

RECORD VERSION

**STATEMENT BY
LIEUTENANT GENERAL RICHARD A. CODY
DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF, G-3
UNITED STATES ARMY**

**BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS
AND MANAGEMENT SUPPORT
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
UNITED STATES SENATE**

FIRST SESSION, 108TH CONGRESS

ON ARMY READINESS

9 APRIL 2003

**NOT FOR PUBLICATION
UNTIL RELEASED
BY THE COMMITTEE
ON ARMED SERVICES**

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Mr. Chairman, and distinguished members of the Committee, I thank you for this opportunity to report on the readiness of the United States Army and our ability to provide for our Nation's security today, and in the future.

I would like to begin by thanking this Subcommittee, and the Congress as a whole, for your tremendous support of Defense issues in the fiscal year 2003 budget. At the time of its submission, this budget sent a strong signal to the men and women serving around the world in our Armed Forces, and provided the resources to sustain Army readiness under ordinary circumstances. As you know, we are living in extraordinary times. The war in Iraq and the ongoing global war on terrorism create additional requirements. To pay these bills we have had to spend money initially intended for the third and fourth quarters. Therefore, rapid passage of the 2003 supplemental currently under review is critical to the continued readiness of our forces.

The fiscal year 2004 budget reinforces the positive message of support to our Soldiers and provides adequate funding for Army readiness in a peacetime environment. The Army chose to manage risk in the modernization of its Legacy Force and the associated mid-term warfighting readiness. This risk takes the form of more selective modernization and recapitalization efforts for the Legacy Force, while still retaining sufficient efforts to ensure essential readiness requirements. The immediate readiness impacts of this strategy are minimal. The Army's primary metric for resourcing future years' readiness is ground and air operating tempo (OPTEMPO). For fiscal year 2004, ground and air OPTEMPO accounts are funded to sustain Army

readiness. I greatly appreciate your support of our critical Defense needs at a time when our Nation is facing so many challenges. Your leadership does not go unnoticed and is deeply appreciated by our Soldiers and their families.

We have the most powerful Army in the world...resourced with outstanding equipment and enhanced with cutting edge technologies. But equipment, organizations, and precision-guided munitions don't fight and win wars...our people do. Our most valuable resource – the single thing that makes our Army the best in the world – is the men and women who serve in our ranks. The greatest moments in the Army's history have always revolved around our people – and it will remain that way in the future. Soldiers are the centerpiece of our formations and the engine behind our numerous accomplishments. Our Soldiers are professionals in every respect of the word...intelligent, disciplined, highly trained, and extremely motivated. By far, this is the best Army I've seen in my 31 years of service.

Let me put into perspective what this Army is doing in comparison to the Army I joined in 1972. In the forty years preceding the end of the Cold War, the Army was involved in 10 significant deployments on the spectrum of conflict. During this same period, the Army went from 64 Active and Reserve Divisions in 1950, to 40 divisions in 1968, and to 28 divisions by 1989. Over the past 14 years – from 1989 to present – our Army has been deployed 56 times while simultaneously reducing force structure from 28 Active and Reserve Divisions to our current strength of 18 divisions.

As of today, we have 270,650 Soldiers deployed in 120 different countries – either forward stationed, forward deployed or defending the homeland here in the United States. The Army, which consists of active and reserve component Soldiers,

and Department of the Army civilians, is involved in a wide variety of tasks at home and abroad covering nearly the entire spectrum of conflict in support of our National Security and Defense Strategies. We are decisively engaged with our joint and coalition partners in removing a brutal regime in Iraq; fighting the war on terrorism in Afghanistan, Yemen, Djibouti and the Philippines; deterring aggression in Korea; guarding detainees at Guantanamo Bay; engaged across Europe; keeping the peace in the Sinai, Bosnia, and Kosovo; helping to secure the homeland and bases overseas; and training our friends and allies around the world in places like Colombia, Honduras, and the Republic of Georgia. In the homeland, we are engaged in missions in every state across the Nation, from providing air defense for the National Capital Region to assisting in the Columbia recovery mission.

None of this would be possible without the outstanding performance of our Reserve Component Soldiers. We currently have Reserve and National Guard Soldiers mobilized in support of every mission that our Army is conducting. From the sands of Iraq, to here in the homeland, our Reserve Component Soldiers are absolutely indispensable to the execution of our assigned missions. Immediately following the attacks of 9-11, our National Guard Soldiers joined first responders across the Nation to provide critically needed support. In the days and months following the attacks they filled the vast majority of airport and sensitive site security, as well as the security requirements at the Olympics in Salt Lake City. In 2000 they responded when our Nation called during one of the worst wild fire seasons on record. And today, they are conducting the MFO mission in the Sinai, the SFOR mission in Bosnia, and will soon be taking over the KFOR mission in Kosovo. Our Reserve Components are carrying the

flag in Iraq, Afghanistan, Guantanamo Bay, and indeed, in every location you find an Army presence. But, as well as our Reserve Components have performed, their service comes with a significant cost. Some of our National Guard Soldiers are on their second deployment since 9-11. Our steady-state mobilization, from 9-11 until the recent build-up for Iraq, was nearly 41,000 Soldiers. As of today, we have 150,071 Reserve Component Soldiers mobilized in support of ongoing operations.

We are thankful for the support Congress has provided to build the readiness of The Army. In every case, our Soldiers have performed magnificently and their equipment, in many cases, exceeded our expectations. During Operation ANACONDA in Afghanistan, our helicopters operated at altitudes and with weights we previously didn't think were possible. In Iraq, our tanks, infantry fighting vehicles, and aircraft are living up to their reputations as being the best in the world. But the extreme conditions and continued use will require us to undertake a significant effort to reconstitute our formations. We will be repairing our damaged and broken equipment, replacing material that has been destroyed, replenishing our stores of ammunition and spare parts, and refurbishing our pre-positioned stocks. This will be a costly and time-consuming process, and we are hard at work assessing our current and future requirements. With your support, we will get our force back to pre-war condition as rapidly as possible and prepare for the next fight, whenever and wherever it may occur.

The Army must train the way it intends to fight, because our Soldiers will certainly fight the way that they have trained. This is why the subject of encroachment is so important to the Army. The Army has endeavored to take care of the 16.5 million acres America has entrusted to us. But America also entrusts us with an even more precious

resource – her sons and daughters. We are committed to providing our Soldiers with the most realistic training possible. Recent trends limiting our access to quality training conditions give us cause for great concern. As the Army continues to improve our weapons systems and transforms our organizations, the combat training footprint will be greater than that currently required to train existing units. We appreciate the legislation the Congress has already passed in this area, particularly in the fiscal year 2003 Defense Authorization Act, but there is still more work to be done. The legislative proposals within the Defense Department's fiscal year 2004 Readiness and Range Preservation Initiative will be a major step toward establishing the legislative clarification we require to conduct flexible, realistic training, while simultaneously protecting the environment.

While executing these numerous missions and planning for future contingencies, The Army is also simultaneously transforming itself to meet future challenges. There will not be an operational pause that allows us to transform while out of contact, and we cannot afford to wait. These demanding commitments mean we must nurture a balance between current and near-term readiness and our Transformation objectives. The Army has accepted reasonable operational risk in the mid-term in order to fund our Transformation to the Objective Force. To mitigate risk we structured Transformation to occur along three mutually supporting axes for change. On the first axis, we preserved the readiness of our Legacy Force – the force that's fighting our battles around the world today. Over the past year we have significantly increased our investment in Army Special Operations Forces (SOF) including the accelerated fielding of several key pieces of communications, mobility and intelligence support equipment. The Army has

also resourced significant increases in Special Operations Forces manpower and we are aggressively working to expand our Special Operations Aviation capability. To avoid unacceptable risk, we are closely monitoring the current operational situation as we support the Combatant Commanders in the global war against terrorism, conduct homeland defense, and prosecute the long-term effort to defeat transnational threats. We developed and implemented the Strategic Readiness System (SRS) as a comprehensive strategic management and readiness system. SRS also provides a predictive tool with which to monitor The Army and to provided senior leadership a decision making tool to make appropriate adjustments to preserve current readiness. On the second axis, we are bridging the operational gap we discovered about ten years ago – the gap between our heavy and light forces – with Stryker Brigade Combat Teams. We fully expect our first Stryker Brigade to be certified and part of the operational force by the 4th Quarter of this year. On the third axis, we are developing a capabilities-based and strategically responsive Objective Force optimized for the emerging and future strategic environment. The Objective Force will consist of modular, scalable, and flexible organizations that will be more lethal, more agile, and more rapidly deployable than our current formations. We are committed in the transformation effort to become a more joint, strategically responsive, and full-spectrum dominant force to support the Combatant Commanders' war fighting needs.

As we transform we are also in the process of reviewing our Reserve Component force structure in the form of the Army Guard Restructuring Initiative. This concept restructures the Army Guard to meet emerging requirements in line with the “1-4-2-1” Defense Strategy’s force-sizing construct. It will convert existing combat structure to

new designs that better support Combatant Commanders, including Northern Command. Conversion to these new organizations, combined with efforts already under way as part of the Army National Guard Division Redesign Study, will result in a decrease in the current number of tracked vehicles in Army Guard Combat Divisions and Brigades. The end-state will be organizations enhanced with systems that provide commanders with more versatile capabilities over current divisional brigades to meet the Nation's requirements.

With the Soldier as our centerpiece, we are well aware that our leaders must be grown from the ground up. The second lieutenants entering active duty this year will be our colonels commanding Objective Force units of action in 2025. Given today's complex operational environment, and the infusion of new technologies at increasingly lower levels of command, our leader development process has never been more important. Over the past two years, we have undergone a series of reviews, beginning in June 2000, with the Army Training and Leader Development Panel. The purpose of this panel was to review, assess and provide recommendations for the development of 21st century leaders for a transforming Army. We followed this initial panel, which focused on the officer corps, with a series of studies to look at our warrant officers, non-commissioned officers and our civilian workforce. We then developed implementation plans to address the panel's recommendations. We are in various stages of refinement in each of these categories, but I am confident that the end-state will ensure our Army continues to be the best-trained and best-led military force in the world.

Another initiative to ensure the future success of our men and women serving in uniform is the Joint National Training Capability. Although we've successfully integrated

our sister services at the Army's existing Combat Training Centers, the Joint National Training Capability will take this concept to new heights. This new capability builds on the Army (and other Services') training successes and adds a coherent joint focus for the way ahead on joint and Service-interopability training. It is focused on four pillars: realistic combat training, an adaptive and credible opposing force, common ground truth and high quality feedback. Our Army Title X training remains a vital prerequisite to the important joint and Service-interopability training issues that this capability will address. The Office of the Secretary of Defense has programmed approximately \$1.34 billion dollars over the fiscal years 03-09 for the development of the Joint National Training Center Capability.

For 227 years our Army has stood in defense of freedom and our way of life. We have a non-negotiable contract with the people of the United States to fight and win our Nation's wars. Whatever the mission - whether defending the homeland, prosecuting the global war on terrorism, or fighting a conventional war to destroy weapons of mass destruction – your Army is ready. In peace and in war, the Soldiers of the United States Army will continue to serve our Nation with the professionalism, tremendous courage, and indomitable spirit that we have all come to expect. I am blessed to be an American, I am proud to be the father of two Soldiers serving on active duty today, and I'm honored to have the opportunity to work together with the men and women in our United States Army.