



WASHINGTON UPDATE



A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Vol. 9 No. 1

Published by the AUSA Institute of Land Warfare

January 1997

New Year will see major review of national security. As 1996 was winding down, senior leaders of the Department of Defense held a series of news conferences and meetings to explain the role of the Quadrennial Defense Review and the National Defense Panel in shaping future requirements and resources to implement the national security strategy.

Gen. John M. Shalikashvili, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said, "I'd like to stress that the QDR is not about protecting today's force. It is, rather, about shaping tomorrow's force. And I would also like to remind you that the measure of success will not be just how innovative we are. The right measure will be how well we are about protecting America's security interests."

Repeatedly, the leaders stress that readiness is the number one priority for our force.

While all stressed that the review and the panel were not doing a formal budget review, the Administration's guidance that future Defense Department budgets remain at about \$250 billion per year, adjusted for inflation, would be realistic.

John White, Deputy Secretary of Defense, said Dec. 12, "We do not anticipate that there is more money out there for the Department of Defense. So it is realistic, as far as we are concerned, to deal with these issues in the context of the overall budget guidance that we already have."

The National Defense Panel, (the nine members of which have not yet been named), is to provide input for the Quadrennial Defense Review by mid-March.

The Quadrennial Defense Review will be sent from the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to Congress in mid-May. While the Fiscal Year 1998 budget would have been submitted in February, the QDR findings could affect the final outcome.

Quadrennial Review Structure: At the top are the Secretary of Defense and JCS Chairman. The schedule will not change because of the confirmation process for former Sen. William Cohen as secretary. The Integration Group is co-chaired by Deputy Defense Secretary White and Gen. Joseph W. Ralston, Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

There are three major panels: Strategy, Force Structure and Human Resources.

Scope of Review: Defense agencies, the service secretariats and the services will be included in the Quadrennial Defense Review. Likewise, the National Defense Panel, while reviewing and providing comments on the QDR will have an independent and broad scope for its work.

Why Both a QDR and NDP?: The National Defense Panel was established in the Fiscal Year 1997 Defense Authorization Act. It is intended by Congress to provide a totally independent and outside view. Its final report to Congress is due in December.

Russia accepts offer of NATO link. The Russian Foreign Minister told his NATO counterparts that his nation accepts the alliance's offer to negotiate a formal security relationship with Moscow.

The negotiations will take place between now and a formal NATO meeting in July in Madrid.

Foreign Minister Yevgeny M. Primakov warned against a new division of Europe. Adding, "we would like something which contains very specific, very concrete proposals, which address our concerns."

Earlier, NATO ministers had pledged that when the alliance accepts new members from the former Warsaw Pact that no nuclear weapons would be placed on those nations' soil.

Chemical Weapons Convention will come before 105th Congress. By postponing a vote on the proposed Chemical Weapons Convention in the last Congress, the Senate will take up the matter again this year. A new round of hearings on the treaty will begin in the Senate in February. Both the Administration and the Senate leadership expect a ratification vote in early April. Under the treaty, which requires a two-thirds vote for approval in the upper house, the development, production, sale, stockpiling and combat use of poison gas would be prohibited.

Opponents of the treaty said that it could not be verified and "rogue states" would not sign it.

Gen. Jack N. Merritt, USA, Ret. and President AUSA, wrote the Senate leadership pointing out "major flaws which would have to be remedied before it could be acceptable."

In addition, he recommended the United States maintain a strong and effective chemical defensive capability, publicly state that any nation using chemical weapons in an attack on U.S. forces would be countered swiftly and forcefully using any military means available and that U.S. forces not be uniquely restricted in using non-lethal chemical agents to protect U.S. citizens or servicemembers.

DARPA digital library information is available on Internet. One of the best sources for up-to-date digital library information is available through the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency.

Called D-Lib, it is available at: <http://www.dlib.org>.

Extra Bosnia money will have to be offset. When the Clinton Administration requests additional funds to cover current expenses of the peacekeeping force in Bosnia, offsets will have to be found to cover that spending.

Since the 104th Congress did not act on the request for the supplemental appropriation, offsets from existing programs must now be provided.

The leadership of the 105th Congress intends to follow the same policy.

Chief stresses Army's readiness to do its part in national missile defense. Gen. Dennis Reimer, Army Chief of Staff, said, "We can develop, test, deploy and operate a cost and operationally effective NMD (national missile defense) system consistent with the respective Anti-Ballistic Missile and Strategic Arms Reduction treaties."

Speaking at a recent AUSA symposium on space and missiles in El Paso, Texas, he specifically cited development contracts for a ground-based interceptor to destroy incoming missiles at long-range, ground-based radars that leverage THAAD technology and battle management, command, control and communications.

Reimer added, "We have successfully discharged this mission ever since the threat of missiles emerged. Our workforce at Huntsville and throughout the Army with their considerable experience in this area is a national treasure."

Two reports to Hill eye charging rent for on-post housing. Both the Congressional Budget Office and the General Accounting Office have submitted reports to the new Congress that would make living in government housing less attractive by charging rent for quarters.

The proposals differ in their details but the end would be the same: the military would be more reliant on the private sector for housing.

About two-thirds of active-duty families live off post. This number is declining somewhat because of the continuing drawdown of the force and new construction.

The proposals are opposed by the Department of Defense, but will be reviewed by the 105th Congress.

WASHINGTON UPDATE is published monthly by the AUSA Institute of Land Warfare to highlight current events of significance to the Army and defense from the Washington perspective. Further reproduction and distribution of this newsletter is encouraged.

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OSD size and function also to come under review. In addition to overall defense structure, the Office of the Secretary of Defense will also come under review during the coming year. Most likely, the closest scrutiny will be made by the nine-member National Defense Panel, although an internal review of OSD is under way as 1996 ends.

OSD consists of 35 major organizations and directorates and is staffed by more than 7,000 military and civilian personnel. John White, Deputy Secretary of Defense, has already begun an internal review of the office, its relationships with the Joint Staff and the military departments.

In part, the growth of OSD may be attributed to the Goldwater-Nichols Defense Reorganization Act of 1986.

AAFES allows shoppers to browse on the Web. AAFES is offering its customers a range of information to help customers find stores and open an online shopping section.

Until a security system is in place, online shoppers will still have to use the telephone to place orders. To control entry, AAFES checks visitors' exchange privileges, using the DEERS database before shoppers can gain access to these sections.

The site on the Internet is: <http://www.aafes.com>.

Army to begin commercial activities studies at 5 major commands. The Army has begun studies to determine whether it is more economical to contract out for more than 7,600 positions now held by military and civilian personnel at five major commands.

The studies are to be completed by Fiscal Year 2000. The commands are: Forces Command, Army Materiel Command, U.S. Army Pacific, Medical Command and Training and Doctrine Command. The greatest number of positions involve logistics and public works in Tradoc, where 3,783 positions are being studied.

Congress announces schedule. The new Congress will reconvene on Jan. 7 and begin substantive work in the Senate on Jan. 21 and in the House on Feb. 3.

Army pursues airborne mine detection system. The Army is seeking proposals for systems capable of detecting buried and surface anti-tank mines from both fixed- and rotary-winged aircraft.

Performance goals are: 80 percent probability of detection of buried minefields, 90 percent of surface patterned minefields and 70 percent detection of single mines or clusters.

Qualification tests begin in February. Technical demonstrations will be held at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., between March 1 and April 30.

The Senate Armed Services committee will gain two new Republicans, one Democrat. Olympia Snowe, R-Maine, and Pat Roberts, R-Kan., and one new Democrat, Max Cleland, D-Ga., will join the Armed Services Committee. Carl Levin, D-Mich., becomes ranking Democrat. Strom Thurmond remains Chairman.

The Senate Appropriations Committee will gain three new Republicans, two Democrats. Larry Craig, R-Idaho, Lauch Faircloth, R-N.C., and Kay Bailey Hutchison, R-Texas, and two new Democrats — Byron Dorgan, D-N.D., and Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., will join the Appropriations Committee. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, becomes Chairman and Robert Byrd, D-W.V., remains as ranking Democrat.

NATO ministers approves Operation Joint Guard for Bosnia. The NATO defense ministers approved in mid-December the deployment of a 31,000-member stabilization force for Bosnia for the next 18 months.

Gen. George Joulwan, NATO Commander, said the new force as part of Operation Joint Guard would have the primary goals of thwarting a renewal of warfare and create a stable environment to let municipal elections be held by summer.

He added that he is confident that the new force, about half the size of the Implementation Force, is sufficient to meet the mission's goals. "If conditions change, I will not hesitate to come back and ask for more troops.

Shali, Perry want international police task force to pursue war criminals. Defense Secretary William Perry and Gen. John M. Shalikashvili, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, both called for the creation of an international police task force to assist Bosnian officials in arresting suspected war criminals.

"I think a way must be found where a police force can be constituted that would take care of those instances where the signatories to the agreement continue to refuse to turn over those war criminals," Shalikashvili said.

As proposed by the United States, the task force would be composed of volunteers, observing and assisting Bosnian officials from each of the three factions in arresting suspected war criminals. The military contingent would provide a back-up role, but would not make the arrests.

NATO defense ministers have not acted on the proposal.

Brassey's Books

AUSA members can place an order for AUSA/Brassey's books at a 25 percent discount by calling direct to the Brassey's, Inc. warehouse at 1-(800) 775-2518; by fax addressed to Brassey's, Inc., Attn: AUSA Member Book Services at 1-(703) 689-0660; or by mail to Brassey's, Inc., Attn: AUSA Member Book Services, P.O. Box 960, Herndon, VA 22070.

When placing your order, identify yourself as an AUSA member, provide the book title and ISBN number, and request the AUSA discount price. VISA and Mastercard are accepted.

Brassey's will include with your book order a catalogue of other books that are also available to AUSA members at the 25 percent discount.

Audio tapes are available for sale from Annual Meeting. Audio tapes of 15 presentations at the Annual Meeting are available through A.V.E.R. Associates in Elkridge, Md. Among the tapes are the opening session address by Togo D. West Jr., Secretary of the Army; Eisenhower Luncheon address by Gen. Dennis J. Reimer, Army Chief of Staff; Marshall Dinner address by Sen. Sam Nunn; and the Sergeants Major Conference with SMA Gene C. McKinney, Sergeant Major of the Army. For more information, call (410) 796-8940 or fax (410) 796-8962.

ILW Publications

(To order the ILW publications listed below or receive an index of all ILW publications issued during the calendar year, call 1-(800) 336-4570, Ext. 308, or write to the AUSA Institute of Land Warfare, P.O. Box 1560, Arlington, VA 22210-0860. Please provide your AUSA member number, and order each publication by the alphanumeric where indicated.)

LANDPOWER ESSAYS

LPE 96-2 — **DECISIVE FORCE**, by Gen. Glenn K. Otis, USA, Ret., addresses the role of the Army as the decisive arm to achieve decisive results in the conduct of joint operations.

LPE 96-3 — **THE UNITED STATES ARMY — YESTERDAY, TODAY AND TOMORROW**, by Gen. Frederick J. Kroesen, USA, Ret., characterizes the Army, its structure, culture and needs under the current national military strategy.

LPE 96-4 — **A GLIMPSE OF THE CUBAN MILITARY IN 1996**, by Maj. Gen. Edward B. Atkeson, USA, Ret., is an overview of the author's impressions of the Cuban military, based on his recent visit to Cuba.

LPE 96-5 — **TAILORING THE TECHNO WARRIOR**, by Richard J. Sterk, provides an overview of the Army's Soldier Survivability project which will enhance the performance, lethality and survivability of the individual soldier.

LPE 96-6 — **PLANNING FOR A NEW THREAT ENVIRONMENT**, by William W. Mendel and Graham H. Turbiville Jr., examines the need for regional strategies for the geographic unified commands.

SPECIAL PUBLICATIONS

SR 96-3 — **ARMY BUDGET, FISCAL YEAR 1997: AN ANALYSIS** is AUSA's annual analysis, evaluation and programs' overview.

SR 96-4 — **SECURITY ASSISTANCE: ADAPTING TO THE POST COLD-WAR ERA** is a tutorial on an important and often misunderstood instrument of U.S. national security and foreign policy.