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Senate panel approves defense spending bill.

The Senate Appropriations Committee approved the defense subcommittee markup of the Fiscal Year 1999 Defense Appropriations Bill during the week ending June 5. The bill appropriates \$250 billion for the Pentagon.

The amount appears to be less than the \$271 billion requested by the president and agreed to under the 1997 budget agreement. However, the Senate spreads the money around a little differently than the president had requested.

The Senate bill includes \$70.5 billion for personnel, \$94.5 billion for operations and maintenance accounts, \$48.6 billion for weapons procurement, and \$36.1 billion for research and development.

There is actually a chance that the Defense Department will receive a boost in funding sometime later in this session or next. Senators Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, chairman of the appropriations committee, and Pete Domenici, R-N.M., have indicated that they might support some small portion of the budget surplus being moved to defense.

Panel balks at "emergency" declaration for Bosnia money. The Senate Appropriations Committee refused to appropriate the \$1.9 billion the president had requested for Bosnia on an emergency basis. The sticking point is not the money, although several elected officials disagree with the manner in which the administration is proceeding in Bosnia.

Congress will not let the military go without the money it needs for that mission. When the president classifies this as an emergency appropriation, many of the budgetary rules are waived. The money is not offset by another account.

Representatives critical of the Bosnia funding proposal also cite that the operation in Bosnia has been ongoing long enough for the administration to include it in its budgetary planning, rather than drop emergency requests on the Congress outside the budget cycle.

Cohen calls for keeping gender-integrated training. Despite strong objections from Congress, Defense Secretary William S. Cohen recommended before the July Fourth recess that the services continue to set their own guidelines for basic training. For the Army, this means gender-integrated basic training for most recruits.

What this means for the Army is the need to provide totally separate and secure sleeping areas and latrines for men and women, but not necessarily billeting them on separate floors.

At a press conference, Cohen said, "I will continue to support the services in terms of what they believe to be the best course of action to produce the most effective fighting force... The services feel that they are the ones who have the responsibility for ensuring the safety and adequate training of (recruits).

Westphal takes over civil works; Agpar takes over installations. Joseph Westphal was sworn in June 17 as assistant secretary of the Army for civil works. He has overall supervision of the Army's civil works programs. He administers the Army's regulatory programs to protect, restore and maintain the waters of the United States in the interest of the environment, navigation and national defense. He formerly served as senior policy adviser for water at the Environmental Protection Agency. Westphal holds a doctorate in political science from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Mahlon Agpar IV was sworn in the same day as assistant secretary of the Army for installations, logistics and environment. He is responsible for the design construction, operations, maintenance and management of army installations: supplies, distribution and systems management, environmental conservation, compliance and cleanup programs. He served as principal of Agpar and Company, Inc., counselors on corporate real estate, facilities and infrastructure. He received a bachelor's degree from Dartmouth College and was a distinguished military graduate of the college's ROTC program. He commanded a military intelligence unit in Germany.

Heavy division will be smaller in size and more mobile. The Army's new heavy division will feature an intranet information system allowing it to see where friendly units are and send up-to-the-minute data on enemy locations.

Gen. Dennis J. Reimer, Army chief of staff, said, "We have developed a division that is strategically deployable, agile, flexible and the type of decisive, full spectrum force we will need in the 21st century." Adding, the new division is an important step to integrating the active and reserve components.

Army officials said, "One of the most significant changes is the role of the Reserve Component (RC). There will be organic RC positions and organizations within the division design. They will be trained and modernized to the same level as their AC (Active Component) counterparts."

Army officials also said the design was in the spirit of the recommendations contained in the Quadrennial Defense Review, the Defense Department's internal top-to-bottom check of short-term needs, and from the National Defense Panel, the department's outside review looking at needs 20 to 25 years from now.

Design affects six divisions. The new design affects six of the Army's 10 divisions. Because of increased firepower from an additional Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS) battery, the introduction of the Apache Longbow attack helicopter and the eventual fielding of the Crusader artillery system, the number of authorized soldiers in the new division will drop from 18,069 to 15,719.

Gen. William W. Hartzog, commander, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC), Fort Monroe, Va., at a press briefing June 9 at the Pentagon, said that of the 15,719 soldiers, Army Division XXI will "have about 417 reserve component personnel," approximately 225 from the U.S. Army Reserve and 162 from the Army National Guard. Adding, "These soldiers will have explicit capabilities and abilities that will make the division go."

Hartzog said that the new division will have increased reliance on the reserve components and the guard and reserve soldiers with these specific skills and with the necessary training will have a "high probability of going on 'mobility day.'"

Apache Longbow debuts at Fort Hood. The Apache Longbow roll-out ceremony June 12, hosted by Lt. Gen. Thomas A. Schwartz, commander, III Corps and Fort Hood, commemorated the fielding of the Army's newest and, according to officials, the "world's best attack helicopter that is four times more lethal, six times more survivable and 10 times faster" in engaging the target than its predecessor.

The aircraft is able to detect and classify more than 128 targets, prioritize the 16 most dangerous targets, transmit the information to other aircraft and initiate a precision attack—all this in fewer than 30 seconds.

Lt. Gen. David K. Heebner, the Army's assistant vice chief of staff, christened the Longbow with a bottle of champagne, saying he dedicated the helicopter to the soldiers, especially the soldiers of the 1st Cavalry Division, the first Army unit to receive the aircraft. He presented the Longbow's keys to the crew of one of the aircraft, CW2 Carl U. Fox, pilot; 1st Lt. Jamie L. Wallace, co-pilot; and Spc. Jamie L. Young, crew chief.

Heebner called the ceremony "an event of historic proportions" and the Longbow a "revolution in modern warfare."

Canada to recruit more women for combat arms. Canada's army commander pledged in mid-June to more fully integrate women into infantry, armor and artillery units.

Lt. Gen. Bill Leach, in releasing a study on sexual harassment in the Canadian army, said the service was establishing a special recruiting program to place at least 250 women in combat units in 1998. Women make up about 11 percent of the 60,000-member armed forces. There are now 120 women and 12,800 men in Canadian army combat units.

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John Grady - Editor
2425 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22201
Phone: 703-841-4300, Ext. 213
FAX: 703-841-3505; <http://www.ausa.org>

Sullivan pledges to fight for higher military pay. Over 500 Fort Hood, Texas, soldiers cheered, applauded and shouted a chorus of "Hooahs" when AUSA President Gen. Gordon R. Sullivan, USA, Ret., pledged that the Association of the U.S. Army will fight for a 14 percent pay raise for soldiers.

"I met a specialist a few minutes ago," Sullivan said, "who told me he was bringing home \$900 a month. That's not enough. We're (AUSA) going to do something about that. We're going to take this issue on to make sure that our soldiers are not underpaid by 14 percent in comparison to their civilian counterparts."

Fort Hood, the most populated Army post with 41,000 military, over 72,000 family members and 3,500 civilian employees, is the home of III Corps, the 1st Cavalry Division, the 4th Infantry Division (the Army's Experimental Force), the 13th Corps Support Command, the 21st Cavalry Brigade, the 504th Military Intelligence Brigade and the 3rd Signal Brigade.

Rhame named VP for membership and meetings. Lt. Gen. Thomas G. Rhame, USA, Ret., the recently retired director of the Defense Security Assistance Agency, Arlington, Va., has been named AUSA's vice president for membership and meetings.

Rhame succeeds Lt. Gen. Samuel E. Ebbesen, USA, Ret., who left the Association in February for a position in industry.

Acquisition chief says 'no time outs' in modernization. The Army's senior acquisition executive said, "There are no time outs; the need to modernize is continuous."

Speaking at an AUSA symposium in Pasadena, Calif., on Army and industry future needs, Paul J. Hoeper, assistant secretary of the Army for research, development and acquisition, said there are five goals in modernizing today's force.

"Field a digitized and networked Army to make absolutely certain that information dominance is a reality." He said the Army's goal remained to field a digitized corps by 2004.

More requests for tailored services in foreign military sales. "We're seeing more and more requests for tailored services and tailored contracts from foreign nations," the Army's senior officer in charge of foreign military sales told 400 defense and industry officials meeting at an AUSA symposium in Pasadena, Calif.

Maj. Gen. Larry G. Smith said the Army does about \$2.8 billion worth of foreign sales. The Defense Department does about \$7 billion in these sales annually. These sales "help keep production lines open," he said. Smith said 100 percent of the Patriot air/missile defense systems being produced is going to foreign nations.

The Army's Apache Longbow attack helicopter is also drawing heavy foreign interest. But he said there are legitimate security questions about which countries would receive this sophisticated technology. The process to approve a foreign military sale is a long and complicated one that involves the State Department, the Congress and the Defense Department. "If we could clean up the process at the beginning, most of the complaints (from industry) would go away."

While foreign military sales are down from post-Gulf War highs of \$15 billion, they have remained steady at \$7 billion and will likely stay that way, he said. But when sales are approved, training is also provided; and this provides new opportunities for defense industry. "As the Army has fewer and fewer people, more of our training is being off-loaded to industry."

Caldera sworn in as Army secretary. West Point Class of 1978 graduate Louis Caldera, 42, became the 17th secretary of the Army during a July 2 swearing-in ceremony at the Pentagon.

Secretary of Defense William S. Cohen recited the oath of office to Caldera.

"Our nation is blessed with an abundance of superb young men and women serving in uniform throughout the world ... helping to preserve freedom [and] to promote peace and democracy," Caldera said after swearing in. "I want the American people to understand, know and appreciate the character and quality of our soldiers, the bedrock values and proud heritage of our Army."

NATO adapts to new challenges. NATO's top commander said, "We've come a long way from the euphoria after the Berlin Wall came down." Gen. Wesley K. Clark said the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, transnational refugee problems, rising crime, the precarious hold of reform, democracy in Eastern Europe and the nations of the former Soviet Union, and the continuing troubles in the Balkans have provided a host of new challenges for the United States and its NATO allies.

Citing NATO's recent expansion from 16 to 19 nations, its Partnership for Peace program with a host of European nations and its presence in Bosnia, Clark asked, "What other organization has shown such a change in the past seven years?"

He used these guides as measures of achievement in Bosnia: 300,000 soldiers have been demobilized from the three warring factions; 200,000 refugees have returned to their homes; three large-scale elections have been held; and about one-half of the indicted war criminals are in custody.

Despite those achievements, political stability and economic development are not self-sustaining. "Bosnia is not time-oriented; it's conditioned-oriented. This is a difficult time in Bosnia."

Events in Kosovo symptomatic of break up of Yugoslavia. The ethnic clashes between Serbs and Albanians now sweeping the Kosovo region of Serbia will be potentially harder to settle politically than the earlier civil war in Bosnia. Greg Vuksich, an international security analyst, said, "the biggest problem we have is a cultural one. We ask: why can't they be like us. ... That won't happen anytime soon."

Speaking at a recent issues conference at AUSA, Vuksich said the Kosovo region to the Serbs is "the equivalent of Independence Hall, the Capitol, National Cathedral and the Alamo" with a history dating back to 1389.

But the steadily increasing Albanian population, now estimated to be in a 9-1 majority, has withdrawn itself from active participation in Serb governance of the region.

Vuksich said the predominantly Muslim Albanians have established a shadow identity and elected a shadow government.

Drum soldiers test urban terrain combat techniques. Soldiers from the 10th Mountain Division are beginning the latest round of 30 days of testing of the specially-built Military Operations in Urban Terrain Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration at Fort Benning, Ga.

Carol Fitzgerald, one of the demonstration's three co-managers, said "MOUT is a place, an environment. It's not a capability."

The demonstration program office is looking for technologies that will increase the lethality, survivability, mobility and command and control capabilities of soldiers and marines operating in urban battlefields. The Experimental Force for the Army comes from the 10th Mountain and for the Marines, the 2nd Marine Division at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Fitzgerald said that over the next two years 32 requirements--everything from knee pads to target designators and special radio--will be evaluated in four areas. "C4I (command, control, computers, communications and intelligence) is the most difficult. You've got buildings, restricted lines of sights, and more in a city." For example, radios are being tested in places like Rosslyn, Va., outside of Washington, but a location with a large number of high-rise buildings and cluttered communications.

The other three functional areas are engagement, force protection and mobility.

In the fourth quarter of 2000, MOUT will be tested in a joint exercise with a company of marines and a battalion of soldiers at the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Polk, La.

The demonstration operates under a \$70 million budget from Fiscal Year 1997 through 2000.

"And key to success is integration," she said. Motorola Team is the integration contractor and they are working with 15 Marine and Army agencies in building MOUT. "We're developing a system architecture to make sure pieces of the puzzle fit together and how they fit into equipment of existing infrastructure."

For more information on submitting products or on MOUT, see its website: yorktown.dc.isx.com/mout/