



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY  
ACQUISITION LOGISTICS AND TECHNOLOGY  
103 ARMY PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON DC 20310-0103

SFAE-ACD

MAR 31 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR ARMY ACQUISITION CORPS OFFICERS AND  
NONCOMMISSIONED OFFICERS

SUBJECT: Director of Acquisition Career Management Guidance Memorandum #4

The Acquisition, Logistics and Technology (ALT) community continues to transform. With the activation of the Army Contracting Command (ACC (Provisional)), the completion of the Army Contracting Task Force, and the Army Contracting Campaign Plan implementation, we are moving forward with actions required to make the Army Acquisition Corps (AAC) more relevant and ready for the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

The AAC will begin accessing both officers and noncommissioned officers (NCOs) earlier in their military career. The plan is to access both groups earlier, on average at the five to six year mark of active federal service. Branch qualification is still a prerequisite for officers; NCOs are required to have the Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course completed prior to their first acquisition assignment. Officers should expect their first assignment to be in support of the ACC's expeditionary contracting mission. Both officers and NCOs can expect to attend their respective acquisition training courses enroute to their first contracting assignment.

Upon completion of these courses, both the officer and NCO should expect to remain on station for one year before deploying to support current operations. This will provide the newly accessed acquisition member an opportunity to gain a minimum of one year of vital contracting experience; this does not preclude temporary assignments to Combat Training Centers or support to other regional requirements as dictated by the respective Army Service Component Commands.

The growth of contracting within the AAC will allow us to better support the warfighter and provide a more predictable deployment cycle. I am continually impressed with our ability to meet the multiple demands placed upon the AAC in fighting the war on terrorism.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "N. Ross Thompson III".

N. ROSS THOMPSON III  
Lieutenant General, GS  
Director  
Acquisition Career Management