

# FORT EUSTIS AND FORT STORY

## VIRGINIA

### LOCATION

Fort Eustis is located on the Virginia Peninsula on the bank of the James River, on the western border of the city of Newport News. It is approximately 165 miles from Washington D.C. and 25 miles from Headquarters, Training and Doctrine Command, Fort Monroe. Fort Eustis is surrounded by water on approximately 80 percent of its perimeter, limiting civilian encroachment and enabling 24 hour flight operations. Terrain is mostly level. The installation is host to the Army's only deep-water port with access to the Chesapeake Bay and Atlantic Ocean. Fort Eustis is subject to all four seasons, with moderate winters and warm summers typical of the mid Atlantic states. Annual mean rainfall is 44 inches.

Fort Story is located on Cape Henry, at the confluence of the Chesapeake Bay and the Atlantic Ocean. It is less than 20 miles from the Naval Operations Base, Norfolk, Virginia and its beaches serve as the perfect compliment for Joint Logistics-Over-The-Shore (JLOTS) exercises to Fort Eustis' ports. Fort Story's shoreline of natural sand beaches extends 3.6 miles which provide a variety of tides, currents, and shoreline ideal for Navy SEAL, Army Special Forces, and USMC Reconnaissance training. The bare beaches, open waters of the ocean and semi-protected waters in the bay, deepwater anchorages and natural sand and dune terrain features create unique opportunities for a variety of training to include and JLOTS and special operations coastal operations. Climatologically, conditions are similar to Fort Eustis.

Combined, the two installations have access to approximately 58,000 square miles of waterways.

### SIZE (COMBINED)

**Acres:** 9,679

**Square Footage of Buildings:** 8,046,928 SF

**Plant Replacement Value:** \$1,591,796,000

### HISTORY

Fort Eustis was known in colonial times as Mulberry Island, serving as residence to John Rolfe, husband to Native American Princess Pocahontas. On March 17, 1918, the Army purchased Mulberry Island and the surrounding acreage for \$538,000. Camp Abraham Eustis was established as a coast artillery replacement for Fort Monroe and as a balloon observation school. "Camp" Eustis was renamed "Fort" Eustis in 1923. It was garrisoned by artillery and infantry units until 1931, when it became a federal prison, primarily for holding bootleggers until the repeal of prohibition led to a significant decline in the number of inmates. Fort Eustis was reopened as a military installation in 1940 as the Coast Artillery Replacement Training Center. In 1946, the newly- formed Transportation School relocated from New Orleans to Fort Eustis resulting in consolidation of training in rail, marine,

amphibious operations and other modes of transportation. Fort Eustis was renamed as the U.S. Army Transportation Center in 1950. In 1966, Fort Eustis was chosen to host the organization presently known as the 7<sup>th</sup> Transportation Group (Composite). And in 1995, Fort Eustis was designated as a Power Projection Platform. In that capacity, Fort Eustis has deployed over 8500 active and reserve component soldiers since November 2002 in support of the Global War on Terrorism.

Fort Story was founded as a Coast Artillery Installation and was transferred to the Transportation Corps in 1948. In 1962, Fort Story was designated as a permanent installation and Class I sub-installation of Fort Eustis when the Fort served as the home base to Nike Ajax missile sites protecting against strategic bombers at high altitudes. Today, Fort Story is the home of the 11<sup>th</sup> Transportation Battalion, 7<sup>th</sup> Transportation Group (Composite), Explosive Ordnance Disposal units 2 and 10, the USMC Reconnaissance School and a variety of Special Operations Forces (SOF) training facilities for the locally based Navy SEALs. Fort Story has become a Joint training area for SOF due to its unique training venues offering a full profile mission capability from infiltration, movement to target, target engagement and exfiltration from both the air and sea.

## **MISSIONS**

Together, Forts Eustis and Story provide host support to 86 Army, Joint, and other Federal agencies. Annually, the installations train over 13000 Active Army, Reserve and National Guard, as well as DOD, and international military personnel in various modes of transportation, deployment, and in the maintenance of rotary aircraft. Transportation concepts, doctrine and material, are developed in coordination with the Combined Arms Support Command, Training and Doctrine Command, Department of the Army, and selected joint agencies. As one of the Army's 15 designated Power Projection Platforms, the installations are charged with deploying 41 Active Component units, and mobilizing and deploying 90 Reserve Component units with more than 9700 soldiers. Fort Eustis and Fort Story are also responsible for deploying the 7<sup>th</sup> Transportation Group (Composite), the Army's only active duty composite transportation group. Uniquely, Fort Story is the only Army facility to provide Logistics Over-the-Shore training and saltwater purification training. Located in Hampton Roads, Virginia, Forts Eustis and Story provide critical access to major rivers, the Chesapeake Bay and to the Atlantic Ocean. Hampton Roads is home to a joint military inter-service complex that is without equal. The area has one of the finest natural harbors in the world, two major airfields capable of handling any type of aircraft, and an efficient road and rail network. The synergy of these interrelationships significantly enhances the nations' capability to respond rapidly to emergencies and contingency deployments while reducing costs through mutual support and elimination of duplication of effort.

**MAJOR UNITS/TENANTS**

U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Eustis  
7<sup>th</sup> Transportation Group (Composite)  
U.S. Army Transportation School  
Noncommissioned Officers Academy  
U.S. Army Aviation Logistics School  
8<sup>th</sup> Transportation Brigade  
Surface Deployment and Distribution Command Operations Center  
Aviation Applied Technology Directorate  
Army Training Support Center  
U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Story  
U.S. Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal Training and Evaluation Unit TEU TWO  
U.S. Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal Training and Evaluation Unit TEN  
U.S. Marine Corps Expeditionary Warfare Training Group Atlantic, Amphibious  
Reconnaissance School  
11<sup>th</sup> Transportation Battalion, 7<sup>th</sup> Transportation Group (Composite)

**POPULATION (COMBINED)**

	<b>Authorized</b>
Military	6,991
Civilian	2,586
Contractor	1,322
Student	2,781
Other	973
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14,653</b>