

ARMY LOGISTICIAN

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 1997

Repair
Capabilities

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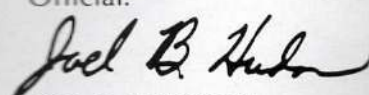
These M114 155-millimeter towed howitzers are being inspected and repaired at Rock Island Arsenal, Illinois. The 116 refurbished howitzers will be shipped to Bosnia and used by that Balkan nation's armed forces. The M114 howitzer dates back to the mid-1940's, underscoring the importance of the Army's repair capabilities. Articles about Army repair processes begin on pages 26 and 32. (Photo by Ted Cavanaugh, RIA.)

This medium is approved for the official dissemination of material designed to keep individuals within the Army knowledgeable of current and emerging developments within their areas of expertise for the purpose of enhancing their professional development.

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03899

USAREUR Focused Logistics

by Major Darren B. Zimmer



U.S. Army, Europe, logistics operations directly parallel the Army Vision 2010 concept of focused logistics.

In preparation for the Army's leap into the 21st century, logisticians of U.S. Army, Europe (USAREUR), have transformed the European theater support structure to conform to the Army's Vision 2010 model. This can be seen in USAREUR logistics operations for Operations Joint Endeavor and Joint Guard, which directly parallel the tenets of focused logistics stated in Army Vision 2010: fusion of information, logistics, and transportation technologies to provide rapid crisis response, to track and shift assets even while en route, and to deliver tailored logistics packages and sustainment directly at the strategic, operational, and tactical levels of operations.

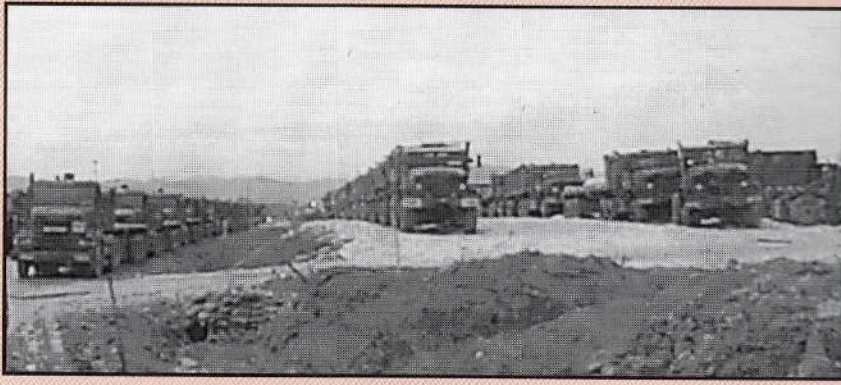
Fusion of Information Technology

USAREUR's modern information technology has enabled managers to make accurate and expedient decisions for the logistics support of Operation Joint Guard and its predecessor, Operation Joint Endeavor. Total asset visibility of materiel in the distribution pipeline makes it possible for USAREUR to divert backlogged cargo to alternative modes of transportation as well as obtain critical items through expedited

deliveries. USAREUR routinely uses the Defense Transportation Tracking System to locate convoys. This system also has a remote equipment monitoring and diagnostic capability.

By using radio frequency (RF) tags, combat service support (CSS) activities can locate specific containers of supplies, rapidly inventory them, tailor them as necessary, and quickly transport the resulting push packages to the supported unit. The Standard Army Retail Supply System, incorporated throughout the theater and within the area of operations, is used to leverage theater stocks, streamline requisitions, support split operations, and manage materiel distribution. USAREUR logisticians also have introduced numerous logistics wargaming simulations into the planning process so they can develop alternative plans before operations occur.

On the strategic and operational levels, the global transportation network, joint total asset visibility, and World Wide Web systems, together with RF tags and Defense Transportation Tracking System transponders, help USAREUR and Department of the Army logistics offices monitor the flow of materiel and supplies from



□ The photo at left is an aerial view of Guardian Base, the main logistics hub for U.S. forces in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The large building houses the Logistics Task Force Headquarters, maintenance bays, and the supply support activity warehouse. Above, line haul and fueler vehicles are lined up in the Guardian Base parking area. Below, a container-handling unit (CHU) is offloaded at a base camp in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The prototype CHU attaches to a palletized loading system truck without the need for a flatrack.



the United States directly to field units. This gives the decisionmakers information needed to streamline and enhance the logistics system where required. The Joint Operation Planning and Execution System integrates strategic and theater airlift, the theater rail system, and line haul. The Standard Theater Army Command and Control System is used to track real-time departures, in-transit locations, and arrival times of trains loaded with troops, equipment, and supplies. With this technology, the command logisticians can maneuver and redirect trains, buses, barges, and trucks that are en route, thus smoothing the flow through known choke points. Using these systems, the USAREUR logistics network is able to respond to the theater's challenges at speeds that were not possible with the rigid organizational capabilities of the past.

Tailored CSS Organizations

The USAREUR CSS organization has been tailored to use the vast capabilities of the forces in Central Europe to support the unique nature of Operations Joint Endeavor and Joint Guard. Logistics efforts are

coordinated through a focal point at the intermediate staging base (ISB) at Kaposvar, Hungary. From their forward position in the ISB, logisticians can manage the system skillfully and match support to requirements. They also can coordinate the day-to-day services and support provided to the field soldiers by various national support agencies, such as the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) and the Army Materiel Command.

Within the Task Force Eagle area of responsibility, the support architecture is tailored similarly. Division direct support units are collocated with corps and echelons-above-corps support units as well as with the national support agencies' field units. The synergy of this tailored support eliminates a lot of duplication and solves many of the problems associated with lack of communications and the inflexible nature of the traditional support architecture.

Throughout the theater, USAREUR works closely with the other services and Defense agencies to make the best use of the services available from businesses in the civilian sector. For example, DLA negotiated with European companies to obtain bulk fuel and subsistence locally. Also, USAREUR worked closely with DLA and the Hungarian and Croatian Governments to establish a system for reuse or disposal of scrap and uneconomically repairable equipment and materiel. Probably the most efficient use of civilian resources in the theater is the hiring of local civilians through the Logistics Civil Augmentation Program (LOGCAP) to provide services that the Department of Defense cannot perform.

USAREUR has embraced fully the Army Vision 2010 concept of focused logistics. Continued development and refinement of this concept by USAREUR and the rest of the Army will provide tremendous value to future generations of joint logisticians and their supported units. **ALOG**

Major Darren B. Zimmer is the support operations officer for the 201st Forward Support Battalion, 1st Infantry Division (Mechanized), Vilseck, Germany. When he wrote this article, he was the operations officer in the Current Operations Branch, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, U.S. Army, Europe, in Heidelberg, Germany. He is a graduate of Washington State University, the Transportation Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, and the Combined Arms and Services Staff School.