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PERRY NAMED TO TOP PENTAGON POST.

On Jan. 24, less than a week after retired Adm. Bobby Inman's surprise withdrawal, President Clinton nominated Deputy Defense Secretary William J. Perry, the number two official in the Pentagon, to succeed Les Aspin as secretary of defense. An engineer and mathematician, Perry helped to develop the "stealth" weapon system technology while serving as undersecretary of defense for research and engineering during the Carter administration. He is characterized by *The Washington Post* as "one of the nation's foremost scholars on ... the military-industrial complex." A quick congressional confirmation of the nomination is expected.

FIRST SHOTS FIRED IN BUDGET WAR.

Congress doesn't get back to work until the end of January and the White House won't send the FY95 budget to the Hill until Feb. 7, but anticipated additional cuts to defense have already drawn fire from both sides of the Potomac. On Capitol Hill, a group of centrist House Democrats calling itself "Democrats for a Strong Defense" is urging the president to scale back proposed cuts in defense spending. "We have cut too much too fast," said Rep. G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery (D-MS). "Further reductions could leave us with a force too small to meet our security needs."

Another House Democrat, Rep. Ike Skelton of Missouri, said: "The national defense budget must be leveled out — no more real cuts, or else we will have a truly hollow armed services." In conveying their concerns directly to President Clinton during a Nov. 23 White House meeting, Montgomery and Skelton were joined by fellow Democrat Representatives John Murtha (PA), chairman of the House Appropriations defense subcommittee; Norman Dicks (WA); Dave McCurdy (OK); John Spratt (SC); and Norman Sisisky (VA).

In a Dec. 13 letter, Senators Bob Dole (KS), Strom Thurmond (SC) and Pete Domenici (NM) urged the president to avoid deeper cuts in the Pentagon's budget because they believe such reductions would enfeeble the nation's military.

BOTTOM-UP AND BUDGET NO MATCH.

Just how short is the shortfall? Depending on what you read or who you listen to, the gap between what it will cost to carry out the Clinton administration's military strategy — as enunciated by the Bottom-Up Review — and the defense budget being projected by the White House through 1999 could be anywhere from \$13 billion to \$100 billion. The most-often repeated figure is somewhere around \$50 billion. The mismatch was caused by a combination of factors: the assumption of no military pay raises, basing earlier estimates on overly favorable inflation rates (over the total period), and underestimating the cost of some systems.

In the early fall, Defense Secretary Les Aspin publicly admitted that at least \$13 billion more would be needed to fund the forces for the next six years. By December, after the release of the Bottom-Up Review, the defense shortfall was estimated to be at least \$50 billion over the next five years; this problem was presented by Aspin in the presidential review of the FY 1995 budget on Dec. 10. While acknowledging Aspin's request, Budget Director Leon Panetta said he did not expect any change to next year's Pentagon budget.

By late December, White House and Pentagon budgeteers had whittled the shortage to \$31 billion. Panetta announced that \$10 billion would be made available to cover pay and allowance increases over a five-year period. Several days later, he said that the defense budget shortfall had "been resolved." We will get a clearer view of where this stands when the president sends his budget to Congress in early February.

FORCE XXI TASK FORCE PLANS UNVEILED

by Army Chief of Staff Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan at AUSA's Jan. 14 Land Warfare Breakfast. Sullivan told more than 200 senior military officials and defense industry leaders that the Special Task Force on Digitization, to be chaired by the Army acquisition executive and the vice chief of staff of the army, will "legitimize the effort to redesign our forces."

DIGITIZED BATTLEFIELD MAY GET \$\$\$.

OSD is reported to be considering providing the Army \$411 million over five years to further plans to digitize the battlefield. If the proposal is approved through the system, the Army would get \$75 million in FY95, \$99 million in FY96, \$91 million in FY97, \$74 million in FY98 and \$72 million in FY99. Exactly how the funds will be used has not been aired, but it is expected that the bulk of the money will go toward armored vehicle digitized data upgrades.

HASC TO REVIEW REQUIREMENTS AND MIS-

SIONS. Apparently dissatisfied with the Defense Department's nearly year-long examination of America's military needs, the House Armed Services Committee has announced that it will launch its own examination of the nation's military requirements when it returns to work in late January. At the same time, the FY94 Defense Authorization Act directed the creation of a new commission of outside experts to make a one-year study of service roles and missions in light of post-Cold War security needs. The Commission on Roles and Missions of the Armed Forces is expected to be on a par with the 1986 Packard Commission, which recommended sweeping changes in defense management. Congressional criticism over a perceived lack of action after the Joint Chiefs' roles and missions report last year led to this latest effort.

ARMY MLRS BATTALION TO MARINES.

The Army and Marine Corps recently completed an exercise at Twentynine Palms, CA, involving elements of a Multiple Launch Rocket System battalion from Fort Sill, OK. The exercise, in support of an ongoing cost and operational effectiveness analysis, was designed in part to investigate the feasibility of eventually assigning all MLRS support to the Army.

Marine Corps Commandant Gen. Carl Mundy is said to favor permanently stationing an MLRS battalion at Twentynine Palms to give Marines the opportunity to train and possibly deploy with Army teams.

An advantage to assigning the Army responsibility for all MLRS support would be the significant savings — preliminary estimates indicated on the order of \$300 million over a six-year period. A report that the Marines zeroed funding for MLRS in the FY95-97 budget may indicate that the program is further along than we know.

ARMY, AF ARGUE AIR DEFENSE CONTROL.

An unofficial Air Force "white paper," recently surfaced in the Pentagon, serves to renew the debate over which service should have primacy over theater missile defenses. That argument was supposedly put to bed with release of the February 1993 JCS roles and missions study, but recent statements by Air Force officials suggest that their service should take over that role and that several Army weapons systems such as Hawk, CorpsSAM, THAAD and Patriot upgrades could be cancelled.

The Army debunks the white paper's contention that giving the mission to the Air Force would save \$1 billion. The Army's assistant deputy chief of staff for operations and plans, MG Jay Garner, says it would cost four times that much to transfer the programs. Refuting the AF argument that the current system contains "unnecessary overlap," MG Gamer states that the Army has redesigned its Theater Air Defense system to combat four major threats: theater ballistic missiles (TBMs), cruise missiles, unmanned aerial vehicles and fixed-wing aircraft. The Air Force has no capability to combat TBMs and a very limited ability to deter the other three, he says.

WARFIGHTING CENTER ESTABLISHED.

Expected to be fully operational in FY 1995, the Joint Warfighting Center has been approved by the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, with funding included in the FY 1994 DoD Budget. Fort Monroe, VA was selected for the location of the JWFC because of its proximity to the Armed Forces Staff College, the U.S. Atlantic Command and military service doctrine centers.

The center will facilitate joint doctrine development by serving as a focal point for emerging warfighting concepts. It will also assist with the planning, execution and assessment of joint exercises and training activities, as well as provide a unifying focus to the warfighting commanders in chief and the military services.

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DEPOT CONTROVERSY HEATS UP. James Klugh, deputy undersecretary of defense for logistics, is pressuring the services and DoD logistics agencies to increase the amount of depot maintenance work that is performed by the private sector. Industry has been clamoring for a larger share of depot maintenance work as a way of recovering some of the losses they are incurring from defense downsizing. Klugh wants to expand the private sector's depot maintenance workload to the maximum allowed by law.

The current law states that 60 percent of this maintenance must be done in service-controlled depots and up to 40 percent by private contractors. A recent General Accounting Office review reports just over 30 percent of this maintenance was actually done by the private sector in 1992.

Service officials contend that the public depots must have enough work to maintain a core capability that will allow them to support the troops and repair equipment during a conflict. They are concerned with the private sector's ability to respond to short-notice conflict-driven requirements and the ability of contractors to maintain the necessary skills without major cost increases.

ARMORED HUMVEES? The High Mobility Multi-purpose Wheeled Vehicle, AM General Corporation's answer to the Jeep, is undergoing some special modifications to provide enhanced armored protection for its occupants. The beefed-up vehicles will be fitted with armor that will protect against artillery shrapnel, AK-47-fired armor-piercing ammunition, and some land mines. The Army ordered 55 of the new, more heavily armored trucks in August after troops became involved with local guerrillas in Somalia. The Army hopes to eventually add 900 of the new vehicles to their inventory.

GPS ORDERED FOR ALL NEW WEAPONS. The FY94 Defense Authorization Bill directs that any platform or weapon systems procured by DoD after FY 2000 must be equipped with a Global Positioning System (GPS) receiver. GPS provides worldwide navigation, positioning and timing information to military and civilian users through a constellation of 24 satellites.

Congress has also directed DoD to furnish a report to the defense and intelligence committees detailing threats to civil aviation and other transportation resulting from disruptions of the GPS signal. The report, due by May 1, 1994, must contain methods to modify or eliminate these threats.

ARMY GUARD, RESERVE UNIT SWAPS SET. DoD and the Army announced plans to restructure the Army's reserve components over the next six years by cutting 127,300 troops from Army Reserve and National Guard FY 1993 end strength. By 1999 the Army Guard will have dropped 55,700 people, from its present strength of 422,700 to 367,000. The USAR will lose 71,600, dropping from its present 279,600 to 208,000. The total for both components will be 575,000 on duty by the end of FY99.

The plan also calls for the two components to swap some 10,000 positions, with the Guard picking up some combat and combat support units. Concurrently, support units will be transferred to the Army Reserve. This must have a congressional stamp of approval before implementation.

TRADOC STUDY QUESTIONS SUSTAINABILITY. An Army Training & Doctrine command study, in forecasting the effects of projected 1996 through 2010 spending cuts in Army research, development and acquisition programs, warns of shortages in basic warfare-essential equipment. According to the study, planned spending cuts would force the Army to concentrate its limited modernization money on active duty first-to-fight combat divisions while effectively turning follow-on forces into a second-class Army incompatible with the better-equipped contingency corps. The study suggests that future logistics and transportation capabilities would be inadequate for the projection and sustainment of follow-on forces.

MCDONNELL ACCEPTS DOD'S C-17 DEAL. In an agreement between the Pentagon and the nation's top military contractor, the government would buy six C-17 transports annually for the next two years, but production would be stopped if McDonnell Douglas Corp. falters in making required improvements during what amounts to a two-year probationary period. Acting on recommendations from two separate studies, the Pentagon would retain the option to purchase up to 80 additional planes, thus meeting the original Air Force requirement of 120 aircraft.

Fallback positions if McDonnell Douglas cannot improve its performance include either additional commercial widebody aircraft with hard decks and large doors or a restart of the Lockheed C-5B line. The Pentagon will initiate a study to pick the best of these options.

NONLETHAL DEFENSE OPTIONS BEING CONSIDERED. Under heavy secrecy, military researchers are pursuing the development of a number of "nonlethal" technologies that could be a boon to Army troops engaged in peacekeeping operations. Weapons or systems that would stun, disorient or immobilize enemy forces without killing them or nearby civilians are particularly suited to post-Cold War missions such as peacekeeping or antiterrorist operations. Among the technologies being investigated at the Los Alamos (NM) National Laboratory are those for use against personnel, such as laser rifles that could temporarily blind troops, ultra-low frequency sound waves that can disorient and sometimes nauseate a person, and slippery or sticky technologies that make streets, roads, bridges and the like useless. To destroy or disable enemy weaponry, the experts are reported to be looking at laser devices to damage the optical systems of conventional weapons, super adhesives that can be applied to equipment to cripple it, and high-powered microwaves that can penetrate unshielded electronics systems and melt their components. These and other programs are being looked at to give commanders alternative options in situations short of force-on-force combat.

SOMALI PULL-OUT BEGINS. "We will cover the withdrawal with Army troops right up until the very end," said LTC Chris Harvey, plans officer for U.S. Forces, Somalia, as the U.S. pull-out began, ending a 16-month mission to provide security for humanitarian relief operations. As they board military transport planes or chartered commercial airlines for the trip out of Mogadishu, troops will be protected by a Marine Expeditionary Unit, tanks, and AC-130 gunships. March 31 is the deadline for the 8,000 troops ashore and 3,000 more on ships off the coast to be out of Somalia, and it is expected that some other UN member nations' troops (notably Italy and Germany) will leave before the Americans are gone. According to MG Thomas Montgomery, commander of U.S. forces in Somalia, an amphibious group of some 2,000 U.S. Marines will remain offshore to provide protection as needed for remaining UN troops.

ACTIVE ARMY FY93 ENDSTRENGTH totaled 572,423 (87,845 officers, 480,379 enlisted and 4,199 cadets) — the lowest figure since 1948. And for the first time in 47 years, the number of active duty soldiers in Europe has dropped below 100,000, to 98,300 — approximately 27,600 fewer than a year ago. By the end of FY94, U.S. Army Europe will have drawn down to about 74,900 soldiers on its way to the FY95 goal of 65,000.

HEALTH CARE CHANGES EXPECTED IN '94. Beneficiaries of the military medical system are likely to catch glimpses of the reformed health care plan called "TRICARE" later this year as designated hospital commanders begin enrolling some of the patients they serve in the new plan, according to top defense and service officials. Active duty members and their families will be the first group to be offered enrollment.

TRICARE, which combines civilian and military medical services, is ultimately expected to guarantee access to care for all beneficiaries while giving the military ways to control costs and treatment quality. It would also ensure that the quality and amount of care available to retirees and dependents do not vary widely from place to place. Although beneficiaries who so desire may continue using standard CHAMPUS for now, that program is expected to end if the administration's national health care plan is adopted.

"**AMERICA'S ARMY**" takes a look at the present and future of the U.S. Army in Europe. Peter Hackes' guests for the 30-minute television program will be GEN David M. Maddox, Commander in Chief, U.S. Army Europe and 7th Army; Peter Copeland, Scripps Howard News Service; and Barton Gellman of *The Washington Post*.

"America's Army: Why Are We Still in Europe?" will air in the Washington metropolitan area on Thursday, Feb. 17, at 7:00 p.m. on WNVT-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 program are also available through AUSA. For more information, call 1-800-336-4570, extension 311.

ILW PUBLICATIONS:

Nuclear Fusion: Technology Deadline for Militant Islam? (Landpower Essay 94-1), by Patrick L. Moore.

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) In Transition (Background Brief No. 60).

Depot Maintenance (Background Brief No. 61).

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