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Air Force Chief of Staff Releases Future Roadmap

Washington - The Chief of Staff of the Air Force, Gen. T. Michael Moseley, released today the Air Force's weapon system "roadmap," a long-term plan for providing Air Force capabilities the Nation needs in the 21st century to meet threats to the Nation's security.

As part of the Air Force's strategic planning efforts, senior leaders from the Regular Air Force, National Guard and Air Force Reserve gathered in early December to discuss this plan and collaborate on this "roadmap" for the Nation's Air Force, a roadmap designed to meet one of the Nation's most pressing needs: recapitalization and modernization of its aging Air Force fleet.

"Our nation's competitors know that our Air Force provides America its decisive advantage," said General Moseley. "We need to prepare today for tomorrow's challenges. We need one vector to best meet the warfighting requirements of our Nation."

General Moseley's roadmap outlines where future advanced weapon systems could potentially be based in the continental US, Hawaii, Alaska and US territories. The plan calls for the Air Force to evaluate installations which currently house legacy weapon systems forecasted for replacement by future systems.

These "next-generation" capabilities are required to fight and win America's wars, and the roadmap represents a Total Force (Regular Air Force, Air National Guard, and Air Force Reserve) approach to the beddown of weapon systems. Current and future requirements to build the capabilities of international partners will also be considered as part of the beddown decision process.

"We're simply promising a look at these systems and installations as our planning continues," added General Moseley. "This is the Air Force's planning process for the future, for providing the required force structure that will give our Nation capability for vigilance, reach, and power across the globe, to reassure allies, to deter, dissuade and defeat adversaries, and to protect the Homeland."

The roadmap represents a more efficient and flexible force structure. Although the Air Force will have a smaller total aircraft inventory, overall AF capabilities will increase with each next-generation weapon system. In numerous instances, the potential locations will capitalize on Total Force Integration efforts, creating innovative organizational arrangements among Regular Air Force, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve components. This effort takes advantage of the inherent strengths of each of the three components.

Installations that meet preliminary objective requirements will then undergo thorough environmental studies in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). NEPA mandates environmental analyses and impact studies which are critical factors in determining final beddown bases in the US as suitable locations for weapon systems. These major studies take time, may consider either one or several installations in a single study and may not be initiated at every potential location. The findings of these environmental studies, and the results of required fiscal and operational analyses which will be conducted over the next several years, will determine the final beddown plan and phasing.

The plans released today do not include possible basing initiatives on foreign soil. Overseas basing of Air Force future weapon systems will be accomplished in partnership with allies using normal consultative planning venues.

Global Vigilance

Airmen provide our Nation Global Vigilance--a system of "eyes and ears" to see and sense anything on the face of the Earth from the vantage of air, space, and cyberspace. Airmen watch and listen across the electromagnetic spectrum, and put that information into context, providing decision-quality intelligence to political leaders, joint and combined commanders, and combatants the world over.

In addition to the current beddown, US locations recently added or planned as possible contributors to Global Vigilance include the following bases, by weapon system:

MQ-1 Predator

- Cannon AFB, NM;
- Ellington Field, TX;
- Fort Huachuca/Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ;
- Grand Forks AFB/Hector International Airport, ND; and
- March Air Reserve Base/Southern California Logistics Airport, CA.

RQ-4 Global Hawk

- Grand Forks AFB, ND; and
- Andersen AFB, GU (Guam).

Distributed Common Ground System (Processing, Exploitation, and Dissemination of Intelligence Data)

- Hulman Regional Airport, IN; and
- Otis ANGB, MA.

Global Reach

The Air Force provides the Nation unrivalled Global Reach throughout the world.

Airmen deliver the goods, the gas and their fellow warfighters beyond oceans, in hostile territory, and across the last tactical mile, relying on the range, payload, and speed of mobility aircraft. The Air Force's Global Reach allows our joint military forces to hold targets or activities at risk; to communicate with, command, supply, rescue, support, or destroy them; and to reach into the far regions of space and cyberspace with a variety of payloads.

In addition to the current beddown, US locations being considered as possible contributors to Global Reach include the following bases, by weapon system:

KC-X (Next-generation tanker aircraft)

- Altus AFB, OK;
- Andrews AFB, MD;
- Bangor IAP, ME;
- Birmingham IAP, AL;
- Edwards AFB, CA;
- Eielson AFB, AK;
- Fairchild AFB, WA;
- Forbes Field, KS;
- Grand Forks AFB, ND;
- Grissom ARB, IN;
- Hickam AFB, HI;
- Lincoln Municipal Airport, NE;
- MacDill AFB, FL.;
- March ARB, CA;
- McConnell AFB, KS;
- McGhee Tyson Airport, TN.;

- McGuire AFB, NJ;
- Pease ANGB, NH;
- Phoenix Sky Harbor IAP, AZ;
- Pittsburgh IAP, PA;
- Rickenbacker IAP, OH;
- Salt Lake City IAP, UT;
- Scott AFB, IL;
- Selfridge ANGB, MI;
- Seymour Johnson AFB, NC;
- Sioux Gateway Airport, IA; and
- Tinker AFB, OK.

Joint Cargo Aircraft

- WK Kellogg Airport, MI;
- Bradley IAP, CT;
- Hector IAP, ND;
- Key Field, MS;
- Luiz Munoz IAP, PR (Puerto Rico);
- Mansfield Regional Airport, OH; and
- Martin State Airport, MD.

Global Power

Airmen deliver our Nation's Global Power with unique speed and precision, serving to deter and dissuade future foes before combat is ever joined. Global Power extends beyond kinetic strikes. Airmen also deliver critical non-kinetic effects, such as the searching for and rescuing isolated personnel hundreds of miles behind enemy lines.

In addition to the current beddown, US locations considered as possible contributors to Global Power include the following bases, excluding overseas locations, by weapon system:

CSAR-X (Combat Search and Rescue Helicopter)

- Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ;
- Francis-Gabreski ANGB, NY;
- Kirtland AFB, NM;
- Elmendorf AFB, AK;
- Moffett Field, CA;
- Moody AFB, GA;
- Nellis AFB, NV; and
- Patrick AFB, FL.

F-35A Lightning II

- Andrews AFB, MD;
- Barksdale AFB, LA;
- Boise Air Terminal, ID;
- Buckley AFB, CO;
- Burlington IAP, VT;
- Dannelly Field, AL;
- Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ;
- Des Moines IAP, IA;
- Duluth IAP, MN;
- Edwards AFB, CA;
- Eglin AFB, FL;
- Eielson AFB, AK;
- Fort Smith Municipal Airport, AR;

- Fort Wayne IAP; IN;
- NAS JRB Fort Worth, TX;
- Hill AFB, UT;
- Homestead ARB, FL;
- Kelly Field Annex, TX;
- Kirtland AFB, NM;
- Luke AFB, AZ;
- Madison Truax Field, WI;
- Martin State Airport, MD;
- Moody AFB, GA;
- Mountain Home AFB, ID;
- Nellis AFB, NV;
- Selfridge ANGB, MI;
- Seymour Johnson AFB, NC;
- Shaw AFB/McEntire ANGB, SC;
- Sioux Falls Joe Foss Field, SD;
- Toledo Express IAP, OH;
- Tucson IAP, AZ;
- Tulsa IAP, OK; and
- Whiteman AFB, MO.

F-35A Lightning II or F-22 Raptor

- Atlantic City IAP, NJ;
- Barnes ANGB, MA;
- Fresno Air Terminal, CA;
- Great Falls IAP, MT;
- Jacksonville IAP, FL;
- Klamath Falls IAP, OR;
- NAS JRB New Orleans, LA; and
- Portland IAP, OR.

F-22 Raptor

- Hickam AFB, Hawaii; and
- Holloman AFB, NM.

Next-Generation Bomber

- Dyess AFB, TX;
- Ellsworth AFB, SD;
- Barksdale AFB, LA; and
- Minot AFB, ND.

MQ-9 Reaper

- Cannon AFB, NM; and
- Fort Drum/Syracuse, NY.

CV-22 Osprey

- Cannon AFB, NM.