



Military Corner

The United States Army

Army & Air Force Exchange System

The Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) has a dual mission of providing products and services to military families worldwide and generating earnings to supplement military morale, welfare and recreation (MWR) programs. While most of AAFES' earnings go to MWR programs (\$272.7 million in 2007) the remainder funds new and improved exchange stores.

AAFES operates more than 3,000 facilities worldwide, in more than 30 countries, five U.S. territories and 49 states. AAFES operates some 174 main stores and more than 1,300 fast food restaurants, such as Taco Bell, Burger King, Popeyes and Cinnabon. AAFES also provides military communities with convenience, specialty stores and movie theaters on installations worldwide, including locations in Iraqi . In 2007, the Exchange Catalog and Exchange Online store offered customers more than 30,200 items via the online site. In the past 10 years, \$2.4 billion has been contributed by AAFES to military MWR programs. AAFES is a joint military activity providing quality merchandise and services to active duty, guard and reserve members, military retirees and their families.

The Army and Air Force Exchange lineage dates back to 1895 when the War Department established the first formal post exchanges. [<http://www.aafes.com/>]

