

As part of transformation, NAVEUR has made considerable improvements to overall force protection, including significant progress towards comprehensive electronic waterside security systems which complement existing barrier systems at several primary ports. NAVEUR also conducted its first theater-wide antiterrorism/force protection exercise, simulating simultaneous attacks and incorporating host nation security personnel in Italy, Spain, and the United Kingdom.

Consolidation and collocation of NAVEUR's command structure will improve effectiveness and yield efficiencies. NAVEUR is shedding excess infrastructure by closing its headquarters in London and moving its command functions to Naples. A parallel effort to reduce Naples-based staff by streamlining functions in NAVEUR, Sixth Fleet, and fleet task force staffs will result in significant billet reductions. By reducing the combined staff size from over 1000 billets to the target of 487, NAVEUR will be able to relocate to Naples without additional funding for facilities or services. A substantial core of the staff is already working in Naples, with the remainder utilizing technology and various collaborative tools to work together from locations in London and Gaeta.

NAVEUR will maintain required NATO alignment and improve integration with the NATO command structure by consolidating Flag Officer billets in a transformed U.S./NATO command structure. Near-term relocation and stand-up costs are minimal and being funded within the current Navy total obligation authority.

U.S. Marine Forces Europe

Marine Forces Europe (MARFOREUR) facilitates the conduct of joint and combined Marine operations, exercises, training, and Theater Security Cooperation (TSC) activities in the EUCOM AOR by utilizing expeditionary prepositioned theater assets and task organized rotational forces sourced from active and reserve Marine components. These forces will deploy as Marine Ground Task Forces embarked in Naval shipping operating from either a sea base or locations ashore. MARFOREUR is focused south on Western Sub-Saharan Africa and east to the Caucasus in support of USEUCOM TSC objectives, highlighted by past successes in the Trans-Sahara Counter Terrorism Initiative (TSCTI), Africa Contingency Operations Training and Assistance (ACOTA) program, and Georgia Security Assistance, as well as other theater and inter-agency initiatives. MARFOREUR continues to work with EUCOM and Headquarters U.S. Marine Corps to reconstitute and transform the Maritime

Prepositioned Force (MPF), and the Marine Corps Preposition Program-Norway (MCPN), to ensure the flexible and relevant capabilities these strategic programs provide. Over the next five years, the USMC plans to spend \$46.3 million on MPF and \$36.3 million on MCPN reconstitution and modernization. These prepositioning programs support not only EUCOM operational requirements but, as seen over the last three years, directly support Operations ENDURING FREEDOM and IRAQI FREEDOM.

MARFOREUR is also working closely with NAVFOR to coordinate Expeditionary Strike Group (ESG) / Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) operations in non-traditional places such as North Africa, western Sub-Saharan Africa and the Gulf of Guinea. ESGs will conduct operations and training with African partner nations to develop and sustain relationships, enable African military forces to operate as peacekeeper and encourage the establishment of maritime security forces. During the past three years ESG presence in USEUCOM AOR has been minimized by ongoing operations in the Middle East. MARFOREUR will also continue to leverage future ship technologies, such as the High Speed Connector (HSC), to enhance current capabilities and expand future expeditionary capabilities of joint and combined forces.

Special Operations Command Europe

EUCOM and Special Operations Command Europe (SOCEUR) are coordinating with U.S. Special Operations Command (SOCOM) to source a combination of permanent and rotational forces to be based in Southern Europe. The details of the plan are classified because of ongoing negotiations with host nations. Basing all theater-assigned SOF (i.e., air, ground, and sea) south of the Alps will enhance interoperability, training, and responsiveness to crises in the Caucasus and Africa. The plan calls for permanently relocating and consolidating SOCEUR with its ground, maritime (command and control only) and air SOF components, currently stationed in three countries, as well as one additional Army and maritime SOF units to be provided to the theater on a rotational basis. The increased SOF presence will improve our capability to accomplish Theater Security Cooperation objectives to increase our operational flexibility to fight the Global War on Terrorism, and to support operations in adjacent theaters as required.

The intent is to move south and east in the AOR in two phases. Current funding has already been requested to complete the first phase of this plan, which will provide for the move of the SOCEUR headquarters and portions of in-theater and rotational SOF. To support this plan, the President's Budget

Request includes \$3.2 million in fiscal year 2006 and \$5.9 million in fiscal year 2007 to fund planning and design requirements. In addition, SOCOM and the Service Departments have programmed more than \$200 million for fiscal years 2008-2011 to execute this critical transformation. The second phase of the plan will request additional funding in fiscal years 2011 to 2015 in order to move the 352nd Special Operations Group (Air Force SOF), currently located at Royal Air Force Base Mildenhall in the United Kingdom. This move will complete the strategic relocation and essential consolidation of EUCOM's Special Operations Forces.

Strategic Mobility and Maneuver

EUCOM's experience in the Global War on Terrorism demonstrates the value of our European infrastructure. Over 295,000 short tons of equipment and 60,000 passengers, plus an additional 17,000 troops from 16 Coalition partner nations, have been transported from EUCOM to the CENTCOM AOR since December 2003. This represents 75 percent of all coalition troops moved into that theater.

Our en route system has evolved with the realization that the Global War on Terrorism requires fighting the enemy in places unforeseen before 9-11. The U.S. Transportation Command (TRANSCOM) relies increasingly on southern tier routes, such as Lajes Air Base, Naval Station Rota, Naval Air Station Sigonella, and Incirlik Air Base, to project U.S. forces to crises areas in the Middle East, Northern Africa, Eastern Europe, and the Caucasus. Modest investments in these four strategically located bases will ensure we maintain critical southern air mobility routes for TRANSCOM and an "air-bridge" to expand operational reach. As we look even further south, we envision expanding the EUCOM en route system so we can engage future threats in sub-Saharan Africa. This new system will consist of a series of CSLs located across Africa's western and central regions to enable the rapid deployment of forces.

The combination of mature en route infrastructure and the requisite strategic and theater lift will enable EUCOM to support the U.S. global force posture. Continued C-17 procurement is crucial to fulfill EUCOM's strategic and theater lift requirements. Current airlift and air refueling assets do not satisfy the minimum requirements set forth in the "Mobility Requirements Study 2005" completed in 2001. The shortfall in air mobility assets is accentuated by the increasing demand on these assets driven by the Global War on Terrorism and the decreasing reliability of our aging fleet.

Investment in high speed intra theater sealift capability, such as provided by the Theater Support Vessel (TSV), will provide EUCOM a viable alternative to intra-theater airlift for the operational movement and sustainment of combat forces at every point of the spectrum of operations. Complementing Army Transformation, it will create an opportunity to achieve operations throughput, provide a means to counter unanticipated anti-access threats. Of equal importance is our ability to move and maneuver in littoral regions, the launching point for most expeditionary operations. Current efforts to deliver the Littoral Combat Ship to the fleet will help secure our dominance of that critical battlespace. Speed and agility in littoral operations are often the key to success and future missions will become increasingly reliant on these capabilities.

Theater C4ISR

An additional theater investment need is the upgrade of EUCOM's Network Centric Command, Control, Communication and Computers (C4) infrastructure. The Department of Defense has made enormous strides in enhancing bandwidth to the warfighter with programs such as the Global Information Grid Bandwidth Expansion (GIG-BE) and Transformational Satellite (TSAT). Unfortunately, many of our current installations and military communities do not have the infrastructure necessary to support these two vital projects, thus limiting our ability to achieve information and decision superiority.

Additionally, EUCOM continues coordination with the Services to increase Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) assets and analytical resources to effectively prosecute the Global War on Terrorism. Persistent ISR would improve our ability to find, track and interdict mobile and technically competent terrorist groups operating within the vast, ungoverned regions of our AOR. Unmanned air, surface and subsurface persistent surveillance platforms will be essential to forward operations based on our reduced footprint in theater. A major EUCOM focus is joint and combined interoperability of ISR systems to optimize information collection by NATO and non-NATO partners and to complement the Department of Defense and Central Intelligence Agency human intelligence capabilities.

EUCOM is also leading efforts within NATO to establish an intelligence fusion center to improve integration. A shortfall exists within the Alliance for theater strategic and operational intelligence. The NATO Intelligence Fusion Center (NIFC) proposal has been spearheaded by EUCOM leadership to create an Alliance-focused capability to overcome the stove-piped means by

which individual nations currently support their own forces. The NIFC will support NATO with timely, fused, and predictive network-enabled intelligence. The current goal is to achieve full operational capability by 2007.

The Joint Analysis Center (JAC) at RAF Molesworth in the United Kingdom is EUCOM's theater intelligence analysis center. It has provided support for peacekeeping operations in the Balkans, U.S. policymakers in the Caucasus, and supported crises response and counterterrorism operations in Africa. It also provides intelligence products for U.S. Central Command. The JAC aggressively supports the GWOT with counter-terrorism analysis and has almost a quarter of its analysts temporarily deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. Many successful counterterrorist operations have resulted from innovative analysis, close cooperation and information sharing with allies. EUCOM's integration of U.S. and multi-national law enforcement and intelligence reporting has given us insight into terrorist support infrastructure, recruitment, and training. We are working closely with interagency representatives, coalition partners, and U.S. Embassy teams to further develop these relationships.

Non-Lethal Capabilities

Non-Lethal capabilities are an emergent requirement and challenge for EUCOM. Current and developing technologies promise a set of non-lethal disabling and incapacitating force response options which will enhance force protection and deterrence capabilities. Current non-lethal capability is focused on tactical, short range, crowd control equipment and techniques. Future non-lethal capabilities promise precision, range and effective payloads to neutralize threats at stand-off distances while minimizing friendly casualties, particularly in the urban environment. Further development and acquisition of long-range precision non-lethal systems will provide the capability to clear personnel from facilities and structures; to deny access to areas to both personnel and vehicles; and to conduct non-invasive searches of vessels using imaging, acoustical, and chemical, biological, and radiological detection devices. These capabilities have application across the spectrum of conflict and offer alternatives to traditional manpower intensive means of physical security, crowd control, force protection, and search and seizure.

Supporting U.S. Central Command

EUCOM provides vital support to U.S. Central Command (CENTCOM) in its prosecution of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM (OEF) and Operation IRAQI FREEDOM (OIF). Over 16,000 EUCOM-based personnel are currently deployed to the CENTCOM AOR. Since 9-11, EUCOM has continuously maintained a Joint Operations Center (JOC) to monitor ongoing OEF and OIF activities and rapidly respond to Global War on Terrorism missions. In addition to providing combat and support forces (including V Corps, 1st Armored Division, 1st Infantry Division, and the 173rd Airborne Brigade), EUCOM contributions to OEF and OIF have included humanitarian airlift support, logistics support, evacuation and treatment of casualties, surveillance, compliant boarding of suspect merchant vessels, movement of detainees to Guantanamo Bay, and training and equipping Coalition Forces. Of particular significance is recent coalition support to provide security to the successful elections in Afghanistan and Iraq. A large percentage of all Iraqi theater communications are routed through EUCOM links.

As many members of Congress and this Committee have seen, Landstuhl Regional Medical Center (LRMC) is vital to caring for our service members and their families as we prosecute the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT). LRMC is the principal tertiary medical facility outside the United States. Over 21,000 patients from Afghanistan and Iraq have been treated at this critical facility that serves as the main evacuation site for 37 of our coalition partners since 2003. LRMC's strategic location astride our en route infrastructure and near the combat area of operations directly contributes to the 98 percent survival rate for soldiers wounded in action.

Additionally, as the largest American tertiary medical facility outside the U.S., LRMC has responsibility for a beneficiary population of 508,000 uniformed members, civilian employees and family members in the EUCOM and CENTCOM AORs. Two Fisher Houses, opened since 18 June 2001 and 4 December 2002 respectively, offer critical support to the LRMC community. Located on the LRMC grounds, these temporary residences provide a home away from home for families during medical treatment and have been 100 percent occupied since opening.

Relationship with Joint Forces Command

The U.S. Joint Forces Command (JFCOM) plays a pivotal role in the transformation of the U.S. Armed Forces. As the advocate for Combatant Commanders, JFCOM promotes the infusion of future technologies, manages the

sourcing of forces necessary to carry out peacetime as well as combat operations, and establishes tactics, techniques, and procedures for shifting to a capability-based force. The importance of the close cooperation between EUCOM and JFCOM can be seen in the Advanced Concept Technologies Demonstration (ACTD) program.

As EUCOM identifies capability gaps, JFCOM provides access to emerging technologies to meet these shortfalls and provides opportunities for the Combatant Commanders to assess these technologies in field conditions. JFCOM's lead in the ACTD efforts is critical to bringing technology to the warfighter as quickly as possible. Ongoing efforts include several projects to demonstrate net-centric Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) interoperability, as well as Coalition Combat Identification systems.

JFCOM is also laying the foundation for the implementation of the Global Force Management (GFM) concept. This is especially vital to EUCOM as we balance our capabilities between permanently assigned and rotational forces. As a significant portion of standing forces return to the Continental United States (CONUS) from Europe, EUCOM will be increasingly dependant upon rotational force deployments to execute our Theater Security Cooperation (TSC) strategy. Our close coordination with JFCOM ensures that we are developing methodologies to identify global force requirements while enhancing EUCOM's strategic posture. By maintaining the delicate balance between resourcing current operational requirements and future capabilities commitments, we are posturing for our future success.

Theater Security Cooperation

EUCOM's Theater Security Cooperation (TSC) programs are the centerpiece of our efforts to promote security and stability by building and strengthening relationships with our allies and regional partners and are an indispensable component of our overarching theater strategy. They are regionally focused and assist our allies with the development of capabilities required to conduct peacekeeping and contingency operations with U.S. forces. Well trained, disciplined allied and friendly forces reduce the conditions that lead to conflict, prepare the way for warfighting success, and ultimately mitigate the burden on U.S. forces. Most importantly, Theater Security Cooperation efforts support the long-term strategic objectives of the Global War on Terrorism by building understanding and consensus on the terrorist threat; laying foundations for future "coalitions of the willing;" and extending our country's security perimeter.

Security Cooperation Activities

Security Cooperation Activities are managed programs planned and executed for the purpose of shaping the future security environment in ways favorable to U.S. interests. Key among EUCOM's TSC tools are Foreign Military Financing, Foreign Military Sales, Direct Commercial Sales, and International Military Education and Training. These programs provide access and influence, help build professional, capable militaries in allied and friendly nations, and promote interoperability with U.S. forces. We execute the larger security assistance programs using our 44 Offices of Defense Cooperation in concert with U.S. Embassy Country Teams, while smaller programs are executed by Defense Attachés and Embassy Offices.

Security Assistance

Foreign Military Financing (FMF) provides critical resources to assist nations without the financial means to acquire U.S. military equipment and training. It is an essential instrument of influence; builds allied and coalition military capabilities; and improves interoperability between forces. Poland, Georgia, Romania, and Bulgaria are among our top FMF recipients and all are effectively serving beside our forces in Operations ENDURING FREEDOM and IRAQI FREEDOM. This years FMF request for countries in the EUCOM AOR, included in the International Affairs (Function 150) account, totals \$2.51 billion.

Foreign Military Sales (FMS) and Direct Commercial Sales (DCS) demonstrate our nation's continued commitment to the security of our allies and friends by allowing them to acquire superior U.S. military equipment and training. FMS and DCS sales are vital to improving interoperability with U.S. forces, closing NATO capability gaps, and modernizing the military forces of our new allies and partners. The F-16 and High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV) sales to Poland and C-17 lease to the United Kingdom illustrate the crucial importance of these programs.

International Military Education and Training (IMET) [including *Expanded IMET (E-IMET)*] provide education and training opportunities for foreign military (IMET) and civilian personnel (E-IMET). These programs enhance coalition operations by improving military-to-military cooperation and interoperability; reinforcing civilian control of the military; advancing the principles of responsible governance; and supporting the stability of newly-formed democracies. As a result of the relationships that develop from this program, our return on investment in long-term access and influence is

significantly enhanced. Consequently, our interests are disproportionately injured if this program is reduced or sanctioned. Today's IMET participants are tomorrow's senior foreign military and civilian leaders. In Africa, IMET and E-IMET have been the most successful programs in promoting professional militaries that respect democracy and human rights. The EUCOM portion of the fiscal year 2006 IMET request is \$12.935 million and like FME, is also included in the International Affairs (Function 150) account.

Defense and Military Contacts

Another viable influencing activity is Defense and Military Contacts. Under this program professional military contacts build valuable, often life-long relationships at all levels that serve to enhance cooperation and advance U.S. strategic interests. One of the most successful and influential programs employed by EUCOM is the National Guard *State Partnership Program* (SPP). The SPP links U.S. states and territories with partner countries for the purpose of supporting EUCOM's security cooperation objectives and assists partner nations in making the transition from authoritarian to democratic governments. The unique civil-military nature of the Guard allows it to actively participate in a wide range of security cooperation activities that provide great flexibility in meeting our Theater Security Cooperation objectives. Currently there are 25 states partnered with 23 foreign nations in the EUCOM AOR.

This past year was extremely successful as National Guard Soldiers and Airmen conducted over 115 events with partner nations. Indeed, SPP has been so successful that EUCOM is aggressively seeking funding to expand the program in Africa. In the last two years, four partnerships have been added: South Africa - New York; Morocco - Utah; Ghana - North Dakota; Tunisia - Wyoming. SPP is a key Theater Security Cooperation tool that supports U.S. Government objectives by promoting access, bolstering capabilities, and enhancing interoperability.

Multinational Education

Another important security cooperation tool is the *Multinational Education* activities that provide instruction to foreign defense and military personnel by U.S. institutions and programs, both in CONUS and overseas:

- The *Africa Center for Strategic Studies (ACSS)*, since its foundation in 1998, developed into an institution that addresses the challenging strategic issues of the continent's weak political institutions, arms

proliferation, the impact of migration and ethnic and religious conflict;

- The *Near East-South Asia Center for Strategic Studies* conducts executive and senior executive seminars to foster professional defense planning and emphasizes the functions of a military establishment in a pluralistic society. Israeli, Tunisian, Algerian, Moroccan, and Mauritanian military personnel routinely participate in these seminars;
- The *George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies* continues to be at the core of EUCOM's engagement strategy by building trust and cooperative relationships with the leaders (current and future) of over 50 nations across Europe and Eurasia. On the front line in the "Battle of Ideas," the Center endures as an asset EUCOM can count on to engage even seemingly impenetrable countries. Its ever deepening and widening network of resident course graduates and Conference Center participants now totals nearly 16,000, many of whom move into key positions of influence, and recently included members of the new Afghan military. The German-American character of the institution allows the U.S. to promote our policies and ideas with an implicit European stamp of approval. The Marshall Center has increased its focus on the Caucasus and the Central Asian States. The Congress can amplify the already great impact of the Marshall Center by supporting submitted legislative changes that will clarify and streamline funding of participants from strategically vital areas of the world including Iraq;
- The *NATO School* is a EUCOM-supported activity in Oberammergau, Germany, which falls under the operational control of the Allied Command, Transformation. Its primary mission is to conduct courses, training and seminars in support of NATO strategy and policy, including cooperation and dialogue with military and civilian personnel from non-NATO countries. Most recently it has been engaged in the delivery of out-of-country training to members of the fledgling Iraqi National Army.

Regional Approach to Theater Security Cooperation

EUCOM's TSC strategy is derived from regional priority and policy themes stated in the Secretary of Defense's Security Cooperation Guidance. EUCOM has taken a regional approach that links individual country objectives to broader theater goals. In Africa, EUCOM's priorities are to increase the capability of African nations to conduct peacekeeping and contingency

operations in their regions, particularly through the African Union and other regional organizations; to protect natural resources; and to promote stability by assisting medical advice and assistance progress on health issues such as HIV/AIDS, cholera, malaria and other diseases that have humanitarian and strategic consequences.

In Europe, EUCOM's priorities are to assist our allies in developing capabilities to deploy rapidly and operate with U.S. forces; to deepen and strengthen our relations with Poland, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria and Turkey as NATO transforms and increasingly becomes a source for building coalition forces; to shift U.S. focus in Europe to the east and south to strengthen our ability to conduct out-of-area operations; to increase U.S. influence with new NATO members; and to improve partner interoperability. EUCOM will also focus on enhancing stability in the Caucasus and Black Sea regions and assisting Western Balkan countries in their integration into EURO-Atlantic institutions. Multinational training and exercises are essential elements of our regional approach to build military-to-military cooperation, to improve interoperability, and to facilitate the development of professional militaries.

African Regional Initiatives and Programs

The *Gulf of Guinea Guard* is a EUCOM initiative to assist countries in the Gulf Of Guinea in protecting their natural resources and achieving long-term security and stability. The focus of this initiative is to prevent the region's political, economic, and social issues from becoming regional stability problems requiring international involvement. NAVEUR hosted the first Gulf of Guinea Maritime Security Conference in October 2004, which provided momentum to this ongoing initiative.

The *Global Peace Operations Initiative (GPOI)*, enacted as part of the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2005 (PL 108-447), is designed to meet the world's growing need for well-trained peace operations forces by enabling the United States to work with lead nations and selected international organizations to support, equip and train other countries' forces. In Africa, the U.S. will implement by expanding the existing Africa Contingency Operations Training and Assistance program and expand exercise activity aimed at enhancing African capacity to conduct peace support operations. In Europe, we plan to leverage GPOI funding to help the militaries of Eastern Europe and the Caucasus develop their peacekeeping capabilities.

EUCOM established *Joint Task Force AZTEC SILENCE* under the Commander of the U.S. Sixth Fleet in December 2003 to counter transnational terrorism in the under-governed areas of Northern Africa and to build closer alliances with those governments. In support of this, U.S. Navy intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance assets based in Sigonella, Sicily were used to collect and share information with partner nations and their militaries. This robust cooperative ISR effort was augmented by the release of intelligence collected by national assets.

The *Trans-Sahara Counter Terrorism Initiative (TSCTI)* is a proposal to develop the internal security forces necessary to control borders and combat terrorism. This program builds on the successful Pan Sahel Initiative, completed in early 2004, that focused on Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Chad. TSCTI expands to include Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia, Senegal, Ghana, and Nigeria. It increases assistance with detection and response to the migration of asymmetric threats throughout the region. The initiative will also help these nations maintain security by building the capacity to prevent conflict at its inception. TSCTI seeks to maximize the return on investment by implementing reforms to help nations become more self-reliant.

EUCOM has aggressively worked with regional organizations, such as the *African Union (AU)* and *Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)*, to develop a regional ability to respond to crises. Under the EUCOM TSC Strategy, ECOWAS is a regional stability partner. Within West Africa, ECOWAS has continued to champion economic and peace building efforts. The ECOWAS Standby Force will be a model for other regional organizations.

The U.S. needs to continue engagement with nations that are supportive of regional initiatives leading to peace and stability. Regional leaders like Senegal, Ghana and Uganda have not only been willing to support the Global War on Terrorism, but also have been proactive in facilitating dialogue between nations within their area of influence that were once in conflict. Their approach to curbing HIV/AIDS and providing economic stimulus are models that are proven to work in the African context for African nations.

European Regional Initiatives and Programs

During the past year, EUCOM maintained dialogue with European and Eurasian nations. In addition to a variety of conferences conducted, some completed and ongoing programs include:

- In the Caspian Basin, we have made tremendous progress in the last year moving from concept development to full implementation of the *Caspian Guard* initiative which established an integrated airspace, maritime and border control regime for the nations of Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan.
- In Georgia, the Sustainment and Stability Operations Program (SSOP) is geared to training two peacekeeping battalions for service in Iraq. The program combines funding from several sources, including Foreign Military Financing. SSOP also will provide the country with a trained cadre of trainers and staff to support additional sustainment personnel and peacekeeping units. Finally, SSOP will help solidify the progress made during the Georgia Train and Equip program and continue to assist in the implementation of western standards in the Georgian armed forces.
- In Poland, we provided assistance with the successful bed-down of F-16s purchased through the Foreign Military Sales Program. U.S. Air Force experts are assisting their Polish counterparts with developing plans to make these new weapons systems fully operational.
- With Russia, the U.S. conducted Exercise NORTHERN EAGLE in the North Sea in September 2004. This bilateral maritime exercise focused on maritime interdiction operations and was designed to share naval tactics and techniques in order to increase interoperability and develop common operating baselines. Additionally, our USAREUR Army Forces conducted Exercise TORGAU '04 with the Russian Land Forces north of Moscow in the summer of 2004. We will build on TORGAU '04 with TORGAU '05, an ambitious Russian-U.S. land exercise to be conducted sequentially in Russia then concluding in Germany in the summer of 2005. This will be the largest, most ambitious land exercise we have conducted with the Russians since the end of the Cold War. TORGAU '05 will exercise expansive echelons of U.S. and Russian commands, ranging from combat vehicle interoperability with crew exchanges, all the way to a large scale senior command combined arms peace enforcement / security and stability simulation.

- In Turkey, we are helping promote the Center of Excellence-Defense Against Terrorism (CoE-DaT) into a world-class center in the fight against terrorism. The Turkish CoE-DaT directly supports U.S. security goals by building a common understanding of the operational and strategic terms and objectives in the Global War on Terrorism. The Center will also provide a key venue for NATO outreach to the broader Middle East and North African countries. Active participation in this center will give the United States the ability to shape the curriculum of the CoE-DaT. The United States will also have direct influence on the perceptions and motivations of the students attending the training; students who by design will be shaping antiterrorism programs and policies in their own countries.
- In Ukraine, we are working to establish a comprehensive interoperability program for that nation's Joint Rapid Reaction Force. The goal is to establish two fully NATO-interoperable Ukrainian brigade task forces, which will greatly enhance its capability to participate in international coalition and peacekeeping operations.

Coordination of Theater Security Cooperation: The Clearinghouse Approach

A regional TSC approach is being refined, in part, through clearinghouse initiatives. Clearinghouses, created for Africa, the South Caucasus, and Southeast Europe, allow the United States to coordinate its actions with other nations involved in security cooperation in the same region. Each serves as a multi-national forum for interested countries to share information about their security assistance programs for specific regions. The objective is to optimize the use of limited resources by merging the various security cooperation programs into a comprehensive, synchronized regional effort. Clearinghouses provide a medium for deconflicting programs, avoiding duplication and finding ways to collaborate and cooperate.

- The *Southeast Europe Clearinghouse*, aimed at the three Adriatic Charter nations (Albania, Croatia, Macedonia) plus Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Serbia and Montenegro, is open to all NATO, European Union, and partner countries (Russia and Ukraine specifically) that have engagement programs in Southeastern Europe. The objectives of this clearinghouse are to assist the Adriatic Charter nations in their efforts toward NATO

membership and to speed the integration of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia and Montenegro into the Euro-Atlantic Community.

- The *South Caucasus Clearinghouse* is now firmly established as a forum for EUCOM, our European partners, and international organizations like NATO and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to coordinate security cooperation programs with Armenia, Azerbaijan, and Georgia. This clearinghouse focuses on defense reform, energy security, maritime security, disaster response, peacekeeping, and training and education.
- The *Africa Clearinghouse*, EUCOM's most recent initiative has brought thirteen African countries together with NATO, the United Nations, and the European Union. The inaugural conference, held in May 2004, focused on West Africa and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). The regional approach continued in December 2004 with a conference concentrated on east Africa.

IV. GROWING STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF AFRICA

Torn apart by war, disease and poverty, and marked by vast ungoverned spaces, Africa can be a haven for our enemies in the Global War on Terrorism. That is why stability on that continent has emerged as such a key goal of EUCOM's strategic plan. Despite obvious problems, African nations are joining together and making progress in their quest to provide security and stability for Africans. The United States should concentrate resources and efforts to assist our African partners in building their regional capabilities.

EUCOM has created relationships with, and actively assists three major multi-national organizations in Africa: the African Union; the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS); and the United Nations (UN). The African Union, formed in 2002, comprises more than 50 nations, and is progressing toward establishment of the Africa Standby Force. It is envisioned that this force will be comprised of five regional brigades that can support the type of challenging security requirements the continent offers. Our investment in AU capabilities today will reap tremendous benefits in the future by giving Africans the capability to deal with challenging issues before they require international intervention.

ECOWAS is a regional organization of 16 West African nations formed in 1975. Its military intervention in Liberia in 2003 proved to be a successful undertaking, but not without substantial multinational support. Working

collectively with the United Kingdom, France, Canada, and several other countries, EUCOM has sought to help build ECOWAS' capacity for conducting peacekeeping operations to a level which requires limited U.S. and European logistic support, and no U.S. troop support, during any regional crisis. With coordinated support and encouragement from the United States, allied donor nations including non-governmental organizations and international corporations, ECOWAS has measurably improved its capacity to respond to regionally supported operations.

We have worked closely with Uganda in the prosecution of a local terrorist organization, resulting in a country more prepared to counter insurgencies that threaten internal and regional stability. Other nations in the region have not only expressed interest in similar activities, but also provide capabilities that are found only within their region.

Many other countries in Africa have shown both the willingness and the capability to support peacekeeping operations. Nigeria provided strategic airlift for crucial peacekeeping operations in Liberia and Sudan. Gabon has taken a lead role in the UN mission in the Central African Republic. South Africa has supported several international military missions. Although the African Union continues to improve its peace support operations capacity, the UN remains very active on the continent. For example, there are currently more than 43,000 United Nations military peace keepers involved in operations in Sierra Leone, Liberia, Cote d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Burundi.

The major U.S. security objectives in Africa should be to eliminate ungoverned areas, to counter extremism, and to end conflict and reduce the chronic instability that hampers and often extinguishes hope for political and economic development. Development of effective security structures in Africa will lay the foundation for future success; however, they are dependent upon on a new level of commitment to devote the manpower, financial, and institutional resources necessary to establish and sustain real progress. We must craft a policy that recognizes the growing strategic importance of Africa and its potential to become the next front in the Global War on Terrorism. African security issues will continue to directly affect our homeland security. It appears that we have a small window of opportunity to make relatively modest near-term investments to avoid massive problems requiring U.S. intervention in the future that could prove costly.