

FACT SHEET



Fort Hood Overview

America's Army is in the midst of the most dramatic restructuring of its forces in more than 60 years. National defense requirements expressed in Transformation, Modularity, 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) decisions and a worldwide repositioning of ground combat forces, coupled with an ongoing Global War on Terrorism, are having an enormous effect on Fort Hood, its soldiers, their families and the Central Texas region.

Fort Hood today trains, maintains and sustains a corps-level headquarters, two army division level headquarters, a corps sustainment command, six brigade combat teams (BCTs), five other brigade-size formations and numerous other major organizations. With Army Transformation and Modularity, every major unit is being restructured.

With 45,414 assigned soldiers or airmen and 8,909 civilian employees, Fort Hood is the largest single site employer in Texas, directly inserting nearly \$3B annually into the Texas economy. In 2005, the Texas State Comptroller estimated the annual direct and indirect economic impact of Fort Hood on the Central Texas region as \$6.09 billion.

Mission

Fort Hood exists to train its assigned units, as a mobilization station for Army Reserve and National Guard units and as a strategic power projection platform. The installation serves a wide variety of tenant organizations and ensures the highest quality of life support for a diverse community of over 297,000 soldiers, family members and retirees.

Deep in the Heart of Texas

Fort Hood occupies 335 square miles of Bell and Coryell Counties, 60 miles north of Austin and 50 miles south of Waco. Seven surrounding cities with a regional population of 335,000 are partnered with and provide substantial quality of life support to Fort Hood. The installation's principal cantonment area and the adjacent West Fort Hood are bisected by US Highway 190, a four lane controlled access road that flows directly into US Interstate Highway 35, the main North-South route through Texas and Mid-America.

To strengthen the strategic projection capability of military forces to and through Gulf Coast seaports, the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) has embarked on a \$161.7 million dollar initiative to widen SH 195 from Fort Hood to Georgetown, Texas. Scheduled for completion by 2012, this expansion will provide an uninterrupted four lane, interstate quality highway from Fort Hood to IH-35 and on to our state's Gulf Coast ports. Also, in 2005, the State of Texas committed to a \$20.5 million dollars in local highway infrastructure construction, dramatically improving regional mobility by facilitating traffic flow on and off-post.

Central Texas' outstanding climate supports all forms of year round air and ground training. Potable water for Fort Hood and surrounding communities is supplied by surface water from Lake Belton, an Army Corps of Engineers lake created in the 1950s. Fort Hood has water rights to 12,000 acre feet per year and contracts with the Bell County Water Control Improvement District Nr. 1 (WCID#1) for water and wastewater treatment. With Lake Belton, Fort Hood is postured to meet all of its water needs for the next 50 years.

Capacity Utilization

Fort Hood is capitalized to fully support current and future Army, joint and combined force mission requirements. The installation encompasses 214,968 acres; 136,094 acres are used for maneuver, 63,000 acres as a Live Fire Impact area and 15,874 acres for the installation's

Cantonment Areas. The largest single on-post training segment is called the Western Maneuver Area, an area stretching 20 miles from north to south and from the western boundary of the installation eastward to the live fire impact area. The Western Maneuver Area easily accommodates a full-up, modern, digitally equipped heavy battalion task force exercising in multiple scenarios over several weeks at a time. Direct access to Lake Belton provides training in all phases of water obstacle and river crossing operations, from small unit to division level.

The Army's only Battle Command Training Center is located at Fort Hood. Training of brigade, division and corps formations occurs on the installation through exercises that place command and control elements in the field while fire and maneuver actions are replicated using a combination of deployed tactical units and computer-supported war gaming or constructive and virtual reality battlefield simulations.

The largest combat aviation training area in the free world, comprised of 15,900 square miles, begins on Fort Hood and continues west from Bell and Coryell Counties to Runnels and Tom Green Counties, permitting US and allied military helicopter crews to train in a realistic environment that affords the distances and depths required in combat aviation operations.

In the last five years alone, the Army has invested over \$440 million dollars in training devices and simulations at Fort Hood - the largest in the Army. Past federal analyses have concluded that there is no better or more cost effective place to train and support Army units than Fort Hood. In its 2005 BRAC analysis, the Army ranked Fort Hood first among its 97 installations for "Future" capability. And in a military where family quality of life is a true force-multiplier, one of Fort Hood's greatest strengths continues to be its proximity of "home and office." Ninety eight percent of all Fort Hood's military reside within 10 miles of their place of work.

Capital Investment

The Army has consistently demonstrated its commitment to long term infrastructure improvements at Fort Hood. These include 98 new or renovated barracks, state of the art command and control facilities, the 21st-century Krueger Soldier Development / Education Center, the one stop Copeland Soldier Service Center, an aggressive range modernization program and modern installation support facilities.

In FY '06, Fort Hood has 14 major Military Construction Army (MCA) projects valued at over \$322M under construction and an additional 17 valued at over \$266M in design. Over \$433M is currently programmed for construction in fiscal years 2007 through 2011.

Since FY '00, the Army has invested more than \$100 million to improve Fort Hood's rail and airlift capabilities. The installation boasts the Army's largest and most technology sophisticated railhead with twelve spurs and nine sorting tracks and a \$40 million upgrade to its Aerial Port of Embarkation at Robert Gray Army Airfield. In 2003, 2005 and 2006, the Department of the Army recognized Fort Hood as winner of its prestigious Deployment Excellence Award in the large installation category.

Community Relations

Fort Hood prides itself as being a good neighbor – partnering with the City of Killeen, the new Killeen-Fort Hood Regional Airport, co-located at Robert Gray Army Airfield, opened in August 2004, resulting in a dramatic 40% increase in enplanements and the transition to a predominately regional jet commercial service supported by four commercial carriers. With its 10,000 foot runway, Robert Gray Army Airfield can accommodate any type aircraft operating today.

The installation is also supported by a number of region wide initiatives, including:

- **Independent School Districts (ISDs):** With roughly half of Fort Hood's 44,000 soldiers currently serving in Iraq or Afghanistan, all eight regional ISDs remain acutely sensitive to the impact on children of a soldier family member serving in combat. Programs include on site before and after school day care, weekend care, including camping, mentoring, youth leadership programs and the like.

- **Military Affairs Committees:** Every Central Texas city of any size has an active Military Affairs support structure that focuses on specific Fort Hood units. Every chamber hosts a wide variety of programs designed to keep the civilian and military communities, at all levels, in direct, positive contact.
- **Fort Hood 2010:** This region wide effort operates an Adopt-A-School program, providing: soldier and family member volunteer mentors to more than eighty elementary, middle and high schools in the eight regional Independent School Districts; Camp 2010, an annual three day residential camp focused on developing youth leadership skills; math and science summer day camp programs; and close affiliations with such national programs as Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE), Communities in Schools and America's Promise.
- **Hood Howdy:** Each calendar quarter, Fort Hood and the Central Texas business community jointly sponsor "Hood Howdy," a day long newcomers' orientation that provides specific information for newly arriving soldiers and their families. Hood Howdy is time tested, welcoming soldiers or families and helping all to settle in. Further, when units are programmed to relocate to Fort Hood, Hood Howdy teams travel to that unit's current location to begin the welcome process. The most recent examples occurred in early 2006 when teams traveled to Fort Carson to meet with members of the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment and to Fort Bliss to meet with members of Air Defense Artillery units inbound to Fort Hood.
- **Spousal Employment:** Central Texans fully support Fort Hood's spousal employment needs. From "mom and pop" retailers to major corporations with a regional presence, employers understand most Army households are dual income. On April 20, 2006, the Texas Economic Development Council presented its statewide "Best Practices" Award to the Central Texas Workforce Board for its "work from home" program established in cooperation with the Dell Corporation and employing Fort Hood spouses.
- **Association of the US Army:** A national organization with 6,000 local chapter members, its "Adopt A Unit" program provides partnerships linking 150 Fort Hood military units with civic organizations (businesses, churches, social service clubs, etc) from throughout Central Texas.

Residential Community Initiative (RCI)

In October 2001, the installation joined forces with developer Actus Lend Lease, LLC in a 50 year, \$4 billion limited partnership to privatize all 5,912 sets of on-post family housing. (There are 300 sets of Section 801 housing, not privatized under RCI.) The installation's deficit in four and five bedroom enlisted housing has now been eliminated and the quality/quantity standards of all family housing dramatically improved. As of April 2006, 82.6 percent (\$113.7M) of all executed contracts have been awarded to local businesses and 72.1 percent (\$99.2M) awarded to qualified small businesses. Individuals enlist in America's military, but it is families who stay. RCI reflects directly on Fort Hood's effort to provide a high quality of life and ensure America stays strong by keeping our quality military in uniform and in Texas.

Educational Opportunities

There are continuing civilian educational opportunities for soldiers and family members available on post and in surrounding areas. Local colleges routinely schedule five class terms a year to provide additional opportunity for soldiers to continue their education within personally manageable time frames.

Local Colleges and Universities include: Central Texas College and Tarleton State University System Center - Central Texas, both in Killeen; Temple College in Temple; and the University of Mary Hardin Baylor in Belton. Under legislation signed into state law in 2005, Tarleton State University - Central Texas will transition into the Texas A&M University - Central Texas upon achieving a 1,000 full time student equivalent (FTSE) enrollment. Its campus will be located at the intersection of State Highways 195 and 201, on 672 acres of land authorized by the US Congress for immediate transfer from the US Army to the State of Texas when the State's FTSE requirement is met.

The U.S. Army Noncommissioned Officer Academy, III Corps and Fort Hood provides Primary Leadership Development Course training for soldiers assigned at Fort Hood; Fort Bliss, TX;

Fort Carson, CO; Fort Sill, OK; Fort Polk, LA; Fort Riley, KS; and smaller installations throughout Texas. More than 7,000 soldiers transition to Army NCO ranks annually through this NCO Academy.

Environmental Concerns

Fort Hood has a distinguished record of caring for its environment. Since 1998, assisted by The Nature Conservancy and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Fort Hood has made substantial progress in restoring the state's populations of the Black Capped Vireo and the Golden Cheeked Warbler after both faced extinction from Brown Headed Cowbird parasitism. In 2005, Fort Hood completed formal consultation with the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) regarding habitat protection of endangered species. As a result, the USFWS determined that past maneuver training restrictions could be lifted and restricted access reduced from 37% of the installation's acreage in 1993 to 4.3% today. Further, in its Eastern Training area, Fort Hood established aviation restrictions over the 5,000 acres adjacent to Lake Belton to avoid a catastrophic accident involving aircraft during the American Bald Eagle nesting season.

Fort Hood has identified 800 sites with possible sensitive cultural ties to early Native Americans or western settlers who occupied the area prior to the 1942 founding of Fort Hood. The National Historic Preservation Act requires that these be properly documented for historic preservation. Fort Hood is working with the Texas State Historical Preservation Office under the Alternative Procedures Program to identify the sites which are historically significant. While their impact on training is minimal, they represent an important part of Texas history that will be preserved through this partnership with the State.

For the safety of its two airfields (one of which, Robert Gray Army Airfield is both a strategic power projection platform and the site of region's joint use airport), the installation's 6,212 sets of family housing and the surrounding communities, Fort Hood has established a one mile buffer zone from the installation boundary prohibiting the use of smoke and the firing of artillery. Fort Hood has offered to establish an entirely voluntary program with cooperating nearby landowners known as the Army Compatible Use Buffer. Under this program, landowners would be compensated in exchange for their agreement to maintain the current rural nature of their land near Fort Hood's boundaries.

The Carl R. Darnall Army Medical Center

On May 1, 2006, the US Army redesignated Fort Hood's Darnall Army Community Hospital as our nation's newest Army Medical Center. The Carl B. Darnall Army Medical Center is a teaching hospital affiliated with Scott & White Memorial Hospital and the Department of Veterans Affairs Central Texas Health Care System in Temple, and with Texas A&M University Health Science Center College of Medicine in Bryan-College Station. Darnall has combined graduate medical programs in Obstetrics and Gynecology, Pediatrics, and Medicine with Wilford Hall Air Force Medical Center and Brooke Army Medical Center, both in San Antonio. Darnall serves 163,000 military beneficiaries in a 40 mile radius of Fort Hood. Of this number, 48,000 are active duty military, 52,000 are retirees and the remainder is soldiers' family members. Darnall currently averages 7 births a day. One of only three Army Hospitals with an Emergency Medicine Residency (EMR) Program, Darnall is now and has been for the last six years rated number one in the nation out of 120 civilian and military hospitals with EMR programs. Darnall also trains residents in orthopedics, pediatrics, general surgery, obstetrics, and psychiatry.

This Army Medical Center designation is a first step towards the expansion of current facilities, and will carry over to a new 21st century facility planned for a 40 acre tract on Fort Hood's Clear Creek Road.

Operational Test Command

The U.S. Army's Operational Test Command (OTC) is charged under Public Law to conduct realistic and continuous operational testing of Army equipment, doctrine, force design and training. Operational testing involves using regular active army units in realistic scenarios to

find the real truth - what works, precisely why, and how well? OTC employs state of the art instrumentation to harvest test data that document performance levels and operational suitability.

The "credentials" of the Army – Our Soldiers

The Centerpiece of America's Army is its Soldier - those men or women - "boots on the ground" - charged to wage and win America's wars. At Fort Hood, they serve in units with rich traditions of service of the nation.

Headquarters III (US) Corps (nickname: "The Phantom Corps"): a major subordinate command of US Army Forces Command (FORSCOM), provides command and staff oversight of all assigned units at five installations, including Fort Hood. In January 2005, Headquarters III Corps returned from a year long deployment to Iraq as Headquarters, Multinational Corps-Iraq, responsible for all tactical operations and intelligence functions in the theater. It has since then refitted and is preparing to return to Iraq in late 2006.

1st Cavalry Division (nickname: "America's First Team"): A fully modernized armored division of 17,000 personnel. In March, 2005, the division returned from a year long tour of duty in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom 2, having helped establish the stability and security required for Iraq's January 30, 2005 national elections. It has now been refitted, and is preparing to return to Iraq in late 2006.

13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) (nickname: "Phantom Support"): With 6,000 Soldiers, this is the "Logistical Backbone" of III Corps, providing supply, maintenance, transportation, field services, medical, engineering construction, smoke generation, and decontamination services. Virtually all 13th COSCOM units have deployed at least once to Operation Iraqi Freedom; many two or three times and a few are on a fourth rotation to Iraq now.

3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment (nickname: "Brave Rifles"): Organized in May, 1846 as a Regiment of Mounted Riflemen, the 3rd Cavalry Regiment is a combined arms organization of 5,000 personnel with highly specialized scouting and security capabilities. The Regiment just completed a one year tour in Iraq, has returned to its current duty station at Fort Carson, CO and is preparing to relocate to Fort Hood. Initial elements are scheduled to arrive in mid 2006 and the entire Regiment should close in at Fort Hood by early 2007.

21st Cavalry Brigade (Air Combat): A unique unit of 100 aviator-instructors and support personnel, responsible for fielding and training all U.S. active army AH-64 "Apache" attack helicopter battalions and squadrons. The brigade has also fielded National Guard units, U.S. Army Reserve aviation battalions, the Royal Netherlands and Singapore Air Force squadrons, and other allied units.

Other Major Tactical Units: Fort Hood is also home to 3,300 soldiers assigned to corps-level communications, military police, military intelligence and finance units. In FYs '04 through '06, 80% of the personnel assigned to these units deployed at least once in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Many are back in Iraq on second or third tours, or in the process of returning before the end of 2006.

Consolidated Technical Support Facility (CTSF): The CTSF is the Department of Defense's only facility for the rapid development, fielding, and support of leading edge, survivable, secure, and interoperable tactical/theater/strategic Command, Control, Communications and Computer (C4) systems. It provides "system of systems" integration testing and configuration management to support Army digitization and Transformation requirements.

Reserve Components: Since 9/11, over 30,000 U.S. Army Reserve and Army National Guard Soldiers have been mobilized, trained, equipped, and deployed from Fort Hood. On average, 22,000 Reserve Component Soldiers train at Fort Hood each year and much of their equipment is stored at the installation. The Military Equipment and Training Site (MATES) at North Fort Hood provides storage and support for 850 pieces of heavy equipment assigned to the 36th

Infantry Division (Texas ARNG) and 256th Infantry Brigade (Louisiana ARNG), while an Equipment Concentration Site (ECS) stores and supports 1700 additional pieces of equipment for the Army Reserve. Fort Hood's ability to provide both garrison and field exercise support remains key to our nation's Reserve Component readiness.

Current Assessment

Ranked #1 among the Army's 97 installations in terms of "Future" capability, Fort Hood will remain a model Army installation, with outstanding infrastructure, ranges, and power projection capabilities.

On a per capita basis, soldier training is accomplished more economically at Fort Hood than at any other major US Army installation. The Army has consistently recognized the unique ability of Fort Hood and Central Texas to house, support and sustain upwards of 50,000 soldiers and their families in whatever formations today's and tomorrow's forces might find themselves. Fort Hood's infrastructure, power projection capabilities and state of the art training facilities provide our national command authority with enormous flexibility as it transforms our military into more adaptive, networked, full spectrum formations ideally suited to execute tomorrow's joint and expeditionary campaigns.

Fort Hood is very heavily committed. As we close out FY 2006, over 85% of its units will have served at least one year long combat tour in Iraq or Afghanistan. Most will have served twice, and a few are on their third or fourth year long tours of combat duty.

But busy does not mean turbulent, and both Fort Hood and Central Texans are proud of the successes achieved in stabilizing, assuring and growing the installation and the region. This will continue.

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