

**Opening Statement of Dr. Francis J. Harvey  
Secretary of the Army  
House Armed Service Committee hearing on M1114 Up-Armored HMMWV  
production and distribution strategy  
20 October 2005**

Chairman Hunter and members of the Committee:

General Cody, General Speakes and I are here today to discuss the Army's efforts to provide the Marines with M-1114 Up-Armored Humvees while simultaneously upgrading the 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division's M-1114s with communications equipment that significantly improves Soldier situational awareness, combat effectiveness and fratricide prevention.

In a classified letter to you, Chairman Hunter, dated September 22<sup>nd</sup>, General Cody explained the joint Army and Marine Corps plans for M-1114 production and allocation to meet the immediate needs of both services. While I am limited in the details I can provide in this unclassified forum, the plan agreed upon in July 2005 allows the Marine Corps to meet its M-1114 requirements in April 2006 and the Army to meet its M-1114 requirement – 16 months later – in July 2007.

Under this joint Army-Marine Corps agreement, the 824 up-armored Humvees allocated to the Army would first be sent to Fort Hood to install the 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division-version of the Battle Command System in the vehicles prior to deployment. The installation of this equipment at Fort Hood was deemed to be a much more efficient and effective way of adding this critical situational awareness, combat effectiveness and fratricide-prevention technology. More specifically, the hardware, system knowledge and technical expertise are all located at Fort Hood. Doing this upgrade at home station takes about 14 days versus an estimated 60 days it would take to do the work in Kuwait. That 14 days is efficient and well worth the time it takes to give our Soldiers the best equipment available.

Furthermore, doing the work at Fort Hood enhances training by allowing Soldiers and units to work with the equipment prior to deployment while ample training and technical support is available. Once units arrive in theater, they can

immediately begin training in Kuwait, rather than devote critical time to installing the Battle Command System.

The Army did not act in a vacuum. Three-star representatives from the Army, Marine Corps and Joint Staff approved this plan of action in July 2005, and this plan was further coordinated and approved by commanders in the field. The Services revised the overall allocation to accelerate delivery of up-armored Humvees to the Marine Corps at that same time as well.

Work on equipping the Army's 824 up-armored Humvees is already far along and we are ahead of schedule as described in the same classified letter to Chairman Hunter. All 824 have been delivered to Fort Hood; work has been completed on the majority of vehicles and more than half have already been shipped to Kuwait. The remainder will depart for Kuwait by November 1<sup>st</sup>.

In closing, let me reiterate, there is nothing more important than protecting the service men and women we send daily into harm's way. The Army is totally committed to providing

the highest level of protection, to include fielding a fleet of Level I Humvees in theater, and we have made these decisions in full coordination with the Marine Corps and the Joint Staff.

Thank you. Before we answer your questions, General Cody will make a few remarks. (END)