



WASHINGTON UPDATE

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Deutch memo challenges major developmental systems. On August 18, Deputy Secretary of Defense John Deutch directed all military departments to provide options for the slowdown or termination of or alternatives to a list of major systems currently under development. This is driven by the recognized shortfall in total defense dollars to cover the projected program over the next five years. For the Army, the designated systems were its two leading research and development projects: the Comanche helicopter program and the Advanced Field Artillery System. In both cases, the Army is to provide program alternatives with the possibility of termination.

The Army's top leadership are intent on preserving both programs, as both systems are central to future plans for Force XXI and the digitized battlefield. Options are being considered, and how it will play is not clear at this time.

ROPMA approved; implementation delayed. The long-awaited Reserve Officers Personnel Management Act has finally been approved by Congress but won't take effect until FY 1996. Then the careers of reserve officers will be governed by rules for promotion and retention similar to those for active duty commissioned officers. The new law gives the Secretary of the Army authority to establish below-the-zone promotions which will permit the best-qualified officers to be promoted ahead of their peers.

Reserve call-up authority denied — again. Defense Secretary William Perry's request for authority for the Secretary of Defense to call as many as 25,000 reservists to active duty made it halfway through the authorization process before being scratched in joint conference. The House Armed Services Committee had agreed to the request. The Senate Armed Services Committee, insisting that such authority remain with the president, prevailed in conference but did extend presidential call-up authority from the present 90 days to 270.

GAO reports \$150 billion defense shortfall. In a report released August 1, the General Accounting Office says the administration has overestimated savings from base closings and personnel drawdowns and underestimated such costs as pollution cleanup at closed bases. On top of unrealistic savings projections, cost overruns on six major weapon systems and rising personnel costs would leave the Clinton defense budget for FY95-FY99 at least \$150 billion short of the funds required.

Disputing the GAO report, DoD spokesman Dennis Boxx said: "There is no \$150 billion shortfall in the department's budget projections. We believe the GAO projection ... is speculative and absolutely incorrect." Joint Chiefs Chairman Gen. John Shalikashvili said the report was "very worrisome," but added that DoD disagrees with the GAO estimates "by a wide margin."

Military capability concerns aired. On the same day in August, both major D.C. papers carried front-page stories relating how defense cutbacks are affecting the readiness of our armed forces. Both papers — and the *New York Times* a week earlier — reported increasing skepticism over the Clinton defense budget's ability to pay for the strategy envisioned by the Bottom-Up Review. The two main concerns raised are whether the reduced forces would be sufficient to fight two major regional conflicts nearly simultaneously and whether the proposed defense budget of \$1.2 trillion through FY 1999 would be enough to pay for those forces.

Ike Skelton (D-MO), chairman of the House subcommittee on military forces and personnel, told an AUSA Land Warfare forum that budget shortfalls could force the Army to cut its force structure below the planned 495,000 strength or face the risk of fielding a hollow force. Skelton also said even a fully-funded force of 495,000 would have difficulty fighting two regional wars nearly simultaneously since only about 306,000 would be deployable. If the first regional war requires the same number of soldiers as Desert Storm (275,000), "that doesn't leave you very many for the second," he said.

Most U.S. troops have departed Rwanda area.

Of the 2,100 American military personnel or troops engaged in the military aspects of the Rwandan refugee operation, about 700 remain in central Africa at this writing. Only a handful of U.S. troops are actually in Rwanda; most are in Entebbe, Uganda, where they run a center to coordinate United Nations efforts with civilian relief agencies, or in Kenya. All American troops have left Goma, Zaire, where they were providing food and potable water to more than a million Rwandan refugees.

A five-month democratization course

began last month in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, under the auspices of the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies, an international academic institution of the U.S. European Command. The first class for the College of Strategic Studies and Defense Economics is being taught in German, Russian and English and includes approximately 50 military officers and 25 civilian officials representing not only NATO member nations but also 21 North Atlantic Cooperation Council (NACC) countries.

The mission of the OSD-chartered Marshall Center is to foster understanding and cooperation on defense matters in the context of political democracy, human rights and freedoms, and free enterprise among the United States, European nations and the newly independent states of the former Soviet Union and Warsaw Pact. To this end, the center is serving as a forum for defense contacts; providing defense education to civilian and military personnel; researching security issues; hosting conferences, seminars and other information exchange activities; conducting foreign area officer specialty training; and supporting NATO activities with the NACC.

Perry goes to bat for pay raises.

Stating that pay relates directly to readiness, Secretary of Defense William Perry has requested an additional \$29 billion in defense funding to provide full pay raises to military personnel over the next five years. In requesting the extra funding, Perry insists that the money for pay raises should not have to come out of the existing budget.

Perry's plan would provide for annual pay increases of between 2.5 and 3.2 percent for both military and DoD civilian personnel based on cost of living estimates. The request is under consideration by the White House Office of Management and Budget.

AMC may see another 10,000 people cut.

The Army's shrinking size and declining resources may force Army Materiel Command to cut another 10,000 civilian workers throughout the command over the next three years. No reduction in force is expected for AMC headquarters in FY95, although the number of cuts required command-wide will not be known until the FY95 budget is final. Since 1989, AMC strength has been cut by 33,000 civilian and 2,400 military spaces.

\$44 million Land Warrior contract let.

Army announced August 26 that Motorola will head the team that will design a complete combat ensemble for the 21st century soldier. The five-year research and development effort seeks to provide state-of-the-art garb and gear to help the soldier see and hear over an entire battlefield.

The soldier's integrated headgear will provide improved vision and computerized target analysis which is linked to his weapon — itself made more lethal by automated targeting and rapid firing. His lightweight protective armor is to be designed of stealthy material to reduce the soldier's infrared signature and is to be part of a suit with a built-in cooling/heating subsystem that also provides protection against chemical contamination. A computer-radio system will provide secure voice and data communications between soldiers and commanders.

Kuwait tank sale keeps line open.

The 218 M1A2 Abrams tanks to be delivered to Kuwait under a contract announced by the Army Tank Automotive Command are the last tanks scheduled for production by General Dynamics Land Systems, Warren, MI. But the \$2 billion contract should be enough to keep the production line going until the upgrade of M1A1s to the A2 configuration begins sometime in FY 1996.

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Army gives Marines M1A1 tanks, gets M1A2s.

Acceding to a Senate-sponsored proposal, the Army will transfer 24 M1A1 Abrams tanks to the Marines in FY95 and a like number in FY96. In exchange, Congress has promised the Army \$108 million in each of those years for use in upgrading a like number of tanks to the M1A2 configuration. At the same time, *Defense News* reports that House and Senate negotiators on the FY95 defense authorization bill have agreed to transfer an additional 84 M1A1s to the Marines — a move the Army contends will degrade its modernization plans for active forces and for the enhanced combat brigades of the Army National Guard.

25th Division trains for peacekeeping.

Some 3,500 soldiers from the 25th Infantry Division (Light), Schofield Barracks, HI, went to the Army's Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, LA, last month to train for peacekeeping operations — a mission expected to loom large in the Army's future. During the 12-day exercise — one of the Army's largest and most complex — the soldiers encountered scenarios ranging from a cholera epidemic and refugees seeking food and shelter to snipers, terrorists and disputes among belligerent civilians. Considerable emphasis was also placed on working with UN representatives, private aid organizations, and peacekeeping forces from other nations.

Army high-tech simulation, research, conference center

recently opened its doors at Carlisle Barracks, PA. Constructed as part of the Army War College's Center for Strategic Leadership, Collins Hall is the Army's first classroom for the 21st century. The center is named for Gen. J. Lawton "Lighting Joe" Collins, the former Army Chief of Staff (1949-53) who was responsible for the reopening of AWC in 1950. It features state-of-the-art communications, video and computer systems, tying the Army War College into the information superhighway and providing information-age education for future leaders of all of the nation's armed services.

Collins Hall will support both the college curriculum and such outside customers as the Army Staff, the Joint Staff, major commands and other government agencies. Activities will include conducting and hosting strategic wargaming, political-military simulations, peacekeeping courses and exercises, crisis management exercises, special studies and symposia.

Sixth Army to stay at Presidio. The Army and the Interior Department have agreed to terms by which Headquarters, Sixth U.S. Army will remain at the Presidio of San Francisco, CA, when the base officially closes on October 1. After the transfer, the Army will occupy some 277 of the post's 870 buildings. The National Park Service will operate the remainder of the 218-year-old post as an urban national park. The Presidio was ordered closed by the 1988 Base Closure Commission.

FY95 MILCON bill boosts quarters, barracks.

Posts in nine states and Korea will split nearly \$246 million to be used for modernizing old barracks under the FY 1995 Military Construction appropriation approved by Congress. Topping the list is Fort Lewis, WA, which gets \$64 million. Others slated for barracks improvements next year are: Forts Myer, VA; Bragg, NC; Gordon, GA; Campbell, KY; Sill, OK; and Hood, TX; and Schofield Barracks, HI. Additionally, 10 family housing projects across the country have been funded with \$114.2 million — the largest being Fort Bliss, TX, where 215 units will be built.

Enhanced combat brigades named.

The Army announced August 30 the 15 brigades that are to be the Army National Guard's highest priority units. All 15 will be associated with an active division or corps and will be fully manned, trained, equipped and modernized at the same level as the active unit. The brigades, their locations and active affiliations:

81st Inf Bde	Washington	2d Inf Div
41st Inf Bde	Oregon	I Corps
116th Armd Bde	Idaho	4th Inf Div
29th Inf Bde	Hawaii	25th Inf Div
45th Inf Bde	Oklahoma	III Corps
256th Inf Bde	Louisiana	2d Armd Div
39th Inf Bde	Arkansas	V Corps
155th Armd Bde	Mississippi	1st Cav Div
76th Inf Bde	Indiana	101st Abn Div
278th Armd Cav Regt	Tennessee	3d Armd Cav Regt
27th Inf Bde	New York	10th Mtn Div
30th Inf Bde	North Carolina	XVIII Abn Corps
218th Inf Bde	South Carolina	1st Inf Div
48th Inf Bde	Georgia	24th Inv Div
53d Inf Bde	Florida	82d Abn Div

Lockheed and Martin Marietta to merge.

Lockheed Chairman Dan Tellep and Martin Marietta Chairman and CEO Norman J. Augustine have announced the merger of the two companies that would form the largest U.S. defense company. Growing overcapacity throughout the defense industry, caused by the big drop in defense funding, makes mergers and consolidations inevitable, but this is the biggest to date.

The merger will permit consolidations and efficiencies since Lockheed is strong in aerospace and Martin Marietta in defense electronics. The corporate headquarters for Lockheed Martin will be in Bethesda, Maryland.

Health care tops retiree concerns. The future of military health care heads the list of major concerns submitted to the Army Chief of Staff's Retiree Council from installation councils around the world. The council reported that retirees harbor growing anxieties over base closings, the decreasing active force, the growing retiree population and congressional limits on the number of uniformed medical professionals. Other major concerns expressed by the council included retired pay cost-of-living adjustments, the lack of dental care for retirees, and threats to the commissary system.

"America's Army" goes back to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, CA, in October with host Sander Vanocur for a look at the Army's Advanced Warfighting Experiment.

Conducted in April 1994 as an adjunct to the 3d Brigade, 24th Infantry Division's scheduled training rotation, the Advanced Warfighting Experiment is a major step in the Army's push to digitize the battlefield for warfare in the information age of the 21st century.

"The Advanced Warfighting Experiment" will air in the Washington metropolitan area on Thursday, October 20, at 7:30 p.m. on WNVN-53.

"America's Army" is available via satellite to public TV stations across the country and is also carried by cable systems in some areas. 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 315.

ILW's Annual Meeting Programs include two Land Warfare Paper presentations and two Contemporary Military Forums. Three of these events are scheduled for Monday, October 17, in the Sheraton Washington Hotel's Maryland "A" Room:

- Raymond M. Macedonia and Edward H. Josephson will present their Land Warfare Paper, *Fighting Smarter: Leveraging Information Age Technology* at 2:00 p.m.
- William Roskey will present his Land Warfare Paper, *Koje Island: The 1952 Korean Hostage Crisis* at 2:40 p.m.
- MG Theodore G. Stroup, Jr., nominated as the Army's Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, will discuss "Issues Confronting a Downsized U.S. Army" in the first Contemporary Military Forum at 3:30 p.m.

The second Contemporary Military Forum is scheduled for Wednesday, October 19, in the Sheraton Washington Hotel's Maryland "A" and "B" rooms:

- "Roles and Missions of the Armed Forces — Ensuring Effectiveness and Efficiency in the Post-Cold War Military" will be addressed by Dr. John P. White, Chairman, Commission on Roles and Missions of the Armed Forces at 9:30 a.m.

At this year's AUSA Annual Meeting (October 17-19), "America's Army" will be conducting brief interviews for possible use in future television programs. Some of the topics to be discussed include the United States Military Academy, the Army Reserve, Battle Labs, telemedicine, and women in the Army. If you think you have some insight to offer on one or more of these topics and would be willing to participate in a videotaped interview, please call 1-800-336-4570, ext. 317, not later than Wednesday, October 12, or stop by the AUSA press room (the Vermont Room in the Sheraton Washington Hotel) anytime during the Annual Meeting. (Note: It may not be possible to use every interview in a show, but we would like to hear what you have to say, and we will use as many as we can.)