

# The Chart Page

By Tamar A. Mehuron, Associate Editor

## Profiles of Guard and Reserve Forces



### Air National Guard Mission Shares

(Percentage of total Air Force)

CONUS interceptor	100
Tactical reconnaissance/RF-4C	100
Combat communications	69
Tactical airlift	39
Weather	38
Air rescue	32
Tactical fighters	31
Strategic tankers (KC-135)	28
Civil engineering	27
Support aircraft	27
Aerial port	15
Medical personnel	13
Strategic airlift	7
Special operations	6

### Air Force Reserve Mission Shares

(Percentage of total Air Force)

Aerial spraying cap	100
Weather reconnaissance	100
Aeromedical evacuation	71
Aerial port	63
Aircraft battle-damage repair	59
Strategic airlift	54
Tanker/cargo	44
Strategic airlift maintenance	40
Air rescue recovery	34
Aeromedical airlift	30
Tactical airlift	23
Strategic airlift	19
Civil engineering	16
Special operations	12
Tactical fighters	9

Source: Department of Defense

Among NATO's sixteen members, the US ranks thirteenth in use of reserves, expressed as a percentage of the total force. Only in Canada and Iceland (which has no forces) is the proportion lower. One reason European nations have been able to make such heavy use of reserves, however, is that the US has maintained a large active-duty presence on the Continent.

### NATO Armed Forces Reserves

(Percentage of total military establishments)



Norway	92
Denmark	83
Portugal	75
Greece	72
Germany	68
Turkey	66
Belgium	63
Italy	62
Netherlands	60
United Kingdom	54
Spain	49
France <sup>1</sup>	48
United States	46
Canada	43
Luxembourg <sup>2</sup>	0
Iceland <sup>3</sup>	0

**Note:** US figures denote ready reserves, which includes selected reservists in the Individual Ready Reserve but excludes standby reserves and retirees. This is regarded as comparable to the numbers given for other nations.

<sup>1</sup>France no longer participates in the NATO military command structure.

<sup>2</sup>Luxembourg has only an active-duty force of 800.

<sup>3</sup>A NATO member, Iceland has no military forces.

Source: Congressional Budget Office