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INFO MEMO

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February 21, 2003, 08:55 AM

FOR: SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

FROM: David S. C. Chu, Under Secretary of Defense (P&R)

(Signature and date)

SUBJECT: Proposed Air Force Stop Loss Implementation

- The Air Force has proposed, and I support, implementation of Stop Loss authority to ensure units remain adequately manned. The Air Force factored in the requirements of steady state taskings, as well as Operations Plan 1003V.
- The Air Force estimates 21,000 members of their total force will be impacted through December 1, 2003. The plan targets the most stressed specialties -- 31 officer specialties (38% of officer force) and 40 enlisted specialties (27% of enlisted force).
- Specialties will be evaluated every 60 days to align the force mix to identified operational demands.
- Humanitarian concerns are provided for. Those exempted include persons with involuntary/hardship discharges, mandatory retirements/separations, discharge by reason of conscientious objector status, members who have shipped/scheduled to ship household goods, members on terminal leave, and members who were previously stop loss and have since established a retirement or separation date.
- Potential impact to FY 2003 Air Force active component end strength is anticipated to be about 4,700 (i.e. not more than 1.4% above 359,000 end strength); however, Air Force would slightly exceed end strength even if this stop loss initiative were not implemented.

COORDINATION: Director of Manpower and Personnel (J1), Joint Staff

Joint Staff
concurs.

2/25 Prepared by: Lt Col Tim Donohue, ODUSD(MPP)OEPM, (703) 695-6334

SecDef This is similar to what
you recently approved for the Army in
Korea.

D. R. K.

SPL ASSISTANT DI RITA	2/25
SR MA CRADDOCK	2/26
MA BUGGI	2/26
EXECSEC WHITMORE	4/25

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