

Addressed to the DFO.Public mailbox
Received Tue6/9/2015 5:23p.m

To the POC,

I can't make the public forum tomorrow but would like to add a suggestion as a retiree in the Ft. Bragg area. This is only my opinion and not that of the defense contractor I work for or the Army command that I support on Ft. Bragg.

The recommendation is to return most of the permanently based OCONUS units back to CONUS installations and fill the required OCONUS capability with rotational units. We've been doing this for years in Iraq, Afghanistan, Sinai and Kosovo and now the Armored BCT in Korea is rotational. This should be a model for all Div HQ and below units in Korea, Germany, Italy, Japan, etc. The units currently stationed OCONUS can be moved back to CONUS and positioned at US installations once the rotations are started so there is no gap in capability. The allied country will still have the US Army capability on their soil, but just not the additional infrastructure and costs associated with that additional infrastructure: family housing, cost of moving families/household goods, DODD schools, large PXs, etc. For above Division level units and where it makes sense, you should have them permanently based OCONUS (Army HQs, COCOM HQs, etc).

Advantages:

1. The allied country retains the same capability but less of a US footprint.
2. Units will prepare for the mission and deploy together (could use the current 9 month rotation).
3. Once the units are approaching "burn out", a newly trained and motivated unit arrives to take their place.
4. USAR and ARNG units can be added to the rotations as an Available Year event, providing relief to the AC force.
5. Excess support infrastructure can be turned back to the host nation and only retain what's required for the rotational forces (cost savings is unknown).
6. Theater Provided Equipment sets can remain in country for the rotational units to reduce costs (using the current OCO model).
7. NEO plans would be simplified since less dependents will be in country.
8. More units permanently based in the US is better for the communities surrounding those installations (may avoid another large BRAC if units are permanently moved back to CONUS).
9. Provides more stability for military families as they can remain in place at a US installation for longer periods of time if careers are managed properly. Parent may rotate out for 9 months but kids stay in same school, same house, keep the same friends, etc.

10. Current system of individual Soldier replacements has part of the unit just arriving and part getting ready to leave (new arrivals and short timers vs. all there together from start to finish).

11. Easier for our civilian leadership to move a unit if required.

Hope this helps.

v/r

Rich Dukes

COL(R), USAR

Addressed to the DFO.Public mailbox
Received Tue6/10/2015 7:30p.m
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Subject: Don't cut our Military

The USA has had the strongest military in the world. and now we are cutting it! Is China cutting theres?
Is North Korea? You always want our Military there in the time of need, but want to cut our Soldiers,
Units and weapons. this Country need to get back to what is important and build our Military not
weaken it. Would you really want to go to a ww3 with a weak Military. The Government has put a lot of
money into FT. Bragg even more recent. The building of Brack the building of SF. This is a know
established post know by many. We need to build this Post up not tear it down. When I was a Soldier I
longed to be here with the Brave 82nd. Stop tearing up America. Rebuild it. Thank You, Michele Shaffer
USA ARMY VET

Addressed to the DFO.Public mailbox
Received Tue6/15/2015 5:01p.m
Name: Ronald Bogle
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Subject: Mobilization - Reserve Components

As State Chair of the North Carolina Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), an office of the Department of Defense, a core mission for our committee includes supporting the military readiness of SelRes personnel in our State. This includes close coordination with state employers of those serving in the Guard and Reserve.

I should be very clear - in North Carolina, we support our military, whether from the active or reserve component. However, employers of Guard or Reserve personnel, in addition to the overall support they provide (which is often extraordinary), must likewise adjust to disruptions in their workplace caused by uniformed service-related absences of their citizen-warrior.

Reality confirms that not all employers are equal when considering deployment absences or related sacrifice. It is one thing to be a major employer, where deployment absences can quickly be adjusted to, with little or no disruption. This in no way lessens their value as an employer, but, rather, recognizes a possible lesser disruption to their workplace.

However, such cannot be said for small businesses, where a deployment-related absence of a single employer may significantly impact the workplace. For the record, most businesses in North Carolina (and I suspect most other states) are small businesses. While faithfully supporting those patriots in uniform, the economic pain to them may be considerable.

Our employers, large or small, support the men and women serving in uniformed service. However, to sustain such support in the long-term, and as an accommodation to the nation's employer for that support, my impression is that one year of deployment for uniformed service per each five-year period should be considered. In my opinion, this would be the most "acceptably disruptive" period for most employers.

North Carolina is one of the most military-friendly State's in the nation, and our employers are willing to share in the sacrifice for their military personnel. But, and recognizing that not all employers are created equal, that enthusiastic support is not without limits.

However, in my interactions with employers here, I do believe that they will readily support the deployment of SelRes personnel on the reasonable timetable that I described above.

Thank you for your consideration.

Ronald E. Bogle
State Chair
North Carolina Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve
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