



1990s

Letterkenny's future was reshaped in the 1990s by the tactical missile consolidation and DOD's downsizing, reorganization and realignments. In 1990, Letterkenny was selected as the single processing and storage location for all weapons captured during the 1990 invasion of Panama – Operation Just Cause. In 1992, Letterkenny was selected to be the center of all tactical missile systems in the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines. It assumed responsibility to support components from twenty-one new missile systems over the next few years. LEAD was also the center for towed and self-propelled artillery.

During the Gulf War, Letterkenny manufactured mine rakes, re-built equipment and painted trucks. The paint used would slough off chemical agents when washed down. Ammunition and Transportation directorates began working 24 hours, seven-days-a-week through the end of the war (February 1991). Thousands of civilians anticipated being fired in late 1990; however, Operation Desert Shield saved hundreds of jobs. Some employees went to Saudi Arabia to help support missile systems.

In 1994, LEAD joined United Defense, Limited Partnership to produce the Paladin. It completed 950 Paladins and ended in 1999. At the end of the Cold War, the government began closing and realigning bases. Letterkenny was realigned under Base Realignment & Closure (BRAC). The artillery mission was moved to Anniston Army Depot, AL., but the tactile missile systems mission remained.



The FAASV painted for the Iraq desert sits outside building 350.



On October 31, 1994 the first full-rate Paladin leaves the depot ahead of schedule and under budget. The partnership between Letterkenny and United Defense initiates partnering between private industry and the Army.



Mine rakes are manufactured to clear large areas of mines during the Gulf War.



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Letterkenny completes its first overhaul of a PATRIOT system, and is the only DoD installation overhauling and maintaining PATRIOT ground support equipment. The system contains seven different support pieces; PATRIOT Trailer Mounted Launching Station (LS), Radar Set (RS), Antenna Mast Group (AMG), Communications Relay Group (CRG), Guided Missile Transport (GMT), Information Coordination Center (ICC) and the Engagement Control Station (ECS).