

## TALKING POINTS OEF FORCE INCREASE

### U.S. Army

- The Army fully supports the President's decision and understands it is about giving our Soldiers the best opportunity to prevail in their mission.
  - Even as we undertake these new requirements, we will continue to make progress towards the Boots on the Ground (BOG)-Dwell goals of 1:2 Active Component / 1:4 Reserve Component (one year deployed: two years home for active component/ one year deployed: four years home for Reserves) we set for 2011.
  - We will do it without impacting our phase-out of stop-loss, without relying on 15-month combat tours and without having less than a year at home between deployments.
  - Given continued drawdown of our forces in Iraq, our force planning assessments indicate about 70% of the active component force and about 80% of the reserve component force will still be able to achieve the BOG-Dwell goals we set for 2011.
  - Certain active and reserve component enabling forces will be delayed in achieving our goals and include: combat aviation, engineer, explosive ordnance disposal, military police, and logistics units.
  - Unit BOG-Dwell rates for these forces will continue to improve as we create additional capacity over the next several years. Some individual dwell will lag unit dwell.
  
- The Secretary of the Army and Chief of Staff of the Army's campaign to restore balance will continue along the same lines of effort.
  - Increase the time between deployments (BOG-Dwell), build greater predictability for units, and progressively adapt our institutions to better manage the force generation process.

- The deployment of forces will delay some of the unit goals for restoring balance, but not regress on the improvements achieved so far.
  - We are committed to making progress in restoring balance, and given the current drawdown in Iraq, we believe we can keep moving forward toward our BOG-Dwell goals of 1:2 for the active force and 1:4 for the reserve component.
  
- The Army's recent Transformation efforts have added some 70,000 Soldiers to the Army since 2004 (with 40,000 of that achieved in the last two years).
  - Army Transformation has also changed the face of the Army with additional civil affairs, military police, engineer, and other counter-insurgency forces, and increased the number of brigades available.
  
- The Army put ourselves on a program in 2007 to begin putting ourselves back in balance.
  - We are not out of the woods yet but we are in a much better position this year to deal with unexpected demands than we were two years ago.
  - Our Nation counts on the Army to organize, train, and equip forces that can deploy and achieve the strategic objectives the President sets forth. That is why we exist.
  - That is why we have to keep moving forward to both prevail in the current mission and restore balance over the longer term.
  
- The Army will notify the units most immediately affected once deployment orders are approved by the Secretary of Defense.