

THE BOTTOM-UP REVIEW: FORCES FOR A NEW ERA, LES ASPIN, SECDEF, 1 SEPTEMBER 1993

Proponent

The proponent for this document is the Department of Defense.

Web Site Location

This document is not on the world wide web. The document may be reviewed in the USACHPPM Plans and Integration Office.

Definition

Weapons of Mass Destruction - Nuclear, biological, and radiological in nature. They are used achieve a high order of destruction and/or used in such a manner as to destroy large numbers of people.

Synopsis

The Bottom-up Review was undertaken to select the right strategy, force structure, modernization programs, and supporting industrial base and infrastructure to provide for America's defense in the post-Cold War era. The reviewers focused on the following potential dangers:

- ◆ threats posed by nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction,
- ◆ threats of regional significance,
- ◆ threats to democracy and reform, and
- ◆ threats to economic stability.

The review highlighted that new opportunity will probably arise in a safer, more prosperous world. For example there are opportunities to expand and adapt our existing security partnerships and alliances and build a larger community of democratic nations.

To ensure America has the best trained, equipped, and prepared military, the reviewers considered these guiding principles during the review:

- ◆ keeping our forces ready to fight,
- ◆ maintaining the quality of our people, and
- ◆ maintaining technological superiority.

The end result of this review was a reduced force structure that the authors believed was sufficient for a strategic deterrence and defense. However, while broadly acceptable in defense circles as an interim framework, it is beginning to near the end of its useful life. From a strategic level, Its major problem is that it focuses unduly on the vestiges of the Cold War in Korea and the Persian Gulf rather than ahead to the likely challenges of the next century.



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What Does This Mean for Military Public Health?

- ◆ we must have the preventive medicine people, equipment, policies, procedures, and training in place to facilitate contingency based force tailoring;
- ◆ we need to organize to provide commanders health risk information they can use to make informed operational decisions; and
- ◆ by establishing health promotion and preventive medicine forums and providing information to our friends and allies, we will forge new individual relationships and enhance alliance relationships that will prove as useful in the future, as they have in the past.

The following themes are common to other planning documents on our list:

- ◆ USACHPPM could serve as a center of excellence for the full spectrum of health promotion and preventive medicine services in managing the health of our soldiers and beneficiaries;
- ◆ we must assist with the development of a Joint service approach in addressing the health promotion and preventive medicine needs of commanders, especially the CINCs;
- ◆ we must assist the Army Medical Department (AMEDD) Center and School and other service schools in developing solutions to address lessons learned and doctrine, training, leader development, organization, materiel, and soldiers (DTLOMS) deficiencies;
- ◆ we need to optimize the use of technology to obtain, evaluate, and disseminate preventive medicine information; and
- ◆ we need to disseminate this integrated health information to commanders, policy makers and individuals who can act to influence health and prevent diseases and injuries.