

THE BOTTOM LINE



...on Stop Loss in Deploying Units

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The Issue:

The Army established a new, limited Stop Loss Feb. 14 to ensure deploying units have the soldiers they need.

The Facts:

The new Stop Loss affects soldiers assigned to active duty units that have **received deployment orders** in support of CENTCOM (including those that have already deployed) in both the CENTCOM and EUCOM areas of operation. It prevents soldiers in those units from voluntarily leaving from the Army until the Stop Loss is lifted. This new Stop Loss **does not** apply to soldiers affected by the previously announced 12-month, skill-based Stop Loss. In addition there are many exceptions to the Stop Loss. For example, soldiers within 14 days of their separation date, soldiers on terminal leave, and those who have already shipped household goods to prepare for separation are not affected. In addition, Stop Loss generally does not affect most involuntary separations or mandatory retirements. Finally, case-by-case exceptions to Stop Loss can be made for compassionate or hardship reasons. However, your chain of command and military personnel office are the best sources of information about whether the Stop Loss applies to you. The Stop Loss will be lifted when the Army and the combatant commanders it supports decide it is no longer necessary.

Tell Your Soldiers:

- The decision to enact a Stop Loss is not made lightly. The Army takes this step only when it's absolutely necessary to preserve the force.
- If you're assigned to a unit deploying in support of CENTCOM, you're probably affected by the Stop Loss.
- There are many exceptions to the policy. **Your chain of command** is the first place to check to see if you're affected.
- The Stop Loss won't last any longer than absolutely necessary.

For More Information:

First, consult with your chain of command. In addition, your military personnel office can help you sort out the details policy. At the 1st Personnel Command, the point of contact for enlisted soldiers is Capt. Kelly French, DSN 379-7669. The POC for officers is Capt. John Pilgrim, DSN 379-6440.

Prepared by: USAREUR Command Information