Following the end of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, the patterns of U.S. involvement in the world are changing significantly in a new security environment, including a shift in the global balance of power beginning with the military rise of China, attempts to change the status quo by force or coercion in Ukraine and the South China Sea, and the intensification of the activities of international terrorist organizations such as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). While faced with a severe financial situation, the United States is anticipated to continue to play a role in the peace and stability of the world by drawing on its world-leading, comprehensive national power.

The National Security Strategy (NSS) released in February 2015 underscores that the United States would continue to play a leading role in tackling a variety of challenges, such as the threat of terrorism, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMDs), and cyber attacks, as well as advance a rules-based international order and take collective action with its allies and partners, while continuing to pursue the four national interests outlined in the 2010 NSS: (1) the security of the United States, its citizens, and U.S. allies and partners; (2) a strong, innovative, and growing U.S. economy that promotes prosperity; (3) respect for universal values at home and around the world; and (4) a rules-based international order that promotes peace, security, and opportunity.

As is outlined in its strategy documents, the United States intends to maintain the pivot to the Asia-Pacific region, continuing to rebalance towards the region to deepen relations with its allies and other countries in the Asia-Pacific region and to enhance both the quantity and quality of U.S. assets deployed to the region. Mindful of China’s recent moves to unilaterally change the status quo and create a fait accompli in the South China Sea through reclaiming land, building bases there, and utilizing them for military purposes, the United States has indicated that it would continue its Freedom of Navigation Operations (see Part I, Chapter 3, Section 3-3 [p. 144]) to protect the rights and freedoms under international law.

Concurrently, the United States deals with security issues outside of the Asia-Pacific region. In response to the attacks in Iraq and Syria since 2014 by ISIL and other organizations, the United States, since August 2014, has led Operation Inherent Resolve (OIR), a military operation against ISIL that includes airstrikes (the activities of the military operation of the coalition against ISIL led by the United States are discussed in the next chapter, Section 1). With regard to Afghanistan, in October 2015, President Barack Obama revised the plan to withdraw U.S. troops by the end of 2016, announcing a new plan to maintain the current strength of 9,800 troops in 2016 and have 5,500 troops stationed in 2017 and beyond. Furthermore, in order to strengthen the deterrent of the U.S. Forces in Europe facing a large influx of refugees and an increasingly tense situation...
in Ukraine due to Russia, the FY2017 budget request of the Department of Defense (DoD) has increased the budget related to the European Reassurance Initiative\(^2\) to approximately US$3.4 billion, over four times more than the previous fiscal year’s allocation.

Looking ahead, the focus will be on how the changes in the situation in the Middle East and Europe and the outcome of the presidential election in November 2016 will impact existing U.S. policies, including the Rebalance to the Asia-Pacific region.

In other efforts, the United States also promotes the Third Offset Strategy (see Section 4 [p. 12]) to develop military technologies in new fields to maintain and increase the superiority of the U.S. Forces, deeming that its military superiority is gradually eroding in light of recent trends, including China and other countries’ enhanced “Anti-Access/Area-Denial” (“A2/AD”) capabilities. Additionally, the U.S. Forces makes active efforts to secure talent and improve its working environment as part of the Force of the Future\(^3\) being implemented since Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter took office in February 2015. In December 2015, the U.S. Forces decided to open all positions to women personnel on the condition that they meet the requirements of the position.

\[\text{Understanding of Security}\]

In the NSS released in February 2015, President Obama outlined that today the United States and the international community face challenges, including a rising risk of attacks on the United States and its allies due to violent extremism and the terrorist threat, escalating challenges to cybersecurity, aggression by Russia, and the outbreak of infectious diseases. President Obama went on to state that the United States has a unique capability to mobilize and lead the international community to meet these challenges, and that strong and sustained U.S. leadership will safeguard U.S. security interests.

The National Military Strategy released in July 2015 explicitly refers to Russia, Iran, North Korea, and China as “revisionist states” that attempt to revise key aspects of the international order and are acting in a manner that threatens U.S. national security interests.\(^4\) The strategy notes that there are increasing concerns about interstate war compared to the past ten years, and that violent extremist organizations such as ISIL are becoming imminent threats. In his State of the Union address in January 2016, President Obama placed greater emphasis on the threat posed by failing states than by “evil empires,” and vowed that ISIL and Al Qaeda pose a direct threat to U.S. citizens. In February 2016, Defense Secretary Carter identified that five issues were taken into account in compiling the DoD budget request, namely, Russia, China, North Korea, Iran, and terrorism, especially ISIL.

Considering all of these aspects together, it is regarded that the United States sees violent extremist organizations such as ISIL and Al Qaeda as short-term security threats, and nations attempting to threaten the existing international order or the interests of the United States and its allies as mid- to long-term security threats.

\[\text{Defense Strategy}\]

The QDR released in March 2014 states that three pillars, which are interrelated and mutually reinforcing, would be emphasized in order to embody priorities outlined in the Defense Strategic Guidance including rebalancing to the Asia-Pacific region and maintaining a strong commitment to stability in Europe and the Middle East, namely: protect the homeland; build security globally; and project power and win decisively.\(^5\)

The QDR states that across the three pillars, the U.S. Forces are capable of simultaneously implementing the following undertakings, and if deterrence fails at any given time, the U.S. Forces could defeat a regional adversary in a large-scale multi-phased campaign, and deny the objectives of—or imposing unacceptable costs on—another aggressor in another region.\(^6\)

---

\(^2\) This initiative measures allies and partners of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) that the United States is committed to their security and territorial integrity. The initiative includes measures such as increasing the presence of the U.S. Forces in Europe, conducting further bilateral and multilateral training and exercises with NATO allies and other countries, and strengthening the prepositioning of U.S. equipment in Europe.

\(^3\) The concrete measures proposed in the Force of the Future concept include: increasing opportunities for internships at the DoD for university students; promoting public-private exchanges (e.g., allowing talented engineers from the private sector to engage in specific projects of the DoD for a specified period only, or allowing DoD personnel to work in the private sector and bring advanced technologies back to the DoD); extending paid maternity leave; adding flexibility to be able to stay on a post at a station for family reasons; and enabling the receipt of pension without working for at least 20 years as was required.

\(^4\) In July 2015, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Joseph Dunford testified at his nomination hearing at the Senate that the greatest security threat was Russia due to its nuclear capabilities and aggressive behavior. He stated that if he had to rank countries in the order of their threat level, second would be China due to its growing military power, presence in the Pacific region, and its interest in such pursuits.

\(^5\) This priority is divided into the following:

1. Protect the homeland: Maintain the capability to deter and defeat attacks on the United States. Protection of the homeland includes assisting U.S. civil authorities in protecting U.S. airspace, shores, and borders, and in responding effectively to domestic disasters.
2. Build security globally: Continue a strong U.S. commitment to shaping world events in order to deter and prevent conflict and to assure the allies and partners of the shared security.
3. Project power and win decisively: The U.S. Forces deter acts of aggression in one or more theaters by remaining capable of decisively defeating adversaries, while projecting power to provide humanitarian assistance and disaster relief.

\(^6\) The 2010 QDR stated that the U.S. Forces possess the capability of countering attacks by two countries while also being able to conduct a wide range of operations. The 2012 Defense Strategic Guidance states that the United States maintains forces that are able to fully deny a capable state’s aggressive objectives in one region while being capable of denying the objectives of—or imposing unacceptable costs on—an opportunistic aggressor in a second region.
1) Defending homeland
2) Conducting sustained, distributed counterterrorist operations
3) Deterring aggression and assuring allies through forward presence and engagement in multiple regions

Furthermore, in order to achieve the three pillars, the DoD seeks innovative approaches to how it fights, how it postures its force, and how it leverages its asymmetric strengths and technological advantages. More specifically, the QDR mentions positioning additional forward-deployed naval forces in critical areas, such as the Asia-Pacific region, and deploying new combinations of ships, aviation assets, and crisis response forces.

The QDR states that the Joint Force would: rebalance for a broad spectrum of conflict; rebalance and sustain its presence and posture abroad; rebalance capability, capacity, and readiness; and equip itself with advanced capabilities and readiness while scaling back the U.S. Forces. The QDR notes that even as budget and other resource cuts are made, the DoD would give priority to the following capability areas that are in close alignment with the pillars of the defense strategy: (1) missile defense; (2) nuclear deterrence; (3) cyber; (4) space; (5) air/sea; (6) precision strike; (7) intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance (ISR); (8) counter terror and special operations; and (9) resilience.

## Rebalance to the Asia-Pacific Region

As indicated by the Defense Strategic Guidance, the QDR, and the NSS, the United States places emphasis on the Asia-Pacific region and is continuing a policy to enhance its presence in the region. In November 2011, President Obama delivered a speech to the Australian Parliament, clearly stating, for the first time, that he would give top priority to the U.S. presence and mission in the Asia-Pacific region. The President indicated that the United States would maintain its strong presence in Japan and the Republic of Korea (ROK), while enhancing its presence in Southeast Asia. Furthermore, the QDR states that the centerpiece of the DoD commitment to the rebalance to the Asia-Pacific region is to update and enhance security initiatives with its allies in the region, including Japan. Additionally, the QDR notes that by 2020, the U.S. Forces would station 60% of the assets of the Navy and Air Force in the Asia-Pacific region. Concrete examples of the enhancement of the U.S. Force presence in the Asia-Pacific region include enhanced presence of the U.S. Forces in Australia, including through the rotational deployment of the U.S. Marine Corps to Northern Australia and increased access of U.S. Air Force aircraft to Australian Defence Force (ADF) facilities and areas in Northern Australia.

In addition, the United States has repeatedly conducted joint military exercises and provided military technologies and assistance to Southeast Asian countries to build trusting relationships and strengthen the readiness of these countries. The Asia-Pacific Maritime Security Strategy that the DoD released in August 2015 recognizes the importance of the Asia-Pacific region and its maritime territories, and identifies the DoD’s maritime objectives as: (1) safeguard the freedom of the

---

7 The capability areas constitute primarily of the following:
(1) Missile defense: Increasing the number of Ground-Based Interceptors, deploying an additional radar in Japan, increasing the reliability, efficiency, and discrimination capabilities of interceptors, studying the best location for deploying Ground-Based Interceptors
(2) Nuclear deterrence: Continuing to invest in modernizing delivery systems, warheads, command and control, and nuclear weapon infrastructure
(3) Cyber: Forming a Cyber Mission Force by late September 2018 comprised of National Mission Teams (13 teams), Cyber Protection Teams (68 teams), Combat Mission Teams (27 teams), and Support Teams (25 teams) (a total of 133 teams)
(4) Space: Diversifying and expanding the coverage of Space Situational Awareness, accelerating initiatives to counter adversary space capabilities including ISR and precision strike
(5) Air/Sea: Countering A2/AD threats by investing in combat aircraft, including fighters and long-range strike, survivable persistent surveillance, resilient architectures, and undersea warfare
(6) Precision strike: Procuring advanced air-to-surface missiles and a long-range anti-ship cruise missile to improve the joint ability of U.S. Forces to attack airspace defended by the adversary
(7) ISR: Making focused investments in systems that will function effectively in air space defended by the adversary and areas that the U.S. Forces are denied entry or free maneuver, expanding use of space ISR systems
(8) Counter terror and special operations: Increasing the Special Operations Forces (SOF) to 69,700 personnel, mobilizing more SOF to support the Joint Force to counter a range of challenges across the globe
(9) Resilience: Improving the ability to maintain and restore the functions of air, naval, ground, space, and missile-defense capabilities against attacks, dispersing land and naval expeditionary forces, investing in capabilities to repair runways more quickly

8 In November 2011, U.S. President Obama and then Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard jointly announced U.S.-Australia Force Posture Initiatives that include: (1) the rotational deployment of the U.S. Marine Corps to Darwin and other areas in Northern Australia for around six months every year where they would conduct exercises and training with the ADF; and (2) increased access of U.S. Air Force aircraft to ADF facilities and areas in Northern Australia.
Chapter 2  
Defense Policies of Countries

Part I Security Environment Surrounding Japan

In November 2014, then U.S. Secretary of Defense Hagel announced the Defense Innovation Initiative and expressed his expectation that it would develop into a third offset strategy. Since the 1950s, the United States has invested in the development of military technologies in new fields in which adversaries do not have capabilities. Through a strategy of acquiring asymmetrical means to offset an adversary’s capabilities, the United States has maintained military operational and technological superiority. Today, however, such U.S. superiority is gradually eroding as a result of potential adversaries modernizing their military forces and acquiring advanced military capabilities, and with technologies proliferating. The United States notes that this initiative was established to newly identify innovative ways to sustain and expand U.S. superiority, utilizing limited resources.

U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense Bob Work, who is leading the work of establishing this initiative, states that the third offset strategy is aimed at gaining technological, organizational, and operational superiority over adversaries, in order to strengthen deterrence using conventional assets against great powers, taking Russia and China into account. He states that to this end, investments would be made with priority on human-machine collaboration and combat teaming. In addition, Deputy Secretary Work explains that the competitive environments have changed significantly due to innovations in commercial technologies, and in order to follow and make use of commercial technologies, the United States must work more closely with the private sector. He further notes that the proliferation of technology could cause loss of superiority in a short timeframe.

The FY2017 budget request sets forth the advancement of this initiative. The budget request identifies that the priority technology areas include: assured positioning, navigation, and timing; large displacement unmanned undersea vehicles; high speed strike weapons; and arsenal plane.

---

**Third Offset Strategy**

In November 2014, then U.S. Secretary of Defense Hagel announced the Defense Innovation Initiative and expressed his expectation that it would develop into a third offset strategy. Since the 1950s, the United States has invested in the development of military technologies in new fields in which adversaries do not have capabilities. Through a strategy of acquiring asymmetrical means to offset an adversary’s capabilities, the United States has maintained military operational and technological superiority. Today, however, such U.S. superiority is gradually eroding as a result of potential adversaries modernizing their military forces and acquiring advanced military capabilities, and with technologies proliferating. The United States notes that this initiative was established to newly identify innovative ways to sustain and expand U.S. superiority, utilizing limited resources.

U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense Bob Work, who is leading the work of establishing this initiative, states that the third offset strategy is aimed at gaining technological, organizational, and operational superiority over adversaries, in order to strengthen deterrence using conventional assets against great powers, taking Russia and China into account. He states that to this end, investments would be made with priority on human-machine collaboration and combat teaming. In addition, Deputy Secretary Work explains that the competitive environments have changed significantly due to innovations in commercial technologies, and in order to follow and make use of commercial technologies, the United States must work more closely with the private sector. He further notes that the proliferation of technology could cause loss of superiority in a short timeframe.

The FY2017 budget request sets forth the advancement of this initiative. The budget request identifies that the priority technology areas include: assured positioning, navigation, and timing; large displacement unmanned undersea vehicles; high speed strike weapons; and arsenal plane.

---

9 Fast and agile vessels designed to defeat asymmetrical threats with A2 capability in near-shore environments.
10 Radar whose purpose is to detect and track ballistic missiles (also called “X-band radar” as it operates in the “X-band” frequency). The United States notes that the additional deployment of this radar to Japan would provide enhanced early warning and tracking capability of any missile launched from North Korea.
11 In April 2014, then U.S. Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel announced that two more Aegis ballistic missile defense ships would be deployed to Japan by 2017. One of the ships, the USS Benfold Aegis destroyer, was deployed to Yokosuka in October 2015. The other, USS Milius Aegis destroyer, will be deployed to Yokosuka in summer 2017. In March 2016, the United States deployed the USS Barry Aegis destroyer with ballistic missile defense capabilities to Yokosuka, which replaced the USS Lassen Aegis destroyer lacking ballistic missile defense capability.
12 Secretary Hagel stated that the previous two “offset strategies” were as follows: (1) in the 1950s, the United States offset the conventional capacity of the former Soviet Union by using the nuclear deterrent, and (2) in the 1970s, while the nuclear capabilities of the former Soviet Union achieved parity with those of the United States, the United States gained superiority over the former Soviet Union by acquiring new systems, such as extended-range precision-guided missiles, stealth aircraft, and SR platforms.
13 According to the explanation by Deputy Secretary Work in his address in November 2015, specific examples include investments in: (1) learning machines; (2) human-machine collaboration; (3) assisted human operations; (4) human-machine combat teaming; and (5) networked autonomous weapons.
14 An aerial plane turns an old aircraft into a platform and uses it as a “flying launch pad” to launch a variety of payloads.
15 The FY2017 budget request allocates approximately US$12.5 billion for science and technology, including US$2.1 billion for basic research and approximately US$3.0 billion for the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA).
Nuclear Strategy

While President Obama aims to realize a world without nuclear weapons, he notes that this will not be realized in the near future, and that a nuclear deterrent will be maintained as long as nuclear weapons exist.

The Nuclear Posture Review (NPR) released in April 2010 states that the nuclear security environment is changing, and that nuclear terrorism and nuclear proliferation are an imminent threat today. Furthermore, it points to the necessity of working on the issue of ensuring strategic stability with existing nuclear powers, in particular Russia and China.

The NPR presents five key objectives based on awareness of this security environment: (1) preventing nuclear proliferation and nuclear terrorism; (2) reducing the role of U.S. nuclear weapons; (3) maintaining strategic deterrence and stability at reduced nuclear force levels; (4) strengthening regional deterrence and reassuring U.S. allies and partners; and (5) sustaining a safe, secure, and effective nuclear arsenal.

In June 2013, President Obama delivered a speech on the reduction of nuclear weapons in Berlin, which was followed by the release of the Report on Nuclear Employment Strategy by the DoD on the same day. In the speech and report, the United States announced that it would negotiate with Russia to pursue up to a one-third reduction in U.S. deployed strategic nuclear weapons.

In February 2014, following missteps by nuclear missile launch officers including possession of illegal drugs and misconduct related to proficiency tests, then U.S. Secretary of Defense Hagel instructed an internal and external review of the entire DoD Nuclear Enterprise (Nuclear Enterprise Review [NER]). In November 2014, Secretary Hagel announced the results of the NER, in the form of a summary of an internal study report and a report of an external study conducted by retired military personnel and other reviewers. The NER found that while the existing nuclear forces of the U.S. Forces are meeting the demands of their mission, significant improvements are required to ensure the safety and effectiveness of the force in the future. The two reports made recommendations focusing around areas, such as improving oversight and management issues, increasing investment in the nuclear deterrent enterprise, and personnel and training including boosting morale. Based on these recommendations, the DoD decided to prioritize funding on actions that improve the security, ensure modernization of the force, and address shortfalls.

The DoD said it would work to increase the number of personnel engaged in nuclear forces of the Air Force and Navy, improve the inspections regime, and improve career management, among other activities.

FY2017 Budget

As the budget deficit of the U.S. government is deepening in recent years, the Budget Control Act enacted in August 2011 established a significant cut in government spending by FY2021. In January 2012, the DoD announced that the reduction in defense spending in light of the act would amount to about US$487 billion over the 10 years from FY2012 to FY2021 (about US$259 billion over the five years from FY2013 to FY2017). In March 2013, the mandatory sequestration of government spending including defense spending started based on the provisions of the Budget Control Act. Mandatory sequestration for the FY2014 and FY2015 budgets was eased as a result of the Bipartisan Budget Act of the Democratic and Republican parties passed in December 2013. Furthermore, mandatory sequestration for the FY2016 and FY2017 budgets was eased as a result of the Bipartisan Budget Act passed in November 2015. However, the President and Congress have not reached any agreement on the handling of mandatory sequestration in FY2018 and beyond. The resumption of mandatory sequestration could put the U.S. Forces at considerably greater risk due to the changes in the security environment. In this regard, the trends in the defense budget require continued observation.

For the FY2017 DoD budget request, the DoD allocated US$523.9 billion\(^\text{16}\) for the base budget. For the overseas contingency operations budget, the DoD allocated a total of US$58.8 billion. This includes the quadrupling of the budget for the European Reassurance Initiative to US$3.4 billion in light of Russian activities in Eastern Europe and an approximately 1.5-fold increase in the budget for the operations to counter ISIL in Iraq and Syria to US$7.5 billion. The key principles of the defense budget are as follows: (1) seek a balanced force; (2) sustain readiness amid a severe budget situation; (3) accelerate the pace of institutional reform; (4) pursue investments in equipment acquisition and R&D; (5) take care of the people; and (6) support overseas operations. On this basis, the budget outlines that the DoD would: decrease the Army’s end strength to 460,000 active soldiers from the FY2016 level of 475,000 active soldiers;

\(^{16}\) An increase of about US$2.2 billion from the FY2016 enacted budget level.
continue to fund the overhaul/life extension of the USS George Washington of the Navy, following on from the previous fiscal year, and maintain 11 aircraft carriers; keep the F-35, the KC-46, and the Long-Range Strike Bomber (LRS-B) B-21 as the Air Force’s top three modernization programs; and postpone the retirement of the A-10 aircraft to 2022.

See Fig. I-2-1-1 (The Impact of Budget Sequestration on the Defense Budget); Fig. I-2-1-2 (Changes in the U.S. Defense Budget)

The Long-Range Strike Bomber B-21 is a new long-range bomber that replaces the existing bomber, and is expected to become a main component of U.S. deep battle capabilities provided by conventional and nuclear weapons. Initial operating capability is expected to be reached by the mid-2020s.
2 Military Posture

General Situation

In regard to strategic offensive weapons including nuclear force, the United States is moving ahead with its reduction based on a new Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty that came into force in February 2011. In March 2016, it announced that its deployed strategic warheads stood at 1,481, while its deployed delivery platforms stood at 741. The United States is studying the concept of a Conventional Prompt Global Strike (CPGS), as an effort contributing to the nation’s new ability to reduce reliance on nuclear weapons.

In regard to Missile Defense (MD), the United States announced the Ballistic Missile Defense Review (BMDR) in February 2010. On homeland defense, the review noted that the United States would use ground-based interceptors to respond to Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs) from North Korea and Iran, and that in regard to regional defense, the United States would expand investments in MD systems while taking a phased adaptive approach (PAA) that is tailored to each region and improve the MD capabilities step by step, working with partner countries and properly sharing the burden. However, in January 2012, the United States announced that it would continue investments in MD programs in its homeland and Europe while reducing the spending for deployable regional MD systems with a view to increasing reliance on its allies and partners in the future. Further, in March 2013, the United States announced that it would additionally deploy ground-based interceptors in the U.S. homeland and mobile radars for Ballistic Missile Defense (BMD) in Japan in order to bolster homeland security in response to North Korea’s nuclear test and the advancement of its long-range ballistic missile development, while restructuring the program of the standard missile (SM-3) Block IIB scheduled for deployment in Europe.

The operation of the U.S. Forces is not controlled by the individual branches of the broader armed forces, rather it is operated under the leadership of the Unified Combatant Commands, comprising leaders from multiple branches of the armed forces. The Unified Combatant Commands consist of three commands with functional responsibilities and six commands with regional responsibilities.

The U.S. ground forces consist of about 480,000 Army soldiers and about 180,000 Marines, which are forward-deployed in Germany, the ROK, and Japan, among other countries. As described in the Defense Strategic Guidance, the Army continues its transition to a smaller yet capable force fully prepared to conduct a full range of operations worldwide. The Marine Corps aims to acquire forces capable of responding to any threat as a “middleweight force,” bridging the seam between smaller special operations forces and larger heavy conventional forces.

The U.S. maritime forces consist of about 940 vessels (including about 70 submarines) totaling about 6.2 million tons. The 6th Fleet is deployed in the East Atlantic Ocean, the Mediterranean Sea, and Africa; the 5th Fleet in the Persian Gulf, Red Sea, and northwest Indian Ocean; the 3rd Fleet in the eastern Pacific; the 4th Fleet in South America and the Caribbean Sea; and the 7th Fleet in the western Pacific and Indian Ocean.

The U.S. air forces consist of roughly 3,600 combat aircraft across the Air Force, Navy, and Marine Corps. In addition to carrier-based aircraft deployed at sea, part of the tactical air force is forward-deployed in Germany, the United Kingdom, Japan, and the ROK.

Moreover, in addressing the increasing threats in cyberspace, the U.S. Cyber Command (USCYBERCOM) was founded in order to oversee operations in cyberspace. The U.S. Cyber Command attained Initial Operational Capability (IOC) in May 2010 and commended full capability in November in the same year.

---

18 Warheads that have been equipped in deployed ICBMs and Submarine-Launched Ballistic Missiles (SLBMs) and nuclear warheads equipped in heavy bombers (a deployed heavy bomber is counted as one nuclear warhead).
19 The figure as of March 1, 2016.
20 The concept is designed to cripple the A2 capabilities of an adversary and promptly strike a target anywhere in the world using non-nuclear long-range precision-guided missiles that hit targets with high accuracy.
21 As cyber-related units, Army Cyber Command (ARCYBER), Fleet Cyber Command (FLTCYBERCOM), Air Force Cyber Command (AFCYBER), and Marine Corps Forces Cyber Command (MARFORCYBER) have been newly formed.
Current Military Posture in the Asia-Pacific Region

The United States, a Pacific nation, continues to play an important role in ensuring the peace and stability of the Asia-Pacific region by placing the Pacific Command, a joint command consisting of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps, in the region. The Pacific Command is a command with regional responsibilities for the largest geographical area, and its component commands include U.S. Forces Japan and U.S. Forces Korea. In order to broaden the perspective of the U.S. Forces and promote better understanding of the U.S. Forces from allies, the Pacific Command headquarters accept personnel from allies in the region. Under this scheme, personnel from Canada and Australia are currently serving in the Pacific Command as deputy director level-officials.

The Pacific Command consists of the U.S. Army Pacific, U.S. Pacific Fleet, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific, and U.S. Pacific Air Forces, which are all headquartered in Hawaii.22

The Army Pacific’s subordinate commands include the 25th Infantry Division in Hawaii, the 8th U.S. Army in the ROK, which is the Army component of the U.S. Forces in the ROK, and the U.S. Army Alaska. Additionally, the Army Pacific assigns approximately 2,400 personnel to commands, such as I Corps Forward and the U.S. Army Japan Command in Japan.23

The U.S. Pacific Fleet consists of the 7th Fleet, which is responsible for the Western Pacific and the Indian Ocean, and the 3rd Fleet, responsible for the East Pacific and Bering Sea. The U.S. Pacific Fleet in total controls about 200 vessels. The 7th Fleet is centered on a carrier strike group with main stationing locations in Japan and Guam. Their mission is to defend territorial lands, people, sea lines of communication, and the critical national interests of the United States and its allies. The 7th Fleet consists of an aircraft carrier, amphibious ships, and Aegis cruisers and destroyers.

The U.S. Marine Corps Forces Pacific deploys one Marine Expeditionary Force each in the U.S. mainland and Japan. Of this force, about 16,000 personnel are in the 3rd Marine Division and the 1st Marine Aircraft Wing, which are equipped with F/A-18 fighters and other aircraft, in Japan. In addition, maritime pre-positioning ships loaded with heavy equipment and others are deployed in the Western Pacific.

The U.S. Pacific Air Force has three air forces, of which three air wings (equipped with F-16 fighters and C-130 transport aircraft) are deployed to the 5th Air Force stationed in Japan and two air wings (equipped with F-16 fighters) to the 7th Air Force stationed in the ROK.

See >> Fig. I-2-1-4 (U.S. Forces Deployment Status and the Recent Trend of the U.S. Forces in the Asia-Pacific Region)

22 In 2013, the U.S. Army Pacific upgraded the rank of its Commander from lieutenant general to general, and thus the commanders of the Army Pacific, Pacific Fleet, and Pacific Air Forces have all become four stars.

23 The figures of the U.S. Forces mentioned in this paragraph are the numbers of active personnel recorded in the published sources of the U.S. DoD (as of September 30, 2015), and could change according to unit deployment.
U.S. Forces Deployment Status and the Recent Trend of the U.S. Forces in the Asia-Pacific Region

Notes: 1. Source: Documents published by the U.S. DoD (as of September 30, 2015), etc.
2. The number of personnel deployed in the Asia-Pacific region includes personnel deployed in Hawaii and Guam.

**European Region**
- Army: approx. 28,000 personnel
- Navy: approx. 7,000 personnel
- Air Force: approx. 29,000 personnel
- Marines: approx. 1,000 personnel
- Total: approx. 64,000 personnel
  (Total in 1987: approx. 354,000 personnel)

**Asia-Pacific Region**
- Army: approx. 37,000 personnel
- Navy: approx. 43,000 personnel
- Air Force: approx. 27,000 personnel
- Marines: approx. 24,000 personnel
- Total: approx. 131,000 personnel
  (Total in 1987: approx. 184,000 personnel)

**U.S. Forces**
- Army: approx. 487,000 personnel
- Navy: approx. 323,000 personnel
- Air Force: approx. 307,000 personnel
- Marines: approx. 183,000 personnel
- Total: approx. 1,301,000 personnel
  (Total in 1987: approx. 2,170,000 personnel)

**U.S. Forces Deployment**

- **Japan**
  - Deploys F-22, MV-22/CV-22 Osprey, P-8, and Global Hawk
  - Rotational air defense: 2 radars
  - Switched one Aegis ship (normal) with Aegis BMD destroyer (March 2016)
  - Added two Aegis BMD destroyers (one already deployed in October 2015 and one to be deployed in summer 2017)
  - Signed the Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA) for enhancing the presence of the U.S. Forces, etc. (April 2014)
  - Announced US$79 million assistance and provision of one patrol vessel and one survey vessel (November 2015)
  - Implements joint patrol activities (March 2016–)
  - Agreed on five locations such as Air Force bases, etc. to serve as hubs for implementing defense cooperation based on EDCA (March 2016)
  - Regularly deploys A-10 ground attack aircraft, etc. (April 2016–)

- **Guam**
  - Rotationally deploys submarines
  - Rotationally deploys bombers
  - Established a facility for aircraft carrier's temporary port of call
  - Deploys unmanned reconnaissance aircraft (RQ-4)

- **Singapore**
  - Rotationally deploys littoral combat ships (LCS): To deployfour LCS by end of 2017. The first ship started rotation in April 2013 and the second ship in December 2014.
  - Rotationally deployed P-8 (December 2015)
  - Signed enhanced defense cooperation agreement (December 2015)
  - Rotationally deploys littoral combat ships (LCS)
  - Signed enhanced defense cooperation agreement (December 2015)

- **Australia**
  - At the November 2011 U.S.-Australia Summit, an agreement was reached on the following initiatives:
    - Rotational deployment of the Marines to northern Australia
    - Increased rotational deployment of U.S. Air Force aircraft in northern Australia
  - In June 2013, U.S. Secretary of Defense Hagel announced a plan to deploy 60% of the assets of the U.S. Navy and Air Force in the Asia-Pacific region as well as proceed with the rotational deployment in the region and deployment of equipment.

*Map created by the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) in use*