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***Army officially announces Stop Loss expansion, some INSCOM Soldiers affected***

**By Sgt. 1st Class Marcia Triggs**

WASHINGTON (Army News Service, Jan. 6, 2004) – Officials announced Jan. 7 that the latest Stop Loss is in effect, and that active-duty Soldiers currently serving in Iraq and Afghanistan will not be allowed to change duty stations, separate or retire until after their unit redeploys.

Of the 7,000 Soldiers affected, 3,500 fall under Stop Loss and 3,500 fall under Stop Movement, said officials from the Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, G1. They will be required to stay in the theater for the duration of their unit's deployment and up to a maximum of 90 days after the redeployment, said Col. Elton Manske, the chief of Enlisted Division, G1.

According to INSCOM G1, Col. Craig Carlson, INSCOM does have Soldiers that fall under the program. "If they have questions on whether Stop Loss or Stop Movement effects them, our Soldiers should consult with their unit S1 for answers," Carlson said.

It is important for the force to understand the policy states that the post deployment period allows for up to a maximum of 90 days for Soldiers to transition from service, G1 officials said. The three months allows Soldiers time to complete out-processing, attend medical needs and the Army Career and Alumni Program, complete housing arrangements, as well as ship personal belongings.

The 90 days is for the Soldier, said Lt. Col. Franklin Childress, the G1 Public Affairs officer. If Soldiers complete these arrangements early and want to leave, then they may leave before the 90 days expire, he added.

Army officials emphasize that since lifting the last Unit Stop Loss in May, more than 16,000 Soldiers have transitioned from the service.

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