Tax Credit; Same for those with two or more children and income up to \$27,000.

Make more, pay more — Married couples making over \$140,000 and singles making more than \$115,000 move up to new 36 percent tax bracket.

Some retirees pay more — Married retirees who receive Social Security and have \$44,000 income (or \$34,000 for singles) will be taxed on 85 percent of their SS benefits. That's up from 50 percent.

Retiree COLAs delayed — By three months, until March 1, 1994; by eight months in 1995 through 1998.

\$100 MILLION FOR EUROPEAN RETROGRADE program to return and repair equipment from Europe has been added to the Army's FY94 operations and maintenance account by the House Armed Services Committee. Acceleration of the drawdown of troops in Europe means more supplies and equipment for retrograde than was originally estimated, leaving a shortfall of about \$165 million. Inside the Army reports that, over the long haul, the Europe Equipment Retrograde program will involve 524,000 short tons of ammunition and 35,000-48,000 vehicles. In FY94 alone the Army expects to spend \$344 million for redistribution of approximately 110,000 short tons of ammunition and 10,600 vehicles to both active and reserve forces.

YANKEE DIVISION FADES AWAY. On Aug. 28, the 26th Yankee Division, the nation's oldest National Guard division, was deactivated in an hour-long ceremony on the Boston Common in Boston, MA.

The Yankee Division was formed in 1917, but historians trace its roots back to 1636, when some of its units patrolled the Massachusetts Bay Colony and later fought the British at Lexington and Concord. The division fought in the Battle of the Bulge in World War II, and younger members have served in Korea and Vietnam.

EARLY-OUT OFFERS FOR 8,000 TROOPS, 900 OFFICERS in 1994 can be expected as the Army seeks to meet a strength level of 540,000 by Sep. 30 without resorting to involuntary reductions-in-force. The early retirement option will be open to staff sergeants and sergeants first class in a number of specialties, with the length-of-service requirement foreligibility varying from skill to skill.

Officer groups identified for early-out offers include:

- captains, majors and lieutenant colonels in various skills in the Army Medical Department (target number 300);
- majors in the 1978 year group who are in the primary promotion zone in FY94 (target - 200);
- majors passed over once for promotion and not on a promotion list, except in eight skill fields (target - 200);
- captains with at least 15 years' service who were passed over for promotion by the FY93 board (target - 75);
- warrant officers with at least 17 years' service in 20 different skill areas (target - 120);
- a small number of passed-over captains and majors in the Judge Advocate General Corps and the Chaplain Corps.

The early retirement program for each category will close when the target number for that category is reached, and all personnel whose applications are approved will leave active duty by Aug. 31, 1994.

SECDEF TO GET MORE CALL-UP POWER? At the request of the Clinton administration, the Senate version of the FY94 defense authorization bill contains language that would give the Secretary of Defense authority to order up to 25,000 Reserve and National Guard troops to active duty for 90 days. The provision did not make it into the House version of the bill, and some strong opposition is expected from that side of Capitol Hill.

7TH DIVISION COLORS FURLED during a two-hour inactivation ceremony on Aug. 9 at Ford Ord, CA, as part of the Army's drawdown. The 7th Infantry Division (Light), a trailblazer of the modern Army's light infantry, was activated in 1917 and took part in the final offensive of World War I. Reactivated by Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell at Camp Ord in 1940, the Bayonet Division participated in the invasions of Kwajalein, Leyte and Okinawa in World War II.

The 7th received the surrender of Japanese troops in Korea in 1945 and served on occupation duty there and in Japan until the Korean War. The division endured almost 15,000 casualties in battles at Old Baldy, Porkchop Hill and Heartbreak Ridge. Since then the 7th, converted to a light infantry division, has participated in Operation Just Cause in Panama in 1989 and in Task Force Los Angeles during the rioting there last year.

ILW'S ANNUAL MEETING PROGRAMS include two Contemporary Military Forums on Monday, Oct. 18, in the Sheraton Washington Hotel's Maryland "A" Room:

- LTG Thomas P. Carney, the Army's Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, will address "Personnel Challenges Facing the All Volunteer Army" at 2:00 p.m..
- MG Jay M. Garner, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations (Force Development), will discuss "Advanced Land Combat Systems into the 21st Century: Ensuring Land Force Dominance" at 3:00 p.m.

On Wednesday, Oct. 19, also in the Maryland "A" Room, three Land Warfare Papers will be presented by the authors:

- *America's First Cold War Army, 1945-1950*, by Maj. William W. Epley, USA Ret., at 9:30 a.m.
- *The Impact of the Presidential Nuclear Initiative on Deterrence and the United States Army*, by Capt. Daniel S. Roper, USA, at 10:10 a.m.
- *Reserve Forces in the Contingency Era: Issues and Answers*, by Dr. Lewis Sorley, at 10:50 a.m.

"AMERICA'S ARMY" returns in October with "Will They Still Volunteer? - Part II," the second segment of a two-part examination of the future of the All Volunteer Army. Hosted by Peter Hackes, this edition of AUSA's nine-part television series features Dr. Don Snider, director of Political and Military Studies at the Center for Strategic and International Studies; Harry Summers, military analyst, author and syndicated columnist for the *Los Angeles Times*; and LTG Thomas P. Carney, the Army's deputy chief of staff for personnel.

The 30-minute program will air in the Washington metropolitan area on Thursday, Oct. 21, at 7:00 p.m. on WNVT-TV.

"America's Army" 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 further information, call 1-800-336-4570, extension 317.

ILW PUBLICATIONS:

Personal Perspectives of the Gulf War, a compilation of 34 stories, presents Operation Desert Storm as it was experienced by a broad cross-section of military and civilian participants.

The Need for a Selective Service System (Landpower Essay 93-6), by Gen. Maxwell R. Thurman, USA Ret., provides an argument for retention and future funding of Selective Service.

The Rising Threat of Islamic Fundamentalism, a Viewpoint paper by MG Robert F. Cocklin, AUS Ret., expresses the author's concerns regarding security implications of the fundamentalist movement's growing fervor.

To obtain ILW publications, write to AUSA's Institute of Land Warfare, 2425 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22201, or call 1-800-336-4570, extension 308.

BRASSEY'S DOUBLES AUSA DISCOUNT. As of Oct. 1, 1993, AUSA members may purchase Brassey's (US) books at a discount of 40 percent off the list price (the previous discount was 20 percent). Call 1-800-257-5755 to obtain a catalog of available titles.