
Equipment: Reduce Army and Marine Corps Equipment Shortage

ROA urges Congress to reduce the equipment shortage for the Army National Guard, Army Reserve, and Marine Corps Reserve.

This change would reduce equipment shortfalls and provide the equipment necessary for both training and operational support would be available.

ROA recognizes that the Army Reserve Components and Marine Corps Reserve have significant equipment shortages. DoD observed “. . . the decreasing RC new procurement will result in a higher reliance on legacy systems and widen the gap of interoperability between the AC and RC.”

<http://ra.defense.gov/Portals/56/Documents/mf/NGRER%20FY2016.pdf>

The types of equipment needed are:

- **Army National Guard Chemical and Biological Protective Shelter (CBPS):** This equipment provides a protective mobile shelter with an environmentally controlled work area for medical treatment units for field use. The CBPS allows the unit to take care of patients when a chemical or biological attack occurs.
- **Army Reserve M4A1 Rifle:** The Army Reserve is currently working with an inventory of legacy rifles that do not support the modern optics and grenade launchers needed by soldiers. M4A1 rifles offer an improved design with a more durable barrel and a fully automatic fire option instead of three-round bursts. Soldiers have stated the heavier barrel could improve accuracy and give the weapon better stability.
- **Marine Corps Enterprise Services Capability:** Funding is needed to establish a standardized communication infrastructure for the commander and staff to plan, prepare and execute operations. It was approved in the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2012.