Army seeks round of base closure, realignment for 2015

By LISA FERDINAND

ARNEWS

The Army says a round of base realignment and closure for fiscal year 2015 is necessary to save tax dollars, conserve resources and adapt to force reductions.

With a smaller total force over the next years — from a high of 570,000 in 2010 to 490,000 in 2017 — the Army’s need for facilities will also decrease, said Katherine H. Mustafaa, the Army assistant secretary for Installations, Energy and Environment.

“The resulting force structure reduction will create excess capacity at several installations,” she testified to the Senate Armed Services Committee, subcommittee on readiness and management support, April 24, 2013.

“With a reduced end-strength and force structure in the United States, now is the time to assess and right-size the supporting infrastructure,” she said.

Mustafaa said the Army is already downsizing its infrastructure in Europe, and that it wants to see the same take place in the United States.


Senator Barbara Mikulski on the Army’s rapid reprogramming process during her visit to Aberdeen Proving Ground on April 29.


APG celebrates Arbor/Earth Day

By RACHEL PONDER

APG News

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Chemical Engineer Can Chung talks to students about how CERDEC’s Research and Development Energy for Distributed Under-Supplied Command Environments, or REDUCE, trader provides power for Soldiers during the APG Earth Day and Arbor Day event at the APG North (Aberdeen) youth center April 26.

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Family faces common hurdles during moves

Have you ever moved? I have been moved several times—first across the county as a kid, then across the country for college, and I’ve been moved (rings too), a few toys, etc. Before the movers come, I was once left with a pile of without-a-scratch wooden planks. Super.

Solution: Never move the boxes with hand “bed sheets” on the plastic bag and ask the mover to place the screws in the bag and tape it firmly to the bed planks. Why not have one of the movers place ALL of your items in ONE box? If you ask us, you are stuck—screwed.

Epic Fail Number Three: Not creating a First Day Box. We arrived happily at our new duty station and the movers finished unloading around 1 at night. As adults, we were surrounded by boxes and had no idea which one contained items necessary for the next day away.

Solution: Set aside items you know you’ll need the first night in your new home. This includes things such as a mattress, pillows, sheets, towels, a shower curtain (tap), and a bath towel. Before the movers pack ANYTHING, ask them for a box and use it for these items. Remember those permanent markers you’re going to lose? Now, ask them to give you and your kids some extra boxes. The one for the pillowcase—the leader and more obvious, the better. Fill the box with your must-have items and ask the movers to load that box LAST. Why? Because it will be the first box they pack and you can reach it from the pantry on your way out.

Epic Fail Number Four: Not calling Military OneSource. Whenever possible, call Military OneSource before your move and let us help you dispose of the boxes and pack your things. You can get support and information by contacting Military OneSource online at (800) 368-9844 or by calling 410-838-4400. Send articles or information for publication to the APG Public Affairs Office, Building 305, RAPPA, APKG, MD 21005-5031, 410-278-1573. Printed circulation is 8,400.

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an exclusive written contract with the Department of the Army, under contract to the APG Public Affairs Office, Building 305, RAPPA, APKG, MD 21005-5031, 410-278-1573. Printed circulation is 8,400.

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Every Maryland Freestate ChalleNGe Academy class has the unique opportunity to learn about aviation from experienced pilots in the Silver Wings program. Twenty-five cadets are selected from each class to participate in this program that is held on four Saturdays on Martin State Airport in Middle River, Md.

The cadets learn about the basics of flying and learn more about aviation careers. On the last Saturday of the program the cadets get to have the experience of flying in an aircraft. After the completion of the program, they receive wings to put on their uniforms, a certificate, and a Young Eagles Logbook, for recording their first flight and subsequent flights. In addition, they will also receive an access code to an online pilot training course free of charge.

During the program, cadets get a chance to visit an air traffic control tower, fly in a simulated plane, learn how to chart a course and tour the Maryland State Police Aviation Unit.

"About one thousand cadets have been through this program since it began in 1996," said Richard Knauer, a Freestate ChalleNGe Academy staff member and pilot. Knauer said that the Freestate ChalleNGe Academy program, which is operated by Maryland National Guard, teaches students about different careers they can pursue after they graduate the program. Freestate ChalleNGe Academy, located on APG South, gives youth who withdrew from traditional high school a second chance at an education.

"This is just one of the many opportunities that cadets can receive at Freestate," Knauer said. "There are many careers in the aviation industry. Flying is a wonderful feeling; it is like soaring with the angels."

Cadets are selected for the program based on interest and points accumulated. While enrolled in the academy, cadets earn points for good behavior and academic excellence. The more points a cadet has, the more opportunities they have to be selected for special programs.

Cadet Kyle O’Dowd, who aspires to be a fighter pilot for the Marines, said that the Silver Wings program is an awe-some opportunity.

"If you are doing everything you are supposed to (at Freestate ChalleNGe Academy) you get to go out in the community and have these experiences," he said. O’Dowd said that he thought it was "pretty amazing" to see the police get a call to go on a mission while the cadets were training the Maryland State Police Aviation Unit.

"We got to see what their job is really like, how they react under pressure," he said. "I want to have a job like that someday."

O’Dowd said that he has been accepted into Fishburne Military Academy after he graduates from Freestate Challenge Academy.

Cadet Diamond Cheeks said that she wanted to participate in the program to conquer her fear of flying.

"It will be my first time flying," she said. "I am a little nervous but excited at the same time. I feel fortunate to be able to give back to youngsters, help them develop an interest in aviation," said Jim Cooke, a Silver Wings volunteer, who noted that most Silver Wings volunteers are former and retired military.
Golden began his career as a project leader for the Identification Friend or Foe (IFF) program with the Army’s Communications-Electronics Command (CECOM). Throughout his career, Golden has held 16 positions with six major Army commands and served three times as an Army sulfice for the JNN-Network. The new system provided the tactical network for the battlefield based on commercial-off-the-shelf voice and data Internet Protocol network equipment. The existing MSE was replaced with the JNN-Network. After all it was 1979, he had just graduated from New Jersey’s Monmouth College and job offers for engineers were rolling in.

“My whole family was in Ocean County, N.J., and Fort Monmouth was hiring like crazy,” said Golden, the director of operations for Program Executive Office Command, Control and Communications-Tactical (PEO C3T). “I had no experience working in the engineering field and I didn’t really know what I wanted. I figured I’d give it three years to see if I liked it. Then I fell into project management and I loved it.”

Now, as Golden retires from government service almost 34 years later, he said what he’ll miss most are the people he worked with and their dedication to the mission of providing Soldiers with the integrated networks, radios, computers, servers and other hardware and software required to communicate on the battlefield. They’ll miss his vision, the funding was provided to equip and train the 3rd Infantry Division (Stryker) with the state-of-the-art JNN Network.

When Robert Golden first entered government service, he wasn’t sure it was the right move. After all it was 1979. He had just graduated from New Jersey’s Monmouth College and job offers for engineers were rolling in.

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The 2013 U.S. Army Soldier Show launched with three performances before capacity crowds at Fort Sam Houston Theatre in April.

The show, “Ready and Resilient,” soon will embark on a four-month tour of 27 installations across the nation, delivering messages to fellow troops that Army senior leaders consider essential.

The Soldier Show returns to APG this year’s tour, but Army senior leaders decided the Soldier Show must go on.

“The answer is quite simple; We have the unique ability to tell this Army story in a way that nobody else can. And our communities, their Soldiers and families, they deserve to hear this message and they need to hear this message, quite frankly. We need to continue to drive home the importance of sponsorship and intramural sports and SHARP [the Army’s Sexual Harassment and Assault Response and Prevention program]. Even the finales, ‘Carry On,’ touches on the realities of combat or back at home. … Everything left and your right, whether you’re in combat or not, and there will be time for R&R, Family and friends. It touches on Army intramurals and physical training – having the heart of a champion and maintaining one’s own destiny, and covers the Army’s Sexual Harassment/Assault Response and Prevention program with Anuha Ernak’s ‘Thank’ and ‘R E S P E C T’ and The Temptations’ ‘Treat her like a Lady.’

Sgt. Craig Moton of Suwon Air Base, South Korea, and Sgt. Ena Torres of Fort Hood, Texas, flank Gregg on the front row.

Nights” during an April 21 performance at Fort Sam Houston Theatre on Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

Spc. Kelly Gregg of Fort Bliss, Texas, plays guitar and leads the cast of the U.S. Army Soldier Show in a chorus of “Some Nights” during an April 21 performance at Fort Sam Houston Theatre on Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Sgt. Craig Milton of Sowen Air Base, South Korea, and Sgt. Ene Tomas of Fort Hood, Texas, flank Gregg on the front row.
THURSDAY MAY 13 ARMED FORCES DAY GOLF TOURNAMENT

Attention Golfers! What can be better than golfing after the snow flies and enjoying a day on the Links? How about doing it on the 18th hole at the same time? Yes, you can enter the Armed Forces Day Golf Tournament sponsored by the APG Federal Credit Union.

11 a.m. – Monday, May 13 and 14, 7:30 – 8:45 a.m. Continental Breakfast and Registration


THURSDAY MAY 16 SAVINGS AND CHECKING INFORMATIONAL SESSION

Do you want to know the best way to use the tools available to you at the APG Federal Credit Union? Are you aware of the many benefits available to people that use the APG Federal Credit Union for their savings and checking needs? Then the Savings and Checking Informational Session is for you.

1:30 – Thursday, May 16, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

THURSDAY MAY 16 FREE VISION SCREENINGS

Eye Care Associates offers an opportunity for you to get your eyes checked for free once a year. How can you miss this opportunity? Call 410-278-6024 to reserve your slot today!

1:30 – Thursday, May 16, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

THURSDAY MAY 21 STRESS AND NUTRITION WORKSHOPS

Join in the Armed Forces Day celebration as you attend our Stress and Nutrition Workshops. The guest speaker is Heidi Shyu, Life Coach.

10:45 a.m. – Thursday, May 21, 10 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. The 2013 theme is "Building Leadership Skills with Nutrition and Stress Management".

10:45 a.m. – Thursday, May 21, 10 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. The workshop will be held at the MTF Auditorium Lobby.

Increased awareness of health status. The American Optometric Association recommends a dilated eye exam every two years for adults over 40 years of age. In the next few years for adults over 60 years of age. In the next few years. This is especially true for those who are diabetic or have a family history of eye disease.

The vision screening consists of 3 painless tests that will assess your vision for acuity, near visual, and peripheral vision.

The event will feature an Armorer and guest instructors who will demonstrate a variety of military aircraft, trucks, tanks, weapons, and equipment. There will be a craft tent setup at the event, featuring hundreds of vendors and antique dealers, plus a swap meet for collectibles.

For more information visit the Havre de Grace Tourism website at www.havredegraces.com or call 410-851-7755.

To register for the event an online application is available at www.research.net/s/APGFMWR-CYS-Outreach Services.

The survey is designed for DoD contractor employees. If you are a DoD contractor who is Common Access Card (CAC) holders, you can give your input by going to www.research.net/s/APGFMWR-CYS-Outreach Services.

DoD contractor employees and their families can be a part of the survey, and can participate in this outreach for a chance to win a $50 gift card. There are still spots available in the survey.

For more information on these events, contact 410-278-8759.

For more information, contact 410-272-9470. Free vision screenings are available at all Army Community Health Centers.

Stress and poor nutrition affect your health. The Center will present a series of workshops on how to manage stress and how to make better food choices.

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Nine retire during April ceremony

By YVONNE JOHNSON

Members of three APG Soliders and six civilians formally came to an end April 3, when the APG Armed Forces Retirement Ceremony at the Ball Conference Center. The deputy commander of the 20th Support Command, Maj. Gen. Donald Nordmeyer presided over the event and presented awards to the honored retirees.

Nordmeyer hailed the retirees, whose combined service totaled more than 217 years as having “spent a life time in the arena.” Noting their individual achievements, he offered his personal thanks for their service as well as the thanks of the Army and the nation.

“It would not be possible to honor this ceremony,” he said. “We wish you well in your retirement, but we expect you to remain active in your areas of success. And remember, even though you are now retirees, you are still part of the Army family.”

Nordmeyer also presented two Soldier citations and one civilian certificate of retirement to three Army retirees, five Army civilians and one APG civilian.


cite

1st Sgt. Jeffrey A. Schadow

Schadow was awarded the Army Merit Service Medal with oak leaf by Maj. Gen. Donald Nordmeyer, APG deputy commander during the Armed Forces Retirement Ceremony April 3.

The main event begins 10 a.m. at Fanwood Chemical Biological Center. The ceremony will feature remarks by APG Garrison Commander Maj. Gen. Nancy Price, Schofield Barracks; and the APG Religious Services Office and Survivor Outreach Services along with the APG Environmental Protection Office.

The V olatiles – Soldier-musicians from the nation's warfighters and communities. A performance by the U.S. Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon. A performance by The V olunteers and the APG 2013 Armed Forces Day events are the following week.

After a 7:30 to 8:45 a.m. registration in the Grand Ballroom, a Shop Around participants will enjoy a continental breakfast in the Sutherland Grill food court. Lunch and a welcome and during the registration will be generated for the event. The event begins at 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. The hugely popular pop, country and patriotic music. A performance by the U.S. Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon. A performance by The V olunteers and the APG 2013 Armed Forces Day events are the following week.

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APG Golf Tournament

The Military Appreciation Luncheon - the Harford County Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee's Luncheon.

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APG Golf Tournament
The City of Havre de Grace plans to go all out remembering the most tumultuous day in its history during the War of 1812 commemoration events that will take place throughout the downtown area this weekend, May 3-5.

The three days of family-friendly events include a reenactment of the invasion by British forces on the town of Havre de Grace, "Ships Pride of Baltimore" and "Salute," performances by the Frost McHenry Fife & Drum Corps; the Red Coat Run 5K, a candlelight ceremony at the Lighthouse on the Water and a ceremony at the Lighthouse honors General Matthew B. Ridgely, who died in the War of 1812.

OIP encompasses oversight of all types of financial accountability, travel, contracts, payroll and execution, travel, contracts, payroll and acquisition of funds. Non-financial accountability includes safety, operational security, physical security, antiterrorism, bylaw and implemented actions to allow for the award to the Save a Life Tour (SALT) program. When you check your speed limit, you're probably a state trooper. If he has to correct a problem, it's usually expensive. It's much better to do it yourself. The same goes for controlling or steering organizations in the Army, like using self-driving cars.

McDowell did more than 11 AMRDEC's internal control administrator and organizational inspection program coordinator since November 2011. "If you're going to help people help themselves in check through self-discipline and accountability, you don't have to wait on an outside inspector or auditor to identify an issue." McDowell added.

AMRDEC employee recognized for proactive internal controls

The Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) employee was recognized for his contributions. McDowell for his contributions.

The U.S. Army recently recognized an employee for his work to ensure the Aviation and Missile Research, Development, Engineering and Command (AMRDEC) is secure, safe and responsible, trying to find problems before they become problems.

"I have always had a desire to help people, but knowing that I helped support a local family also make the award," said McDowell.

AMRDEC employee recognized for proactive internal controls

"I have always had a desire to help others and found additive as an intern to pursue when in college," said McDowell.

"Jody Owens is a clinical social worker and clinical addiction counselor at APG, works as a clinical social worker and clinical addiction counselor at APG, working in the field of addiction can be very challenging, but knowing that I helped support someone in need keeps me going," said McDowell.

Jody Owens, ASPAP clinical social worker and clinical addiction counselor student, said, "Working in the field of addiction can be very challenging, but knowing that I helped support someone in need keeps me going. I have been working in this field for 15 years and have learned the importance of healthy self-care and supporting each other in any way we can. I truly feel helpful.

Jody Owens, ASPAP clinical social worker and clinical addiction counselor student, said, "Working in the field of addiction can be very challenging, but knowing that I helped support someone in need keeps me going. I have been working in this field for 15 years and have learned the importance of healthy self-care and supporting each other in any way we can. I truly feel helpful.

The two most important days in your life are the day you were born and the day you find out why," said Owens. The Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) employee was recognized for his contributions.

Disability grants available July

Nancy Goucher

Funding for the Maryland Department of Disabilities (RDD) Vocational Rehabilitation Services (VRS) (LESS) grant becomes available each year to fund projects designed to help meet the needs of children, youth, and adults with disabilities who are living in the home, or support them to work, as well as those with disabilities living in the community.

The Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) employee was recognized for his contributions.

FedCiv's Disability Assistance Program (DAP) will fund LESS Grant Application Assistance Workshops in May and June. The workshops are targeted for those interested in the Matching Room at the APG South medical clinic.

The Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) employee was recognized for his contributions.

Georgia - The Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) employee was recognized for his contributions.
in working closely with the Office of the Secretary of Defense to examine whether there are additional cost-saving opportunities in Europe through joint or multi-service consolidation.

Infrastructure changes in Europe, while important, are not part of base realignment and closure, known as BRAC. The BRAC process — including past rounds of BRAC and any future rounds of BRAC — applies only to installations in the United States. With a 45 percent reduction in force structure and more than 40 percent reduction in infrastructure, a 58 percent reduction in personnel, a 50 percent reduction in civilian staffing, and a 57 percent reduc- tion in property and facilities, BRAC is a revenue-neutral event.

A future round of base realignment and closure in the United States is essential to identify excess Army infrastructure and prudenty align civilian staffing with reduced uniform force structures, just like we are doing in Europe," she said.

For fiscal year 2013, the Army requested $2.4 billion for military construction, Army Family Housing and the Army’s share of base realignment and closure, noting that APG recently won the 2012 National Arbor Day Foundation and U.S. Department of Natural Resources presentation of the APG Bald Eagle Management Plan. Hammack said the most important impact of the Army is in its human element. "The Army's strength is our Soldiers, families and civilians who support them," she said. "They are and will con- tinue to be the cornerstone for the Army."

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Hammack said BRAC property con- version, from prior rounds of BRAC, "Putting excess property back into productive reuse can facilitate job cre- ation, help communities building the future of past practices," he said. "In total, the Army has con- verted almost 20 percent of the total prior or BRAC acres."

Hammack said the Army also requests $15.2 billion for installation energy and environmental programs, facility sus- tainment restoration and modernization and base operating support.

"With the fiscal challenges we are fac- ing, the Army has closely reviewed the facility investments to determine the level of resources needed to support the force," Hammack said. "Supporting the force requires appropriate facilities, training ranges, maintenance and operations. And that's what BRAC is.

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John Conger, the acting deputy under- secretary of defense for Installations and Environment, testified that a BRAC round is needed for fiscal year 2015, but it must be executed in a careful manner that does not affect the warfighter.

"The department is facing a serious problem created by the lesson learned by declining budgets, reductions in force structure, and limited flexibility to adapt our infrastructure accordingly," he testified.

"Without questions, installations are cutting costs across the Army in large and small ways," he said. "However, we need to be cognizant that more infrastructure than we need taxes the Department of Defense payroll. The BRAC round is needed for fiscal year 2015, but it must be executed in a careful manner that does not affect the warfighter.

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APG SNAPSHOT
A peek at the events making news in and around U.S. Army Garrison Aberdeen Proving Ground. For complete photo coverage, visit http://www.flickr.com/photos/usagapg/.

CRAFT TIME
(From left) Sgt. Trenise Porch, from MRICD, and James Sylvester II, 4, create a butterfly craft at the APG South Child Development Center April 25. The center hosted this activity in honor of Month of the Military Child.

BOOK FAIR AT CDC
(From left) Pete Long makes a book purchase from Lisanne Blake at the APG North (Aberdeen) Child Development Center, while Carson Dunmeyer looks on April 18. The book fair is one of several special events held at the APG CDCs and youth centers to celebrate the Month of the Military Child in April.

BINGO!
(From left) Marissa Bartol and Stephanie Brunnet play Bingo during an APG Military and Civilian Community Club luncheon at the Top of the Bay April 18. The event featured items for sale and prizes from local vendors. The APG Military and Civilian Community Club membership is open to active duty, civilian, contractors, retirees, volunteers, community members and their spouses. For more information, visit www.apgmccc.org.

FURRY FRIEND
(From left) Connor Vescovi, 3, and Victoria Thomas, 4, pet a Flemish Giant Rabbit with the help of Lauren Eiubkinwicka, from the Baltimore Zoo’s Zoo Mobile, at the APG North (Aberdeen) youth center April 29.