

RECORD VERSION

**STATEMENT BY
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BEFORE THE

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON MILITARY CONSTRUCTION, VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND
RELATED AGENCIES**

**COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

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**FY20 BUDGET OVERSIGHT HEARING ON ENERGY, INSTALLATIONS, AND
ENVIRONMENT**

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COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS**

Introduction

Chairwoman Wasserman Schultz, Ranking Member Carter, and Members of the Subcommittee: Thank you for your continued support to our Soldiers, Civilians and their Families who serve this nation. The Army is grateful for the diligent work of this Committee and Congress on timely passage of the FY 2019 Authorization Act and Defense and Military Construction (MILCON) appropriations bills. Your support provides greater flexibility to address mission critical infrastructure requirements that affect warfighting readiness.

Army Installations generate, project, and sustain every aspect of combat power. Our facilities and infrastructure support one million Soldiers and 2.2 million Family members serving on installations worldwide. In this FY 2020 Budget, the Army is requesting \$2.3 billion in Military Construction appropriations, a 13 percent (\$264 million) increase over our FY 2019 request. This budget will improve installation readiness, strategic power projection, and Soldier and Family readiness.

Predictable, adequate, sustained and timely funding for installations enables all aspects of warfighting readiness — our top priority. Installations support the National Defense Strategy by generating and projecting ready forces from locations around the globe. Army installations, National Guard Readiness Centers, and Army Reserve Centers must be ready, secure, and resilient to enable the Army to train, fight, and win our nation's wars. We are focusing our efforts and resources on the priorities of Readiness, Modernization, and Reform, with an enduring commitment to care for our Soldiers, Civilians, and their Families.

As a result of deliberate investment in places where our Soldiers and Families live, we have made significant improvements in our barracks and government-owned housing. With the FY 2020 budget request, our cumulative investments since FY 2017 will have improved 21 thousand barracks spaces and increased the proportion rated as good and adequate to 87 percent. The FY 2020 request will also allow us to achieve a

90 percent good or adequate quality level for all Army-owned Family housing. Specific projects are listed later in this statement.

The President's FY 2020 budget request includes increased investment levels for Facility Sustainment Restoration and Modernization (FSRM). Increased funding will allow us to address some of the maintenance backlog; conduct more deliberate preventive maintenance activities and recap our most critical need facilities. Working with all Army Commands, we have made great strides over the past year to identify those facilities that directly contribute to the Army's highest priority operational missions. We will allocate the funds you provide to us, now and in the future, on facilities that support power projection, mobilization, and warfighter mission needs such as barracks, airfields, ranges, and maintenance facilities to achieve installation readiness.

Soldier and Family Readiness

Soldier and Family Housing and Quality of Life programs are an investment in the Army's most valuable asset — our people. We are deeply troubled by the reports in the media and from our Soldiers and Families of poor conditions and poor customer service associated with privatized housing. We have prioritized and implemented changes in processes and procedures across the installation management enterprise to address known issues, and our assessments continue. The Army remains committed to improving infrastructure and services that enable Soldier readiness and support Soldier and Family resilience, thus allowing Soldiers to focus on their mission.

The Army Family Housing budget allows us to provide homes and related housing services to Soldiers and their Families living around the world. For FY 2020, the Army requests \$141 million for Family housing construction. This will fund the fourth and final increment of \$83 million for new housing at Camp Humphreys, South Korea, which meets Commander, U.S. Forces Korea requirements for on-post housing. The request also improves poor and failing housing units in Baumholder, Germany, for \$30

million, and replaces failing housing at Tobyhanna Army Depot, Pennsylvania, for \$19 million.

We are requesting \$358 million to sustain all Family Housing operations; cover utility costs; ensure proper maintenance and repair of government Family Housing units; lease properties where required; and provide privatized housing oversight. We are committed to providing our Soldiers and Families the best living conditions possible, commensurate with their service to our nation.

We are also investing in our unaccompanied Soldiers' quality of life by constructing a \$32 million permanent party barracks at Fort Hood, Texas. To address deficits at our Initial Military Training locations, we are requesting funds for Advanced Individual Training (AIT) barracks complexes at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, and Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia for \$73 million and \$55 million, respectively, and a reception barracks complex at Fort Jackson, South Carolina for \$54 million.

Strategic Power Projection

The Army's request for MILCON provides secure and sustainable facilities to meet the Army's emergent needs in three critical subsets of installation readiness: Power Projection, Mobilization, and Warfighter Lethality. For FY 2020, we apply \$1.8 billion of our budget request to Strategic Power Projection; \$1.4 billion for the Regular Army; \$211 million for the Army National Guard (ARNG); \$61 million for Army Reserve (USAR); and \$66 million for the Army portion of the Base Closure Account.

The \$1.4 billion Regular Army MILCON request will allow us to move forward with critical projects that enhance the Army's ability to compete against our Nation's adversaries. FY 2020 projects include a Cyber Instructional Facility (\$107 million) at Fort Gordon, Georgia; an Aircraft Maintenance Hangar (\$62 million) at Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia; and a Powertrain Facility Maintenance Shop (\$86 million) at Corpus Christi Army Depot.

Our \$211 million ARNG budget request is focused on recapitalizing readiness centers — the heart and soul of the National Guard — as well as ranges to allow the Guard to be ready to perform federal missions. Several of these projects will consolidate units and functions into a single facility allowing the Guard to close multiple older facilities.

The \$61 million FY 2020 budget request for the USAR replaces our most dilapidated and failing facilities. An additional \$9 million will support critical needs through the Unspecified Minor Military Construction account.

We appreciate the funding Congress provided the Army in recent years to meet the most pressing needs on our installations. The FY 2020 \$5.9 billion FSRM budget request sustains this trend and gets us closer to meeting our full sustainment requirements. The \$3.5 billion sustainment portion of the request represents an increase to 85 percent of the total modeled requirement and will allow us to conduct more deliberate preventive maintenance activities. The \$2.2 billion restoration and modernization portion of the request, an increase of \$600 million over the FY 2019 request, will enable the Army to continue addressing our most critical maintenance backlog requirements. Commanders continue to optimize their resources and facilities by consolidating units into our best facilities; maximizing space utilization; and disposing of excess facilities.

Installation Readiness

The Army's energy security and sustainability program continues to reduce our reliance on external utility systems; improve energy and water efficiency; increase reliability and efficiency of energy and water systems; and enable mission readiness. As our adversaries continue to develop capabilities to disrupt commercial power grids, we appreciate the continued support of Congress for the Army's energy security and resilience initiatives in order to ensure our ability to train, mobilize, and project power from our installations to support warfighter requirements.

Reliable energy and water supplies are crucial enablers for maintaining Army mission readiness. The potential disruption of energy and water services from cyber-attack or extreme weather events pose a continuous threat to installations and the missions they support. The Army has established requirements to secure critical missions by ensuring secure access to energy and water; reliable infrastructure conditions; and effective system operations, including holistic planning and exercising of emergency operations plans with scenarios that address grid outages.

Our installation energy budget request is focused on enhancing mission effectiveness. The Army continues to leverage private sector expertise and investment to improve system reliability; reduce consumption; and improve energy and water resilience. The Army leads the federal government in the use of Energy Savings Performance Contracts and Utility Energy Service Contracts.

Our FY 2020 environmental program budget request of \$914 million will keep the Army on track to meet cleanup goals and maintain full access to important training and testing land, both integral components of Army readiness.

The Army manages more than 13.8 million acres of land on which we interact with endangered species; preserve historic sites; and restore critical or contaminated land. Performing these functions effectively permits us to respect environmental requirements and continue Army operations while protecting our Soldiers and Families.

Conclusion

America's Army stands ready to deploy, fight and win our Nation's wars. With your continued support, our installations will remain ready, secure and resilient to enable Total Army mission readiness and provide a high quality of life for Soldiers and Families. As the Army modernizes its weapon systems, our facilities must keep pace. We appreciate your continued assistance to ensure our Army has the best facilities for the best fighting force in the world.