

STATEMENT OF
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COMMANDER
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BEFORE THE HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON MILITARY CONSTRUCTION
ON MILITARY CONSTRUCTION IN U.S. PACIFIC COMMAND

12 MAR 08

INTRODUCTION

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Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the men and women of the U.S. Pacific Command (USPACOM), thank you for this opportunity to share with you the military construction (MILCON) needs and initiatives in the USPACOM area of responsibility (AOR).

The region is secure and stable. This year, I have had the opportunity to visit 21 regional nations – more than one-half the total in our AOR. I also hosted 23 National Chiefs of Defense in Hawaii this past November. From these first-hand experiences, I gained the sense that my counterparts see a secure and prosperous future for the region, particularly if we choose to approach security issues with a collaborative mindset. I share their optimism and a desire to seek multilateral solutions when possible.

2007 was a year of considerable change in the region. Positive economic trends continued for most of Asia, which has three of the world's top 10 economies (Japan, China, and India). The region played a greater role on the global diplomatic stage. Many Asia-Pacific nations improved, and some expanded, their military capabilities as well. All these trends are impacting how nations interact with each other and the U.S. This dynamism and interplay offer more opportunity than challenge but will require our continued, confident leadership and a commitment of resources commensurate with the importance of this vibrant region to our Nation.

Working in this constantly evolving arena, USPACOM forces conducted meaningful military-to-military engagement with regional partners and realized progress in a number of security areas. We improved multilateral information sharing with partners and held the first-ever conference among Asia-Pacific Intelligence Chiefs; enhanced the capacity of our regional partners to counter transnational crime and terrorism; changed attitudes in populations at risk for terrorist exploitation; advanced U.S. and allied ballistic missile defense capabilities; and, mitigated human suffering in the wake of natural disasters. Our military accomplished all of these things, and significantly, they did so in full cooperation with our embassy country teams, allies, and partners.

Outside our AOR, Pacific-based forces continue to serve with surpassing distinction in Iraq and Afghanistan. Next year, we expect to sustain about 30,000 USPACOM-assigned personnel in the USCENTCOM AOR. Many Asia-Pacific nations have made and are still making significant contributions to our efforts in the Middle East, including Australia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Thailand, Singapore, Fiji, Mongolia, Tonga, and New Zealand. Having visited our people and partners in Iraq, I assure you USPACOM forces on the ground are confident, believe in their mission, and see progress being made. We all should be proud of them and their families.

MILCON continues to be a vital enabler of ready forces. Because of your support of our \$1.9 billion request in FY08, USPACOM MILCON program continues to meet operational and quality of life requirements. MILCON is facilitating significant capability enhancements, to include F-22s at Elmendorf AFB and the homeporting of the nuclear-powered carrier USS

GEORGE WASHINGTON at Yokosuka, Japan later this calendar year. We are grateful for the support of the Congress and welcome your careful consideration of our FY09 program.

FISCAL YEAR (FY) 09 MILCON

In FY09, USPACOM requests \$2.8 billion in MILCON for facilities and infrastructure to support U.S. military forces and their families - \$1.8 billion or 64% for Quality of Life initiatives and \$1.0 billion or 36% for warfighting projects. Of note, nearly \$1.0 billion requested in FY09 funding would focus directly on supporting Grow the Force initiatives for Army and Marine plus-ups in the Pacific.

READINESS AND WARFIGHTING

Rapid response in the Asia-Pacific region hinges on flexibility, speed, and agility of our military forces. The force posture agreement with Japan, reached under the auspices of the Defense Policy Review Initiative (DPRI), will improve our ability to effectively employ U.S. forces while addressing concerns of the Japanese populace. Similar agreements reached with Korea under the Security Policy Initiative (SPI) would provide the strategic flexibility for U.S. forces while allowing the South Korean military to take on a greater role for defense of the Korean Peninsula. Japan and Korea are bearing much of the cost associated with the planned posture changes but U.S. MILCON funds are necessary to complete remaining military construction and other infrastructure needs. As we move forces from Japan onto Guam and restructure those in Korea, our MILCON investments would enable USPACOM and Service

Components to better employ U.S. forces, protect national interests, and demonstrate enduring commitment to the region, while adding political stability and operational flexibility to our posture. For FY09, we seek \$1.0 billion for readiness and warfighting projects critical to properly realign and employ forward-based forces.

Japan: On 1 May 2006, the U.S. Secretaries of State and Defense and their Japanese counterparts issued the Roadmap for Realignment, which lays out the overall implementation for realignment of U.S. forces in Japan. Under the Roadmap, the Government of Japan would fund costs associated with U. S. force posture changes in Japan. The U.S. also has a planned share in the MILCON funding to support impending changes in Japan. In FY09, USARPAC requests \$18 million for a battle command training facility at Sagami and \$2 million for a sensitive compartmented information facility at Camp Zama.

Guam: Guam-based forces offer strategic flexibility and freedom of maneuver needed for prompt action in the Global War on Terror, response to theater contingencies, and peacetime engagement. For FY09, our MILCON requirement on Guam includes several Navy and Air Force infrastructure projects required for current operations. For FY10 and beyond, the Air Force plans to enhance Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR)-Strike capacity, while the Navy would add berthing capability for a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier (CVN) on Guam. Under the realignment roadmap with Japan, U.S. force projection capabilities would be enhanced by the repositioning of approximately 8,000 Marines from Okinawa to Guam. Planning continues for projects to support the relocation of III MEF units by 2014.

For FY09, U.S. Pacific Fleet requests \$77 million for current mission improvements (\$51 million for increment two of an ammunition wharf extension and \$26 million for waste water utility infrastructure improvements). PACAF seeks \$5 million for a combat communications maintenance facility at Andersen AFB to establish a consolidated combat support training center. While supporting current readiness needs, these projects are consistent with the planned Marine build up.

Japanese funding (approximately \$6 billion) to support the movement of U.S. forces to Guam by 2014 is expected to flow in increasing increments beginning as early as Japan Fiscal Year 2009. U.S. MILCON investment (approximately \$4 billion) to complement the Government of Japan financial contribution is needed starting in the FY10 timeframe.

The Navy and Air Force MILCON request for Guam is in coordination with Office of the Secretary of Defense and the government of Guam. The Navy-led Joint Guam Program Office (JGPO) is leading the detailed facility-level planning effort to support the force build-up. USPACOM continues to work with the JGPO, the Secretary of Defense staff, the Services, and others to ensure subsequent plans meet our operational requirements.

When completed, Guam will be a Joint Base with significant forward-based combat power.

Korea: We continue to restructure U.S. force presence on the Korean peninsula by redeploying U.S. troops out of Korea, relocating U.S. troops out of downtown Seoul and returning Yongsan Army Garrison to the Republic of Korea (ROK), and consolidating the remaining troops into two hubs south of Seoul. These efforts better position U.S. forces to

conduct combat operations, should deterrence fail on the peninsula, and make the U.S. presence less intrusive on the Korean people. In 2009, we anticipate the ROK, under the amended Land Partnership Plan and the Yongsan Relocation Plan, to fund much of the construction of facilities and infrastructure for this transition. Eighth Army requests \$20 million in MILCON funding for a vehicle maintenance complex at Camp Humphreys for U.S. Army forces relocating from camps north of the Han River.

MILCON projects in Japan and Korea improve our capability and demonstrate our mutual commitment to these two important allies. This relatively small amount of U.S. MILCON funding, compared to the large contributions from Japan and Korea, is essential to accomplishing our planned force posture changes.

USPACOM also supports the following MILCON activities requested by our Service Components and defense agencies:

U. S. Army Pacific (USARPAC): USARPAC seeks \$344 million for FY09 warfighting MILCON program. \$47 million is requested for operational facilities at Ft. Wainwright Alaska and \$40 million would provide a satellite communications center in Hawaii. Japan based forces require \$20 million for a battle command training facility and a sensitive compartmented information facility. Finally, USARPAC will have an increased number of soldiers due to the Grow the Force initiative, which would require \$237 million for unit operation centers and infrastructure to adequately beddown the forces in Hawaii. The added forces in Hawaii would provide USPACOM with necessary manpower to continue their robust operational tempo.

Of note, the Army finalized the Hawaii-based Stryker Brigade Combat Team Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in February 2008. We anticipate the Department of the Army will move forward on \$145 million of previously approved projects for the Stryker beddown in Hawaii, once the EIS Record of Decision is signed.

Pacific Fleet (PACFLT): PACFLT requests \$356 million for FY09 warfighting MILCON program, which includes \$77 million for Guam; \$37 million for CVN berthing infrastructure repair/improvements at San Diego naval base; \$34 million for increment two of EA-18G facility improvements at Whidbey Island, WA; \$51 million for trident missile facilities at Kitsap Naval Base, WA; \$6 million for a Joint Forces deployment staging area at Pearl Harbor, HI; \$41 million for increment two of a submarine maintenance facility at Pearl Harbor, HI; \$47 million for a new pier to support deep draft surface combatant vessels at San Diego, CA; and \$35 million for pier improvements at a classified site. Modernization of missile defense testing facilities is critical to defend US interests in our vast theater. PACFLT also requests \$29 million for an Advanced Radar Detection Laboratory at the Pacific Missile Range Facility in Hawaii.

Pacific Air Forces (PACAF): PACAF requests \$141 million for FY09 warfighting MILCON program, which includes \$5 million for Guam combat communications infrastructure; \$136 million for hangars and infrastructure for the F-22A beddown at Elmendorf AFB, AK.

Marine Forces Pacific (MARFORPAC): MARFORPAC requests \$139 million for FY09 warfighting MILCON program, which includes \$42 million for a military working dog facility, water training facility, and MV-22 aircraft support infrastructure at Miramar Air Station,

CA; \$20 million for an aviation training facility at Yuma, AZ; and \$77 million for infantry training facilities, communications maintenance, and vehicle maintenance buildings at Camp Pendleton, CA. This total request represents \$120 million to support additional Marines provided by Grow the Force initiatives in the Pacific.

DLA: In FY09, DLA seeks \$25 million to replace a fuel pipeline at Naval Station Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

QUALITY OF LIFE FOR OUR MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM

We are committed to providing appropriate quality of life for USPACOM service members and their families. In FY09, USPACOM requests \$1.8 billion for Quality of Life projects for bachelor and military family housing, and other facilities, \$704 million of which supports Grow the Force initiatives.

Bachelor Housing: In FY09, USPACOM requests \$1.0 billion for 28 barracks. The dramatic increase in bachelor housing is targeted to accommodate the repositioning of forces within the region. Specifically, MARFORPAC seeks \$582 million for 18 barracks to fulfill congressionally-mandated Grow the Force needs at Camp H.M. Smith, HI; Camp Pendleton, CA; and Marine Corps Base Barstow, CA. Additionally, MARFORPAC requests \$224 million for 6 barracks. The barracks would support Marine forces realignment in the AOR while achieving the Commandant's Redline Initiative (two E1-E3 Marines per room by 2012). USARPAC requests \$105 million for barracks in Alaska and Hawaii. Finally, PACFLT seeks \$34 million

for a barracks at North Island Naval Station, San Diego, CA, and \$62 million for a barracks at Navy Base Guam to support the Navy Sailor Homeport Ashore Initiative.

Family Housing: USPACOM has made tremendous strides using MILCON and the Military Housing Privatization Initiative (MHPI) to modernize and replace antiquated housing. The Services are actively exploring further public-private ventures for housing in Alaska, California, and Hawaii. However, Housing MILCON will still be required in Japan and Korea, since privatization is not authorized in these foreign countries.

In FY09, USPACOM requests \$667 million for Family Housing. USARPAC requests \$66 million to enter a privatized housing partnership under the Army's Residential Communities Initiative, which would privatize housing at Ft Wainwright and Ft Greely in Alaska. PACAF requests \$248 million in FY09, apportioning \$245 million to improve 1,334 military housing units at Kadena, Misawa, and Yokota air bases in Japan as well as \$2 million to upgrade housing support facilities at Kadena air base. PACFLT seeks \$50 million in FY09, which would provide \$2 million to improve 6 homes on Guam and \$48 million to improve 328 homes at Sasebo in Japan. MARFORPAC requests \$178 million in FY09, which includes \$59 million for 351 units at Camp Pendleton; \$50 million for 600 homes at Twentynine Palms, CA; and, \$60 million in Hawaii for 520 homes. Additionally, \$9 million is requested to renovate 72 units at Iwakuni, Japan. 8th Army seeks \$125M for 216 homes to support the Yongsan Relocation effort in Korea.

Other Quality of Life: In FY09, USPACOM requests \$144 million for other Quality of Life requirements. USARPAC seeks \$15 million to construct a dental clinic at Fort Richardson, AK in support of Grow the Force increases. PACFLT requests \$45 million for a new fitness center to replace multiple dispersed facilities at Naval Station Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. MARFORPAC requests \$84 million: \$7 million for a fire station at Miramar, CA and \$77 million for a fitness center, access road improvements, and water treatment facility at Camp Pendleton, CA.

Medical: USPACOM seeks \$30 million in FY09 Medical MILCON to support the hospital on Guam. This project replaces an existing obsolete energy distribution system and ensures the safety of hospital patients.

DoDEA: No DoDEA MILCON in FY09 is requested, but we anticipate that future MILCON would be required as the Marines and their dependents move to Guam. HQ DoDEA has been coordinating with the JGPO regarding population requirements to calculate the number of additional schools required.

Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command (JPAC): In FY09, PACOM will complete the design for the new JPAC headquarters at Hickam AFB. In FY10, we will seek congressional authority and military construction funds for this \$105 million headquarters/analysis building. This Navy requested world-class facility would house state of the art laboratories to speed the identification of the dead and missing from our nation's wars, past and present.

CONCLUSION

USPACOM, working along side our allies and partners, remains committed to preserving a secure and stable Asia-Pacific region. Our forward presence and agile and flexible military forces have long been the guarantor of regional stability. Focused MILCON investment at the right places makes our forward and responsive presence possible. With your support, we will see Guam transformed into the premier joint military complex that offers unrestricted freedom of action for U.S. forces. We will complete our alliance transformations with Japan and the ROK. We will also begin the beddown of the Grow the Force manpower plus-ups. We will continue to maintain a superior quality of life for our forces with the construction of thousands of housing units and many new barracks. We sincerely appreciate your advocacy and assistance as USPACOM people continue to contribute to the security of Asia and the Pacific.