

*Commissioner's
Base Visit Book*



**Battle Creek Air National Guard,
MI
Closure Recommendations**

29 July 2005

**BATTLE CREEK AIR NATIONAL GUARD
COMMISSION BASE VISIT**

29 JULY 2005

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Draft - Itinerary

Honorable Samuel Skinner, Commissioner, 2005 Base Realignment and Closure

July 29, 2005

1200 Depart Selfridge Air National Guard Base for Battle Creek Air National Guard Base
Guard Base
Joined by Gen Ken Heaton or Mr Aaron Taliaferro
(Unless someone escorting Mr. Skinner keeps track of his schedule, and he leaves TACOM late, this could be slipped in the wrong direction.)

1240-1300 Arrive W.K. Kellogg Airport in military airlift
Before Landing, Aerial Tour over WMU College of Aviation
Aerial Tour over Battle Creek Air National Guard Base and Fort Custer Training Center

1300 Arrive WMU College of Aviation ramp and citizen rally

Podium at rally:

Welcome to State of Michigan on behalf of Honorable Jennifer Granholm, Governor: Mr Dan Mulhern, Michigan First Gentleman

Podium at rally:

Honorable Samuel Skinner greets crowd at rally

1315 Transported by BC ANG vehicle to Battle Creek Air National Guard Base
Joined by Mr Ken Small, Senator Mark Schauer, BG Heaton or Aaron Taliaferro

Mr Mulhern departs Battle Creek

1320 Arrive Battle Creek Air National Guard Base (ramp)

Greeted by*:

Col Rodger Seidel, Commander, Battle Creek Air National Guard, 110th Fighter Wing

MG Tom Cutler, Adjutant General and former BCANG Base Commander

BG Ken Heaton, Assistant Adjutant General and former BCANG Base Commander

BG Tom Edmonds, Vice Commander, Michigan Air National Guard

Capt Cal Bagby, US Navy Reserve

Col Dennis Nadrasik, Commander, Fort Custer Training Center, Michigan Army National Guard

Maj David Hudak, Commander, Battle Creek USMCR

Lt Col Clark Hinga, Commander, 51st WMD Civil Support Team

Maj Robert DeCoster, Public Affairs Officer

* Service Dress

1325 Welcome to Battle Creek: Celeste Clark, Ph.D., Senior VP Corporate
Affairs, Kellogg Company

1330 Dr Clark departs BC ANGB

1330 Working lunch in Wing Conference Room
Briefing on Data and Statistical Findings
MG Cutler
BG Heaton
Col Rodger Seidel
Lt Col Dave San Clemente
Mr Ken Small

1330 Lunch on own for remaining military officials

1400 Depart Commander's Conference Room for tour vehicle

Land and Facility Tour
Col Rodger Seidel
Lt Col Dave SanClemente
Maj Erik Oswald
Mr Ken Small
(Possibly joined by MG Cutler and BG Heaton)

1430 Elected Officials proceed to BC ANG Base parking lot; military escort to
Base Operations Auditorium

1430 Other officials and visitors proceed to BC ANGB parking lot and Base
Operations Auditorium

1445 Proceed to Base Operations Auditorium

Remarks from the Adjutant General:

MG Thomas Cutler

Remarks on Homeland Security:

BG Ken Heaton (5 minutes)

Also in front of room:

Honorable John Godfrey

Honorable Mark Schauer

BG Tom Edmonds

Attending in back of room:

Honorable Mike Nofs, State Representative (District 62)

Honorable Lorence Wenke, State Representative (District
63)

Ms Sue Glynn, Regional Manager, Office of the Honorable Debbie
Stabenow, U.S. Senator

Mr Ben Miller, Chair, Calhoun County Commission
Mr Greg Purcell, Calhoun County Administrator
Mr Greg Moore, Calhoun County Commissioner
Ms Kate Segal, Vice Chair, Calhoun County Commission Ms Susan
Anderson, Mayor, City of Springfield
Mr Wayne Wiley, City Manager, Battle Creek
Mr Jim Jenkins, City Manager, City of Springfield
Mr Ed Sackley, District Representative, Office of the Honorable
Fred Upton, U.S. Representative
Mr Paul Egnatuk, District Representative, Office of the Honorable
Joe Schwarz, U.S. Representative
Mr Mike Kuiken, Professional Staff Member, Senate Armed
Services Committee
Mr Ken Tsuchiyama, Assistant City Manager, Battle Creek
Ms Kathleen Mechem, President and CEO, Battle Creek Area
Chamber of Commerce
Ms Jan Burland, Director of Corporate Projects, BCU
Ms Nancy Barbour, Dykema Gossett
Mr John Burchett, Director, State of Michigan Washington office
Mr Ken Small
Col Dennis Nadrasik
Captain Cal Bagby
Lt Col Clark Hinga, Commander, 51st Civil Support Team
Maj David Hudak
Col David Augustine, Vice Wing Commander
Col Tom Allen, Maintenance Group Commander
Lt Col David Kennedy, Operations Group Commander
Lt Col Barker, Mission Support Group Commander
Lt Col Steve Labbe, Medical Group Commander
Lt Col David SanClemente, Wing Chief of Safety
Maj Erik Oswald, Civil Engineering
CCMSgt Joseph Layton, Wing Command Chief

1500

Public Briefing

Welcome and remarks:

Honorable John Godfrey, Mayor, City of Battle Creek (4 minutes)

Other remarks:

Honorable Mark Schauer, State Senator (7 minutes)

Honorable Joe Schwarz, US Representative (*Teleconferenced in from
House floor to Secretary Skinner*) (2 minutes)

1530 Mr. Skinner departs Battle Creek



DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

BASE SUMMARY SHEET

W.K. KELLOGG AIRPORT AIR GUARD STATION, MI

INSTALLATION MISSION

- **Mission Statement**
Combat Power and Mission Support
Serving the Community, State & Nation

DOD RECOMMENDATION

- Close W.K. Kellogg Airport Air Guard Station, Michigan. Distribute the 110th Fighter Wing's A-10s (15 aircraft) to the 127th Wing (ANG), Selfridge ANGB, Michigan.

DOD JUSTIFICATION

- The Air Force placed one squadron at Selfridge (62) because it is significantly higher in military value than Kellogg (122). The Air Force retired the older F-16s from Self and combined the two fighter units into one squadron at Selfridge to retain trained and skilled Michigan ANG Airmen from both locations.

COST CONSIDERATIONS DEVELOPED BY DOD

- One-Time Costs: \$8.3 million
- Net Savings (Cost) during Implementation: \$47 million
- Annual Recurring Savings: \$13 million
- Return on Investment Year: Immediate
- Net Present Value over 20 Years: \$167 million

MANPOWER IMPLICATIONS OF THIS RECOMMENDATION (EXCLUDES CONTRACTORS)

	<u>Military</u>	<u>Civilian</u>	<u>Students</u>
Baseline	(68)	(206)	
Reductions			
Realignments			
Total	(68)	(206)	

MANPOWER IMPLICATIONS OF ALL RECOMMENDATIONS AFFECTING THIS INSTALLATION (INCLUDES ON-BASE CONTRACTORS AND STUDENTS)

	Out		In		Net Gain (Loss)	
	<u>Military</u>	<u>Civilian</u>	<u>Military</u>	<u>Civilian</u>	<u>Military</u>	<u>Civilian</u>
This Recommendation	(68)	(206)	0	0	(68)	(206)
Other Recommendation(s)						
Total	(68)	(206)	0	0	(68)	(206)

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- The facility has spent \$7,890,000 through FY03 on environmental restoration and the Air Force estimates the cost to complete is \$0. As part of the cleanup landfills have been capped and a surface storage yard was also capped. Ground water contamination was not delineated on a site specific basis, although there are small pockets of contamination and the facility monitors at the fence line to confirm the contamination does not migrate off-site. During closure of the facility, land use controls will need to be implemented to prevent use of the ground water and impacts to the capped landfills. The current cost to complete estimate does not account for the potential additional workload required to implement the land use controls or to verify that the extent of ground water contamination is unknown.
- Environmental resource impacts at the facility include air quality and noise. With the current operations at W.K. Kellogg AGS, noise contours extend off the installation's property. The area where the facility is located is currently in attainment for all air quality criteria pollutants, however the area has been proposed to be designated non-attainment for ozone (8 hour). Neither will impact the closure of the facility and could improve with the closure.
- Impacts of costs include \$458 thousand in costs for environmental compliance and waste management. These costs were included in the payback calculation.

REPRESENTATION

Governor: Jennifer Granholm (D) (517) 335-6863 (MI Office)
 (202) 624-5840 (D.C. Office)

Senators: Carl Levin (D) (202) 224-6221
 Debbie Stabenow (D) (202) 224-4822

Representative: John J. H. "Joe" Schwarz (202) 225-6275

ECONOMIC IMPACT

- Potential Employment Loss: 441 jobs (274 direct and 167 indirect)
- MSA Job Base: 74,652 jobs
- Percentage: -.60% percent decrease

MILITARY ISSUES

- N/A

COMMUNITY CONCERNS/ISSUES

Taken from information presented at the regional hearing by the community.

- The Mission Capability Index which determines military value is flawed because it is based on poorly designed questions.
- The cost savings for operating and manpower are based on an incomplete analysis which ignores major costs including pilot training.
- While the Air Force calculates \$167 million in savings over 20 years, analysis suggests that it could cost the Air Force \$76.5 million by closing W.K. Kellogg Airport.
- The recommendation did not account for the training and experience necessary to train Selfridge personnel for the maintenance of A-10s. Nor did the recommendation account for the intensive training necessary to convert an F-16 pilot to an A-10 pilot. The concept that the A-10 qualified pilots, maintenance, and munitions personnel will transfer to Selfridge along with the aircraft is false. Full-time jobs and traditional military positions will be assimilated by personnel from the retiring F-16 unit, resulting in training costs of more than \$1 million per pilot, with a total cost of more than \$60 million for retraining.
- Concurrently, mission capability, i.e., special operations, combat search air rescue, close air support, and forward air control, will be utterly compromised for 3-5 years.
- The Army and Air Force did not coordinate their departure and expansions at Selfridge. In addition to grossly miscalculated savings, the Air Force will accrue additional costs of more than \$89 million by assuming the operations and maintenance left by the Army. The result is a net loss for the Air Force.
- The current recommendation fails to recognize that the services provided by the U.S. Army Garrison at Selfridge benefit all branches of the service that maintain operations at Selfridge: the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard, plus the Michigan National Guard.
- Battle Creek's infrastructure was designed for A-10s, with \$44,296,100 in projects funded since the arrival of the A-10s in 1991. It is the best reserve base for A-10s in the United States. Yet Battle Creek's Mission Capability Index evaluated Battle Creek as one of the lowest for its capability to host A-10s. Despite the same criteria, Battle Creek ranked among the highest for hosting an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle squadron or space. Overall, Battle Creek Air National Guard Base has an excellent composite rating in all mission areas. Real statistical data does not argue in favor of the recommendation for closure. Such ratings should be considered for expanding the base in the future.

ITEMS OF SPECIAL EMPHASIS

- N/A

Ken Small/Air Force/June 29, 2005

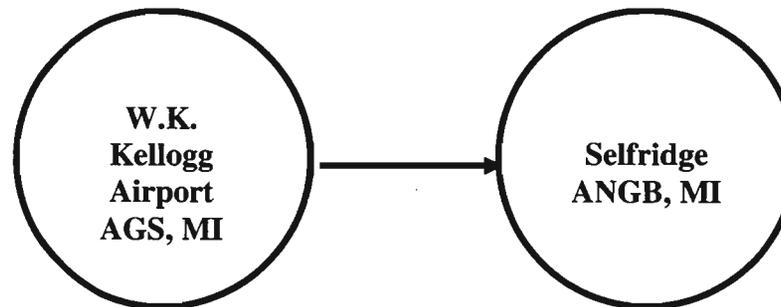
W.K. KELLOGG AIRPORT AIR GUARD STATION, MI

CLOSE

Out		In		Net Gain/(Loss)		Net Mission Contractor	Total Direct
Mil	Civ	Mil	Civ	Mil	Civ		
(68)	(206)	0	0	(68)	(206)	0	(274)

W.K. Kellogg Airport Air Guard Station, MI

Recommendation: Close W.K. Kellogg Airport Air Guard Station, MI. Distribute the 110th Fighter Wing's A-10s (15 aircraft) to the 127th Wing (ANG), Selfridge ANGB, MI.



Economic Impact Report

This report depicts the economic impact of the following Scenarios:

USAF0049v2: AF W K Kellogg (135c2)

The data in this report is rolled up by Action

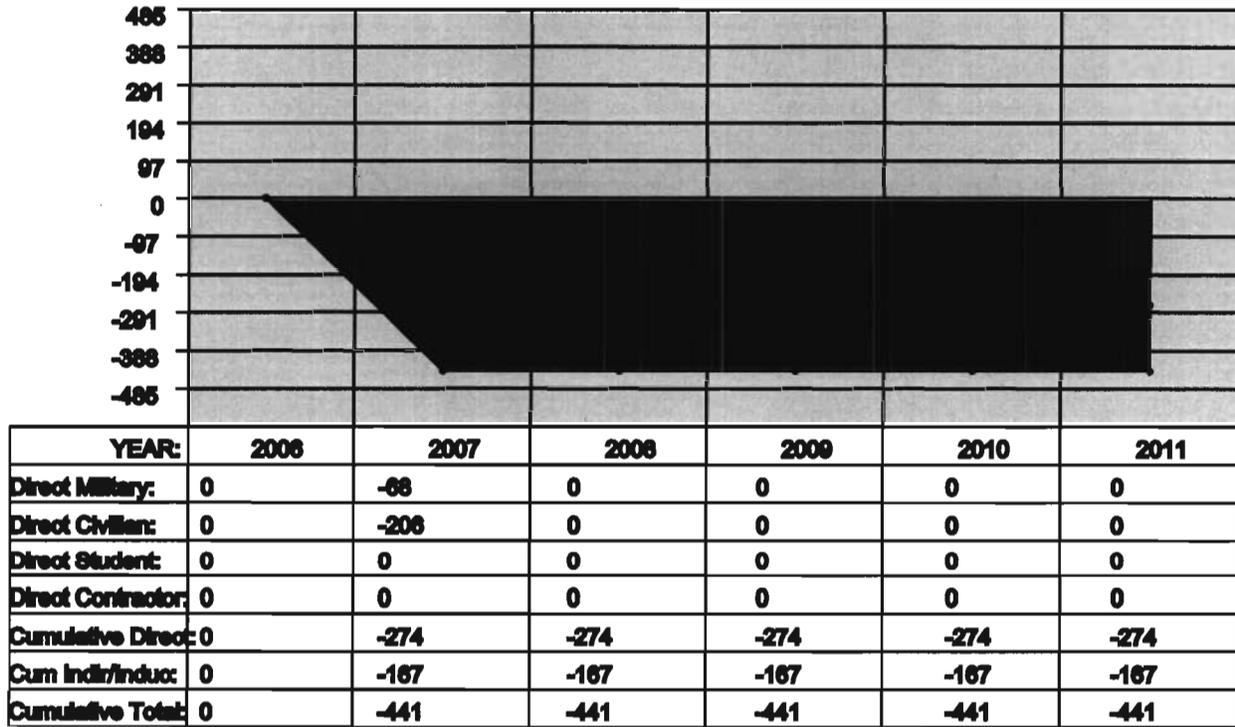
ECONOMIC IMPACT DATA

Scenario: AF W K Kellogg (135c2)
Economic Region of Influence(ROI): Battle Creek, MI Metropolitan Statistical Area
Base: W. K. Kellogg APT AGS
Action: Minus 15 PAA A-10 manpower to Base X

Overall Economic Impact of Proposed BRAC-05 Action:

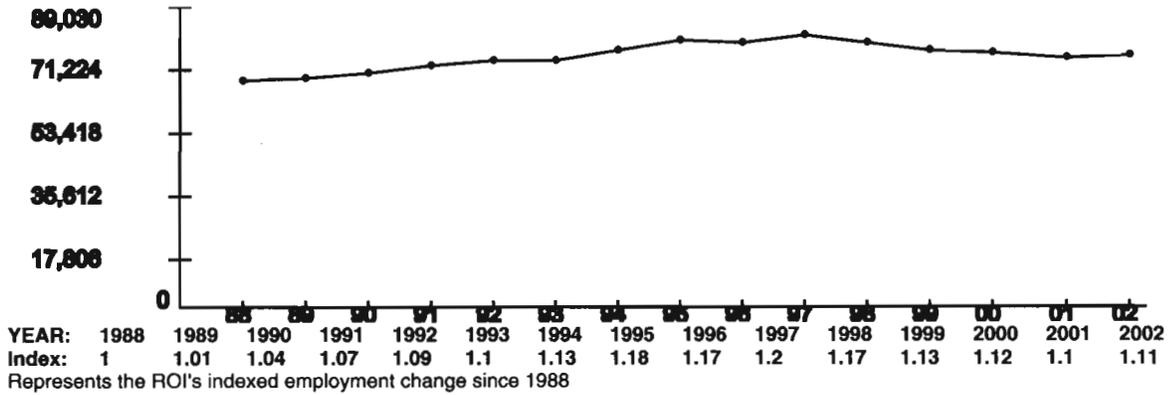
ROI Population (2002):	138,769
ROI Employment (2002):	74,652
Authorized Manpower (2005):	273
Authorized Manpower(2005) / ROI Employment(2002):	0.37%
Total Estimated Job Change:	-441
Total Estimated Job Change / ROI Employment(2002):	-0.59%

Cumulative Job Change (Gain/Loss) Over Time:

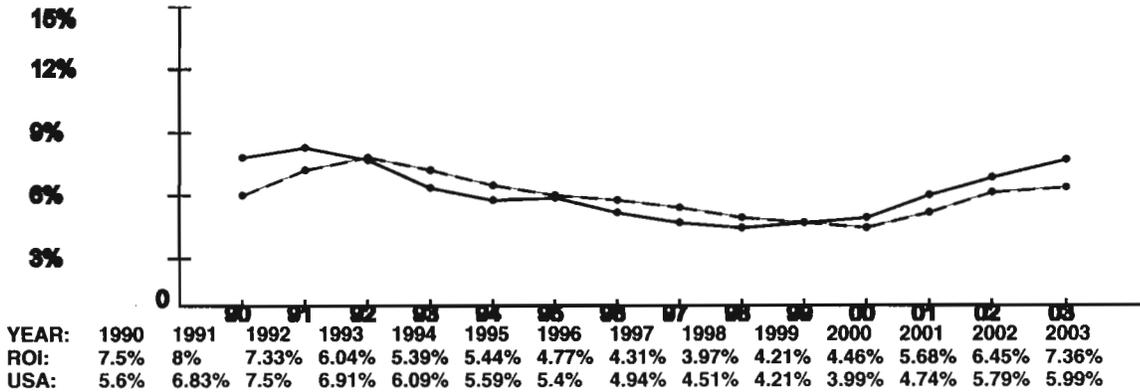


Battle Creek, MI Metropolitan Statistical Area Trend Data

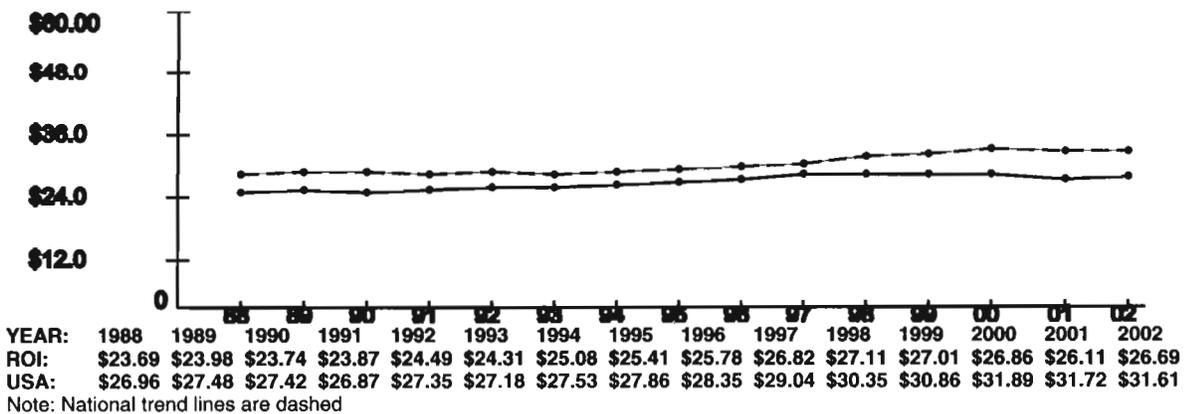
Employment Trend (1988-2002)



Unemployment Percentage Trend (1990-2003)



Per Capita Income x \$1,000 (1988-2002)



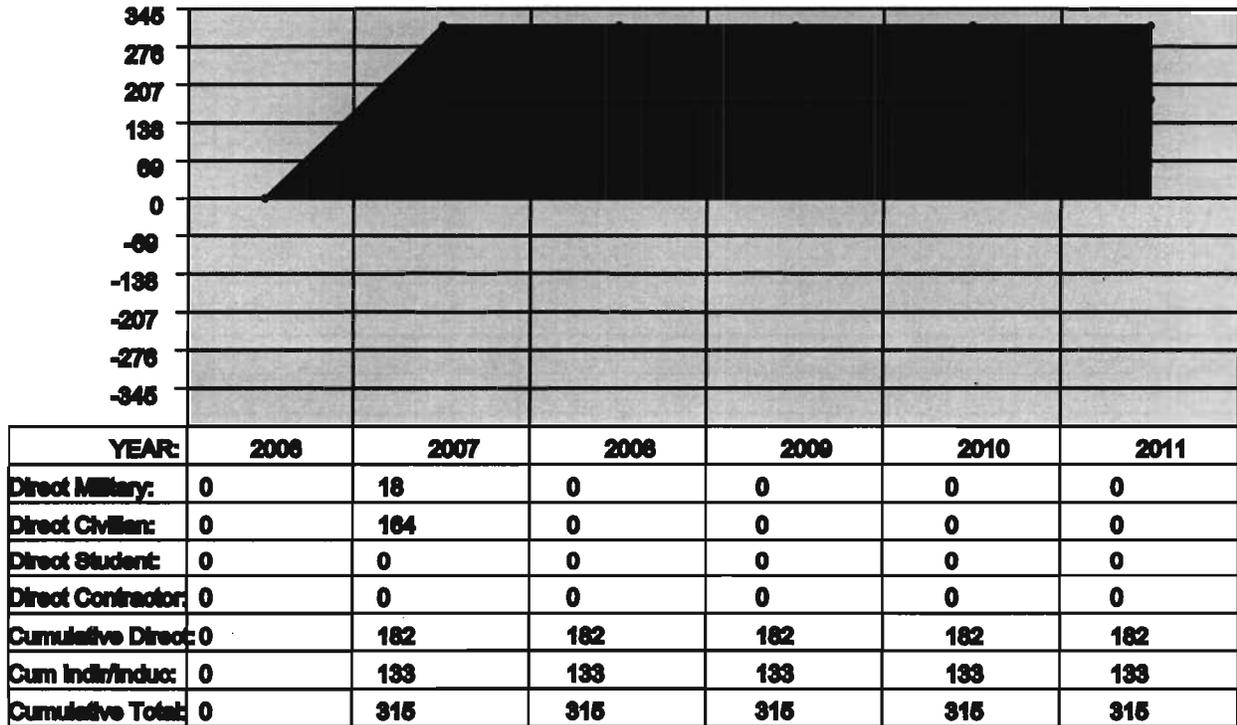
ECONOMIC IMPACT DATA

Scenario: AF W K Kellogg (135c2)
Economic Region of Influence(ROI): Warren-Farmington Hills-Troy, MI Metropolitan Division
Base: SELFRIDGE
Action: Move 15 PAA A-10 and Firefighters from Kellogg to Selfridge

Overall Economic Impact of Proposed BRAC-05 Action:

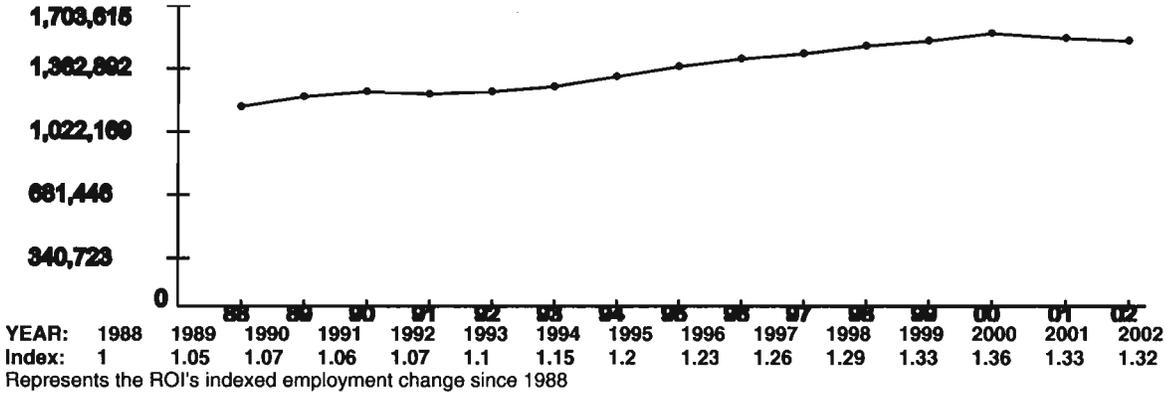
ROI Population (2002): 2,437,081
 ROI Employment (2002): 1,505,252
 Authorized Manpower (2005): 310
 Authorized Manpower(2005) / ROI Employment(2002): 0.02%
 Total Estimated Job Change: 315
 Total Estimated Job Change / ROI Employment(2002): 0.02%

Cumulative Job Change (Gain/Loss) Over Time:

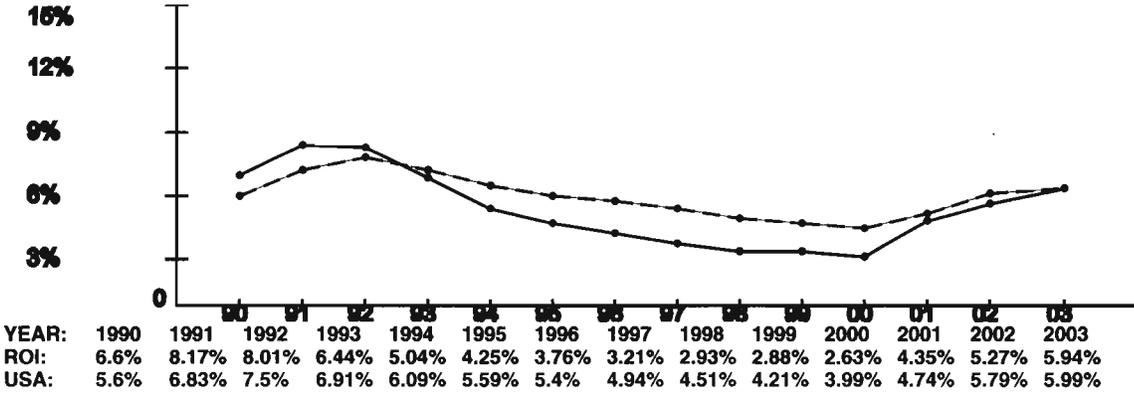


Warren-Farmington Hills-Troy, MI Metropolitan Division Trend Data

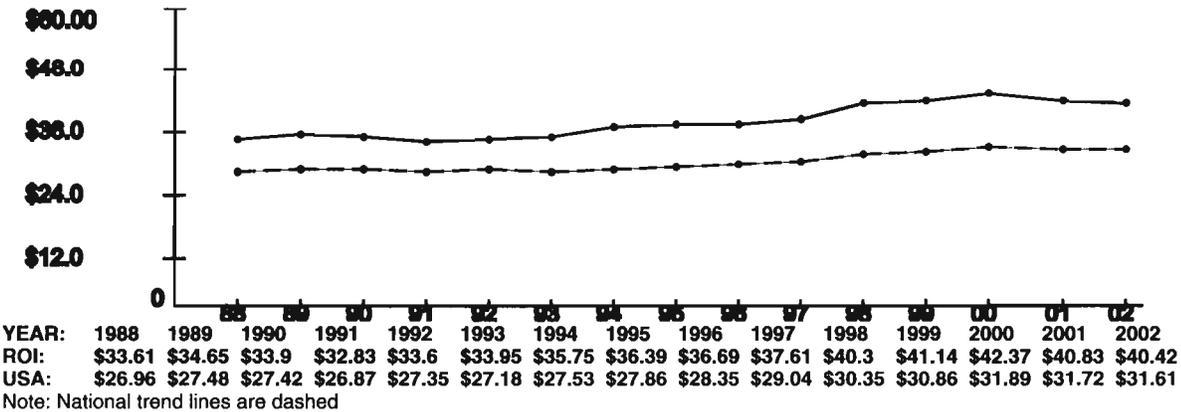
Employment Trend (1988-2002)



Unemployment Percentage Trend (1990-2003)



Per Capita Income x \$1,000 (1988-2002)





SECRETARY OF DEFENSE RECOMMENDATION

- Close W.K. Kellogg Airport Air Guard Station, Michigan. Distribute the 110th Fighter Wing's A-10s (15 aircraft) to the 127th Wing (ANG), Selfridge ANGB, Michigan.



USAF BRAC 2005 Base MCI Score Sheets

Base Score Sheet for W. K. Kellogg APT AGS MCI: Airlift

(The questions that lost the most points are at the top of the list.)

Max Points

This is the maximum number of points this formula can contribute to the overall MCI score.

Earned Points

This is the number of points this formula did contribute to the overall MCI score for this base.

Lost Points

The difference between Max Points and Earned Points.

Running Score from 100

The maximum MCI score is 100 and the minimum is 0. This is a running balance that shows the impact of the lost points from the formula evaluation on the overall MCI score for the base.

<u>Formula</u>	<u>Max Points</u>	<u>Earned Points</u>	<u>Lost Points</u>	<u>Running Score from 100</u>
1246.00 Proximity to Low Level Routes Supporting Mission	13.98	2.62	11.37	88.63
1248.00 Proximity to DZ/LZ	14.72	4.92	9.80	78.83
1249.00 Airspace Attributes of DZ/LZ	8.30	2.09	6.21	72.62
8.00 Ramp Area and Serviceability	5.98	0.00	5.98	66.64
1235.00 Installation Pavements Quality	11.95	5.98	5.98	60.66
1.00 Fuel Hydrant Systems Support Mission Growth	4.32	0.00	4.32	56.34
1273.00 Aerial Port Proximity	8.10	4.05	4.05	52.29
1271.00 Prevailing Installation Weather Conditions	3.22	0.00	3.22	49.07
19.00 Hangar Capability - Large Aircraft	3.32	0.85	2.47	46.60
1214.00 Fuel Dispensing Rate to Support Mobility and Surge	2.20	0.42	1.78	44.82
1205.20 Buildable Acres for Air Operations Growth	1.96	0.31	1.65	43.17
1205.10 Buildable Acres for Industrial Operations Growth	1.96	0.49	1.47	41.70
9.00 Runway Dimension and Serviceability	5.98	5.23	0.75	40.95
213.00 Attainment / Emission Budget Growth Allowance	1.68	1.01	0.67	40.28
1250.00 Area Cost Factor	1.25	0.59	0.66	39.62
1402.00 BAH Rate	0.88	0.65	0.22	39.40
1207.00 Level of Mission Encroachment	1.66	1.51	0.15	39.25
1269.00 Utilities cost rating (U3C)	0.13	0.07	0.05	39.20
1241.00 Ability to Support Large-Scale Mobility Deployment	2.20	2.20	0.00	39.20
1242.00 ATC Restrictions to Operations	5.98	5.98	0.00	39.20
1403.00 GS Locality Pay Rate	0.25	0.25	0.00	39.20

USAF BRAC 2005 Base MCI Score Sheets

Base Score Sheet for W. K. Kellogg APT AGS MCI: Bomber

(The questions that lost the most points are at the top of the list.)

Max Points

This is the maximum number of points this formula can contribute to the overall MCI score.

Earned Points

This is the number of points this formula did contribute to the overall MCI score for this base.

Lost Points

The difference between Max Points and Earned Points.

Running Score from 100

The maximum MCI score is 100 and the minimum is 0. This is a running balance that shows the impact of the lost points from the formula evaluation on the overall MCI score for the base.

<u>Formula</u>	<u>Max Points</u>	<u>Earned Points</u>	<u>Lost Points</u>	<u>Running Score from 100</u>
1245.00 Proximity to Airspace Supporting Mission (ASM)	20.24	4.61	15.63	84.37
1246.00 Proximity to Low Level Routes Supporting Mission	16.56	2.70	13.86	70.51
1266.00 Range Complex (RC) Supports Mission	12.45	3.22	9.23	61.28
9.00 Runway Dimension and Serviceability	5.52	0.00	5.52	55.76
1235.00 Installation Pavements Quality	4.94	0.00	4.94	50.82
1271.00 Prevailing Installation Weather Conditions	3.68	0.00	3.68	47.14
8.00 Ramp Area and Serviceability	3.49	0.00	3.49	43.65
1233.00 Sufficient Munitions Storage	2.91	0.00	2.91	40.74
19.00 Hangar Capability - Large Aircraft	2.91	0.75	2.16	38.58
1214.00 Fuel Dispensing Rate to Support Mobility and Surge	2.64	0.51	2.13	36.45
1.00 Fuel Hydrant Systems Support Mission Growth	2.03	0.00	2.03	34.42
1231.00 Certified Weapons Storage Area	2.03	0.00	2.03	32.39
1205.20 Buildable Acres for Air Operations Growth	1.96	0.31	1.65	30.74
1205.10 Buildable Acres for Industrial Operations Growth	1.96	0.49	1.47	29.27
213.00 Attainment / Emission Budget Growth Allowance	1.68	1.01	0.67	28.60
1250.00 Area Cost Factor	1.25	0.59	0.66	27.94
1402.00 BAH Rate	0.88	0.65	0.22	27.72
1207.00 Level of Mission Encroachment	2.03	1.84	0.19	27.53
1269.00 Utilities cost rating (U3C)	0.13	0.07	0.05	27.48
1232.00 Sufficient Explosives-sited Parking	3.20	3.20	0.00	27.48
1241.00 Ability to Support Large-Scale Mobility Deployment	1.76	1.76	0.00	27.48
1242.00 ATC Restrictions to Operations	5.52	5.52	0.00	27.48
1403.00 GS Locality Pay Rate	0.25	0.25	0.00	27.48

USAF BRAC 2005 Base MCI Score Sheets

Base Score Sheet for W. K. Kellogg APT AGS MCI: C2ISR

(The questions that lost the most points are at the top of the list.)

Max Points

This is the maximum number of points this formula can contribute to the overall MCI score.

Earned Points

This is the number of points this formula did contribute to the overall MCI score for this base.

Lost Points

The difference between Max Points and Earned Points.

Running Score from 100

The maximum MCI score is 100 and the minimum is 0. This is a running balance that shows the impact of the lost points from the formula evaluation on the overall MCI score for the base.

<u>Formula</u>	<u>Max Points</u>	<u>Earned Points</u>	<u>Lost Points</u>	<u>Running Score from 100</u>
1245.00 Proximity to Airspace Supporting Mission (ASM)	29.90	17.44	12.46	87.54
8.00 Ramp Area and Serviceability	9.13	2.28	6.85	80.69
1235.00 Installation Pavements Quality	16.19	12.14	4.05	76.64
1214.00 Fuel Dispensing Rate to Support Mobility and Surge	2.80	0.54	2.26	74.38
19.00 Hangar Capability - Large Aircraft	2.91	0.75	2.16	72.22
1.00 Fuel Hydrant Systems Support Mission Growth	2.08	0.00	2.08	70.14
9.00 Runway Dimension and Serviceability	9.13	7.61	1.52	68.62
1205.20 Buildable Acres for Air Operations Growth	1.80	0.29	1.51	67.11
1205.10 Buildable Acres for Industrial Operations Growth	1.80	0.45	1.35	65.76
213.00 Attainment / Emission Budget Growth Allowance	2.40	1.44	0.96	64.80
1251.00 Frequency Spectrum Limitations (FSL)	8.05	7.12	0.93	63.87
1250.00 Area Cost Factor	1.25	0.59	0.66	63.21
1402.00 BAH Rate	0.88	0.65	0.22	62.99
1207.00 Level of Mission Encroachment	2.08	1.88	0.19	62.80
1269.00 Utilities cost rating (U3C)	0.13	0.07	0.05	62.75
1241.00 Ability to Support Large-Scale Mobility Deployment	1.20	1.20	0.00	62.75
1242.00 ATC Restrictions to Operations	8.05	8.05	0.00	62.75
1403.00 GS Locality Pay Rate	0.25	0.25	0.00	62.75

USAF BRAC 2005 Base MCI Score Sheets

Base Score Sheet for W. K. Kellogg APT AGS MCI: Fighter

(The questions that lost the most points are at the top of the list.)

Max Points

This is the maximum number of points this formula can contribute to the overall MCI score.

Earned Points

This is the number of points this formula did contribute to the overall MCI score for this base.

Lost Points

The difference between Max Points and Earned Points.

Running Score from 100

The maximum MCI score is 100 and the minimum is 0. This is a running balance that shows the impact of the lost points from the formula evaluation on the overall MCI score for the base.

<u>Formula</u>	<u>Max Points</u>	<u>Earned Points</u>	<u>Lost Points</u>	<u>Running Score from 100</u>
1245.00 Proximity to Airspace Supporting Mission (ASM)	22.08	3.13	18.95	81.05
1203.00 Access to Adequate Supersonic Airspace	6.72	0.00	6.72	74.33
1246.00 Proximity to Low Level Routes Supporting Mission	7.25	0.85	6.39	67.94
1271.00 Prevailing Installation Weather Conditions	5.52	0.00	5.52	62.42
1266.00 Range Complex (RC) Supports Mission	11.95	6.49	5.46	56.96
1233.00 Sufficient Munitions Storage	4.79	0.00	4.79	52.17
1270.00 Suitable Auxiliary Airfields Within 50NM	5.18	2.59	2.59	49.58
8.00 Ramp Area and Serviceability	2.97	0.74	2.23	47.35
1214.00 Fuel Dispensing Rate to Support Mobility and Surge	2.64	0.51	2.13	45.22
1221.00 Hangar Capability - Small Aircraft	3.88	1.94	1.94	43.28
1205.20 Buildable Acres for Air Operations Growth	1.96	0.31	1.65	41.63
1205.10 Buildable Acres for Industrial Operations Growth	1.96	0.49	1.47	40.16
1235.00 Installation Pavements Quality	2.97	2.23	0.74	39.42
213.00 Attainment / Emission Budget Growth Allowance	1.68	1.01	0.67	38.75
1250.00 Area Cost Factor	1.25	0.59	0.66	38.09
1402.00 BAH Rate	0.88	0.65	0.22	37.87
1207.00 Level of Mission Encroachment	2.28	2.07	0.21	37.66
1269.00 Utilities cost rating (U3C)	0.13	0.07	0.05	37.61
9.00 Runway Dimension and Serviceability	2.28	2.28	0.00	37.61
1232.00 Sufficient Explosives-sited Parking	3.65	3.65	0.00	37.61
1241.00 Ability to Support Large-Scale Mobility Deployment	1.76	1.76	0.00	37.61
1242.00 ATC Restrictions to Operations	5.98	5.98	0.00	37.61
1403.00 GS Locality Pay Rate	0.25	0.25	0.00	37.61

USAF BRAC 2005 Base MCI Score Sheets

Base Score Sheet for W. K. Kellogg APT AGS MCI: SOF / CSAR

(The questions that lost the most points are at the top of the list.)

Max Points

This is the maximum number of points this formula can contribute to the overall MCI score.

Earned Points

This is the number of points this formula did contribute to the overall MCI score for this base.

Lost Points

The difference between Max Points and Earned Points.

Running Score from 100

The maximum MCI score is 100 and the minimum is 0. This is a running balance that shows the impact of the lost points from the formula evaluation on the overall MCI score for the base.

<u>Formula</u>	<u>Max Points</u>	<u>Earned Points</u>	<u>Lost Points</u>	<u>Running Score from 100</u>
1248.00 Proximity to DZ/LZ	14.72	1.47	13.25	86.75
1245.00 Proximity to Airspace Supporting Mission (ASM)	14.72	2.64	12.08	74.67
1266.00 Range Complex (RC) Supports Mission	14.84	3.40	11.43	63.24
1249.00 Airspace Attributes of DZ/LZ	7.99	0.80	7.19	56.05
1271.00 Prevailing Installation Weather Conditions	5.06	0.00	5.06	50.99
8.00 Ramp Area and Serviceability	4.67	1.17	3.50	47.49
1246.00 Proximity to Low Level Routes Supporting Mission	3.68	0.28	3.40	44.09
1233.00 Sufficient Munitions Storage	2.80	0.00	2.80	41.29
1241.00 Ability to Support Large-Scale Mobility Deployment	2.64	0.00	2.64	38.65
1205.20 Buildable Acres for Air Operations Growth	1.96	0.31	1.65	37.00
1205.10 Buildable Acres for Industrial Operations Growth	1.96	0.49	1.47	35.53
1214.00 Fuel Dispensing Rate to Support Mobility and Surge	1.76	0.34	1.42	34.11
1243.00 Airfield Elevation	3.68	2.43	1.25	32.86
213.00 Attainment / Emission Budget Growth Allowance	1.68	1.01	0.67	32.19
1250.00 Area Cost Factor	1.25	0.59	0.66	31.53
1235.00 Installation Pavements Quality	4.67	4.09	0.58	30.95
1402.00 BAH Rate	0.88	0.65	0.22	30.73
1207.00 Level of Mission Encroachment	1.49	1.36	0.14	30.59
1269.00 Utilities cost rating (U3C)	0.13	0.07	0.05	30.54
9.00 Runway Dimension and Serviceability	2.80	2.80	0.00	30.54
1232.00 Sufficient Explosives-sited Parking	2.24	2.24	0.00	30.54
1242.00 ATC Restrictions to Operations	4.14	4.14	0.00	30.54
1403.00 GS Locality Pay Rate	0.25	0.25	0.00	30.54

USAF BRAC 2005 Base MCI Score Sheets

Base Score Sheet for W. K. Kellogg APT AGS MCI: Space Ops

(The questions that lost the most points are at the top of the list.)

Max Points

This is the maximum number of points this formula can contribute to the overall MCI score.

Earned Points

This is the number of points this formula did contribute to the overall MCI score for this base.

Lost Points

The difference between Max Points and Earned Points.

Running Score from 100

The maximum MCI score is 100 and the minimum is 0. This is a running balance that shows the impact of the lost points from the formula evaluation on the overall MCI score for the base.

<u>Formula</u>	<u>Max Points</u>	<u>Earned Points</u>	<u>Lost Points</u>	<u>Running Score from 100</u>
30.00 Buildable Acres (Space Mission Bed Down Area)	41.50	17.60	23.90	76.10
1210.00 Line-of-Sight Encroachment	23.00	7.59	15.41	60.69
1205.10 Buildable Acres for Industrial Operations Growth	7.00	1.74	5.26	55.43
213.00 Attainment / Emission Budget Growth Allowance	3.00	1.80	1.20	54.23
1250.00 Area Cost Factor	1.25	0.59	0.66	53.57
1402.00 BAH Rate	0.88	0.65	0.22	53.35
1269.00 Utilities cost rating (U3C)	0.13	0.07	0.05	53.30
1226.00 Population Density Impact on USAF Mission	23.00	23.00	0.00	53.30
1403.00 GS Locality Pay Rate	0.25	0.25	0.00	53.30

USAF BRAC 2005 Base MCI Score Sheets

Base Score Sheet for W. K. Kellogg APT AGS MCI: Tanker

(The questions that lost the most points are at the top of the list.)

Max Points

This is the maximum number of points this formula can contribute to the overall MCI score.

Earned Points

This is the number of points this formula did contribute to the overall MCI score for this base.

Lost Points

The difference between Max Points and Earned Points.

Running Score from 100

The maximum MCI score is 100 and the minimum is 0. This is a running balance that shows the impact of the lost points from the formula evaluation on the overall MCI score for the base.

<u>Formula</u>	<u>Max Points</u>	<u>Earned Points</u>	<u>Lost Points</u>	<u>Running Score from 100</u>
1245.00 Proximity to Airspace Supporting Mission (ASM)	39.10	22.81	16.29	83.71
1235.00 Installation Pavements Quality	14.53	5.45	9.08	74.63
8.00 Ramp Area and Serviceability	7.89	0.00	7.89	66.74
1.00 Fuel Hydrant Systems Support Mission Growth	4.15	0.00	4.15	62.59
1214.00 Fuel Dispensing Rate to Support Mobility and Surge	3.85	0.74	3.11	59.48
19.00 Hangar Capability - Large Aircraft	3.32	0.85	2.47	57.01
9.00 Runway Dimension and Serviceability	9.55	7.64	1.91	55.10
1205.20 Buildable Acres for Air Operations Growth	1.58	0.25	1.33	53.77
1205.10 Buildable Acres for Industrial Operations Growth	1.58	0.39	1.18	52.59
1250.00 Area Cost Factor	1.25	0.59	0.66	51.93
213.00 Attainment / Emission Budget Growth Allowance	1.35	0.81	0.54	51.39
1402.00 BAH Rate	0.88	0.65	0.22	51.17
1207.00 Level of Mission Encroachment	2.08	1.88	0.19	50.98
1269.00 Utilities cost rating (U3C)	0.13	0.07	0.05	50.93
1241.00 Ability to Support Large-Scale Mobility Deployment	1.65	1.65	0.00	50.93
1242.00 ATC Restrictions to Operations	6.90	6.90	0.00	50.93
1403.00 GS Locality Pay Rate	0.25	0.25	0.00	50.93

USAF BRAC 2005 Base MCI Score Sheets

Base Score Sheet for W. K. Kellogg APT AGS MCI: UAV / UCAS

(The questions that lost the most points are at the top of the list.)

Max Points

This is the maximum number of points this formula can contribute to the overall MCI score.

Earned Points

This is the number of points this formula did contribute to the overall MCI score for this base.

Lost Points

The difference between Max Points and Earned Points.

Running Score from 100

The maximum MCI score is 100 and the minimum is 0. This is a running balance that shows the impact of the lost points from the formula evaluation on the overall MCI score for the base.

<u>Formula</u>	<u>Max Points</u>	<u>Earned Points</u>	<u>Lost Points</u>	<u>Running Score from 100</u>
1245.00 Proximity to Airspace Supporting Mission (ASM)	20.70	4.17	16.53	83.47
1266.00 Range Complex (RC) Supports Mission	12.45	7.16	5.29	78.18
1271.00 Prevailing Installation Weather Conditions	3.29	0.00	3.29	74.89
1205.10 Buildable Acres for Industrial Operations Growth	3.50	0.87	2.63	72.26
1205.20 Buildable Acres for Air Operations Growth	2.80	0.44	2.36	69.90
1251.00 Frequency Spectrum Limitations (FSL)	6.58	4.84	1.74	68.16
1233.00 Sufficient Munitions Storage	5.81	4.36	1.45	66.71
8.00 Ramp Area and Serviceability	5.23	3.92	1.31	65.40
1235.00 Installation Pavements Quality	5.52	4.83	0.69	64.71
1250.00 Area Cost Factor	1.25	0.59	0.66	64.05
213.00 Attainment / Emission Budget Growth Allowance	0.70	0.42	0.28	63.77
1402.00 BAH Rate	0.88	0.65	0.22	63.55
1207.00 Level of Mission Encroachment	1.45	1.32	0.13	63.42
1269.00 Utilities cost rating (U3C)	0.13	0.07	0.05	63.37
9.00 Runway Dimension and Serviceability	5.23	5.23	0.00	63.37
1232.00 Sufficient Explosives-sited Parking	5.81	5.81	0.00	63.37
1241.00 Ability to Support Large-Scale Mobility Deployment	3.00	3.00	0.00	63.37
1242.00 ATC Restrictions to Operations	6.33	6.33	0.00	63.37
1272.00 Installation Crosswind Conditions	9.11	9.11	0.00	63.37
1403.00 GS Locality Pay Rate	0.25	0.25	0.00	63.37



Battle Creek ANGB

Battle Creek Air National Guard Base in Battle Creek, Michigan is home to the 110th Fighter Wing. The 110th Fighter Wing of the Air National Guard is part of the diverse economy base for the Battle Creek area at the W.K. Kellogg Airport.

The 110th FW occupies 89 acres and contains 37 buildings including headquarters (the buildings are industrial/commercial use). The base leases a total of 319 acres from the City of Battle Creek. This includes 230 acres that are intended for future development with the construction of a new munitions maintenance and storage complex. The munitions maintenance and storage complex is in the planning and design phase, and its construction has not yet been funded.

W.K Kellogg Airport in Battle Creek is positioned to be a powerful competitor and prepared to play a key role in aviation and airfreight traffic. Strategic planners have ensured that W.K. Kellogg Airport holds all the necessary elements for expanded opportunities to meet the ever-increasing needs of air freight shippers and the aviation industry. With a 10,003 lineal foot runway, undeveloped surrounding acreage and convenient access to Interstate 69 and Interstate 94 (the most important transportation corridor between Chicago and Detroit), W.K. Kellogg Airport extends a friendly welcome through uncongested skies.

An inland U.S. Customs port of entry allots full-time U.S. Customs Service personnel to W.K. Kellogg Airport, permitting the Customs clearance of foreign shipments in a timely, efficient manner. A Flight Area Inspection Office, a division of the FAA, serves eight Great Lakes states. Two fixed base operators provide additional convenient services.

Adjacent to Fort Custer Industrial Park and its 80+ resident companies from Asia, Europe and the United States, W.K. Kellogg Airport provides convenient access to world markets. A nearby aircraft maintenance and refurbishing company ranks among the best in the nation.

Western Michigan University School of Aviation Sciences at W.K. Kellogg Airport trains and retrains pilots and other aviation professionals in an international program that perfectly complements the air traffic control system, navigational aids and low-density traffic at W.K. Kellogg Airport. Students enrolled in the 15-month pilot training curriculum include cadets from British Airways and Aer Lingus. In March of 1998, the first British Airways cadets were delivered to W.K. Kellogg Airport in the Concorde.

Air Force Link

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Base Realignment and Closure 2005 > Michigan

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| Kansas | North Dakota | District of Columbia |
| Kentucky | Ohio | Guam |
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Information

State Map

Michigan

W. K. Kellogg Airport Air Guard Station -- Close

Manpower: The installation will lose 68 military and 206 civilians and gain no military and no civilians for a total loss of 68 military and 206 civilians.

-- Air Force Recommendations:

Move the 110th Fighter Wing's A-10s (15 aircraft) to the 127th Wing (ANG), Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Mich.

-- Joint Recommendations: NONE.

Incoming Activities:

-- Air Force Actions: NONE.

-- Joint Actions: NONE.

Departing Activities:

-- Air Force Actions:

What: Move 15 A-10 aircraft to Selfridge ANGB.

Why: This recommendation is part of a larger effort to consolidate the A-10 fleet. The Air Force retains trained and skilled ANG Airmen from Kellogg ANGB by combining two fighter squadrons into a single A-10 squadron at Selfridge ANGB.

-- Joint Actions: NONE.

[Back to Listings](#)

Selfridge Air National Guard Base -- Gain

Manpower: The installation will lose 3 military and 76 civilians and gain 72 military and 167 civilians for a total gain of 69 military and 91 civilians.



W. K. Kellogg Airport Air Guard Station

Selfridge Air National Guard Base

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- DOD BRAC
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- Navy BRAC
- Guard BRAC
- Prior AF BRAC
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Background

- AF Success Stories
- BRAC Definitions
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-- Air Force Recommendations:

Receive 15 A-10 aircraft from W.K. Kellogg Airport Air Guard Station, Mich., and 3 A-10 aircraft from Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Willow Grove, Pa. Receive 4 KC-135R aircraft from Beale AFB, Calif., and transfer 8 KC-135 Air Force Reserve Command aircraft at Selfridge to the Air National Guard wing at Selfridge. Retire 15 F-16 aircraft and 8 C-130E aircraft. The 927th Air Refueling Wing will realign to associate with the 6th Air Mobility Wing at MacDill AFB, Fla. Move base-level TF-34 engine intermediate maintenance to Bradley International Airport AGS, Conn., to establish a Centralized Intermediate Repair Facility for TF-34 engines.

-- Joint Recommendations: NONE.

Incoming Activities:

-- Air Force Actions:

What: Receive 15 A-10 aircraft from W.K. Kellogg APT AGS, and 3 A-10 aircraft from NAS JRB Willow Grove.

Why: The Air Force will combine two Michigan fighter units into one squadron at Selfridge to retain trained and skilled Michigan ANG Airmen at both locations. The plan is consistent with the Air Force desires to consolidate the A-10 fleet.

What: Receive 4 KC-135R aircraft from Beale AFB, Calif., and transfer 8 KC-135 AFRC aircraft at Selfridge to the Air National Guard wing at Selfridge.

Why: This recommendation streamlines operations at Selfridge ANGB by transferring the Reserve air refueling mission, currently operating as a tenant unit, to the Air National Guard Wing.

Reorganizing the flying operations under one component (ANG) will maximize organizational effectiveness and the increased squadron size increases unit capability.

-- Joint Actions: NONE.

Departing Activities:

-- Air Force Actions:

What: Retire 15 F-16 aircraft.

Why: The Air Force will retire F-16 aircraft and combine two Michigan fighter units into one squadron at Selfridge to retain trained and skilled Michigan ANG Airmen at both locations.

What: Retires its 8 C-130E aircraft.

Why: The Air Force retirement of C-130E aircraft is consistent with force structure plans to maintain the most capable C-130 fleet as able.

What: The 927th Air Refueling Wing (AFRC) staff, expeditionary combat support, and mission support squadron manpower moves to MacDill AFB and establish an association with the tanker unit at that location.

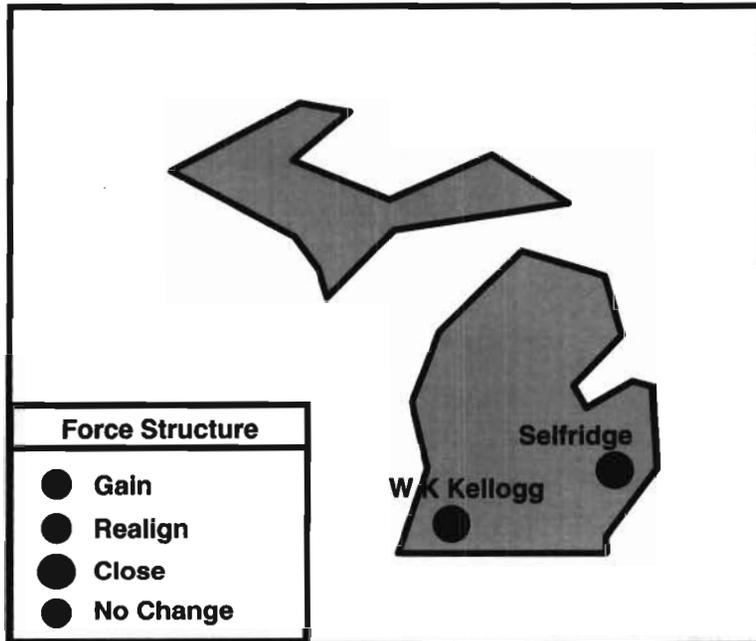
Why: The new association will capture reserve experience in the Tampa region and enhance MacDill's unit capability with Selfridge experienced tanker manpower.

What: Move base-level TF-34 engine intermediate maintenance to Bradley International Airport AGS to establish a Centralized Intermediate Repair Facility at for TF-34 engines.

Why: Moving base-level TF-34 engine intermediate maintenance will consolidate TF-34 engine maintenance for ANG A-10s and complements the realignment of the A-10 fleet.



Michigan



JCSG / JAST Scenarios:

- None

Issues/Close Installations:

- W K P Closes

Color Scheme: **Active / Guard / Reserve**

CURRENT

Locations:

Selfridge
W K Kellogg

FORCE STRUCTURE

Aircraft changes:

	<u>Current</u>	<u>Future</u>	<u>BRAC</u>
A-10 (Selfridge - ANG)	0	0	18
F-16 Blk 30 (Selfridge - ANG)	15	15	0
C-130 (Selfridge - ANG)	8	8	0
KC-135 (Selfridge - ANG)	0	0	12
KC-135 (Selfridge - AFR)	8	8	0
A-10 (W K Kellogg - ANG)	15	15	0
Totals	<u>46</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>30</u>

STATE IMPACT (Acft)

-16

STATE IMPACT (Manpower)

TOTAL

<u>Full Time</u>	<u>Drill</u>
-412	-1671

*Includes BRAC and Non-BRAC programmatic actions thru 2011

W.K. Kellogg AGS (MI)

Outgoing

- 15 PAA of A-10s from W.K. Kellogg AGS, MI (110th Fighter Wing) (ANG) will be distributed to 127th Wing (ANG), Selfridge ANGB, MI

Candidate Recommendation (CR) (Cost) / Savings

Initiating CR – Close W.K. Kellogg

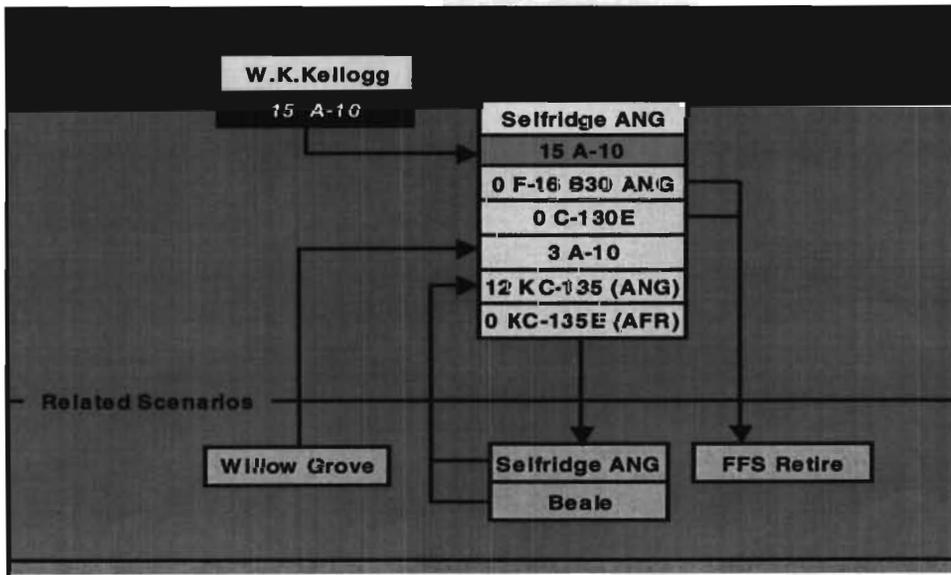
One Time (Cost):	(\$8M)
2011 (Cost) / Savings:	\$47M
Annual Recurring (Cost) / Savings:	\$13M
Payback period:	Immediate
NPV (Cost) / Savings:	\$167M

Manpower

	Full Time	Drill
Impact thru 2011	-274	-852

*Includes BRAC and Non-BRAC programmatic changes

Spider Diagram



JCSG / JAST Actions

- None



1991	Fort Devens	CLOSE
1991	Naval Undersea Warfare Engineering Station Keyport	REALIGN
1993	Naval Reserve Center Chicopee	CLOSE
1993	Naval Reserve Center New Bedford	CLOSE
1993	Naval Reserve Center Pittsfield	CLOSE
1993	Naval Reserve Center Quincy	CLOSE
1993	Navy/Marine Corps Reserve Center Lawrence	CLOSE
1995	Naval Air Station South Weymouth	CLOSE
1995	Hingham Cohasset	CLOSE
1995	Sudbury Training Annex	CLOSE

MICHIGAN

1988	Pontiac Storage Facility	CLOSE
1991	Ground Vehicle Propulsion Basic and Applied Research, Warren	REALIGN
1991	Wurtsmith Air Force Base	CLOSE
1993	Naval Air Facility Detroit	CLOSE
1993	Defense Logistics Agency Information Processing Center, Battle Creek	CLOSE
1993	K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base	CLOSE
1995	Detroit Arsenal	REALIGN
1995	Naval Reserve Center Cadillac	CLOSE
1995	Naval Air Facility Detroit	REDIRECT

MISSOURI

1988	NIKE Kansas City 30	CLOSE
1988	St. Louis Area Support Center Wherry Housing	CLOSE
1991	Aviation Systems Command and Troop Command Support, St. Louis	REALIGN
1991	Richard-Gebaur Air Reserve Station	CLOSE
1993	Defense Information Technology Service Organization, Kansas City Information Processing Center	CLOSE
1993	Naval Reserve Center Joplin	CLOSE
1993	Naval Reserve Center St. Joseph	CLOSE
1995	Aviation-Troop Support Command	DISESTAB

MONTANA

1993	Naval Reserve Center Great Falls	CLOSE
1993	Naval Reserve Center Missoula	CLOSE
1995	Malmstrom Air Force Base	REALIGN
1995	Fort Missoula	CLOSURE

NEW HAMPSHIRE

1988	Pease Air Force Base	CLOSE
1993	Submarine Maintenance, Engineering, Planning, and Procurement Portsmouth	DISESTAB

NEW JERSEY

1988	Fort Dix	REALIGN
1988	Fort Monmouth	REALIGN
1988	NIKE NV 54 Housing	CLOSE



**W.K. KELLOG AIRPORT AIR GUARD STATION
(BATTLE CREEK)
MICHIGAN**

National News Articles

SEN. LEVIN ADDRESSES BRAC COMMISSION HEARING IN ST. LOUIS

Granholm opposes Pentagon plan to shuffle Michigan guard units

Schwarz meets with base closure panel members

Memo underlines legal problems with Air Guard closures

Tour From Brac Commissioner May Help Michigan Base's Situation

Local News Articles

BRAC picture brightens for Battle Creek

BRAC commissioners appear impressed by Battle Creek arguments

Michigan officials make case before base closing panel

Delegation to argue in defense of B.C. base

Selfridge would get 182 Kellogg jobs under Pentagon plan

Diverging views emerge on base closings in Michigan

Announcement 'bittersweet' for some

City vows to fight closing

Closing base will 'impact everything'

BRAC picture brightens for Battle Creek

Editorial/Opinion Articles

National News Articles

SEN. LEVIN ADDRESSES BRAC COMMISSION HEARING IN ST. LOUIS

US Fed News

June 20, 2005

The office of Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., issued the following statement:

Statement of Sen. Carl Levin to the Base Realignment and Closure Commission Hearing in St. Louis:

Thank you, Chairman Principi and **BRAC** Commissioners, for the opportunity to testify before you today about the Pentagon's recommendations for Michigan's military facilities. Governor Jennifer Granholm and Senator Debbie Stabenow could not be with us, but they asked me to extend their appreciation and offered their support for my remarks. Senator Stabenow asked that I submit her statement for the record.

My focus today is on the Pentagon's recommendations for the Detroit Arsenal. I will also touch upon the Selfridge Air National Guard Base. Later you will hear from Congressman Joe Schwarz

and representatives from **Battle Creek**, Michigan regarding the recommendation for the W.K. Kellogg Air National Guard Base.

I believe there is an overwhelming logic to the Pentagon's recommendations to consolidate additional functions at the Detroit Arsenal, DOD's "center of excellence" for ground vehicle development and acquisition. One line from the DOD Base Closure and Realignment Report says it all: "The synergies gained from having a critical mass located in southeastern Michigan, and being able to leverage the world's intellectual capital for automotive/ground vehicle Research and Development & Acquisition will ensure the Department is prepared to meet the future demands."

Let me tell you briefly about the Arsenal and why these recommendations make so much sense. The Detroit Arsenal makes enormous and unique contributions to our nation's defense, born of its special place in American history and its strategic location at the heart of automotive country. In 1940, President Franklin Roosevelt called on American industry to become the "great arsenal of democracy." The manufacturers in Detroit responded by dramatically converting their assembly lines from cars to tanks. Their rapid production of military vehicles helped save the world from tyranny.

The Army quickly saw that Detroit offered not just great factories but great expertise and innovation. To ensure the Army capitalized on the latest developments in ground vehicle technology, a permanent Detroit Arsenal was established. It's paying dividends every day.

Detroit Arsenal, which includes the headquarters for the Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command, known as TACOM; the Tank-Automotive Research and Development Center, known as TARDEC; and the National Automotive Center, known as the NAC; combines the Army's ground vehicle acquisition, development, and maintenance functions in one central location.

Because of their strategic location in the world's automotive hub, TACOM, TARDEC, and the NAC are able to take advantage of the investments in the area by General Motors, Ford, Chrysler, Toyota, Nissan, Hyundai, Suzuki and many other companies, as well as academia, in advanced vehicle research. And because the individuals who work at the Detroit Arsenal have deep relationships with their commercial counterparts, they are able to secure the most advanced and effective technologies for the Army. In short, the Detroit Arsenal allows the Army to develop the highest performance vehicles at the lowest cost.

For example, TACOM, TARDEC, and the Society for Automotive Engineers recently developed a common on-vehicle computer that allows the Army to more easily incorporate advanced commercial automotive technologies from the automotive industry into the Army's ground vehicle fleet. Today, these computers are being installed in the entire Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles, enabling the Army to modernize its current fleet of vehicles.

In fact, one such improvement that this on-vehicle computer enabled was the installation of a common commercial device called an Anti-Lock Brakes System. In 2001, the automotive research community in Detroit teamed with TARDEC engineers to develop and integrate this important safety device onto the Army's existing ground vehicle fleet. Many of these vehicles were manufactured long before computers were even placed onto vehicles. However, today, they are commonplace on both the commercial and military vehicles.

The Detroit Arsenal took the Army's Stryker Combat Vehicle from concept to production in less than two years. It developed new slat armor for the Stryker in a matter of weeks to meet the needs of Operation Iraqi Freedom. It deployed new Crew Protection Armor Kits for the M939 vehicle

fleet just eight months after the concept originated. The Arsenal responds to call from the field in Iraq and Afghanistan on a daily basis. The harsh operational conditions in both locations have demanded that Arsenal engineers find ways to push the Army's ground vehicle fleet to the next level.

Today, southeastern Michigan is helping to develop the Army of the future. The engineers at TARDEC and the National Automotive Center are improving the Army's ground vehicle fleet by leveraging the research already completed by the auto industry. They are reducing the fuel consumption of the Army's ground vehicles. They are exploring ways to create a mobile electrical grid. They are developing the use of artificial intelligence and nanotechnology in the next generation of military vehicles. And they are moving forward with the advanced development and deployment of a generation of vehicles powered by hybrid electric engines and fuel cells.

With its **BRAC** recommendations, the Department of Defense has recognized that greater efficiency and innovation will be possible through a greater concentration or clustering of related functions at the Detroit Arsenal. This "center of excellence" will take on additional tasks that are closely related to the Arsenal's core mission of ground vehicle development and acquisition.

Specifically, the Pentagon has recommended relocating the U.S. Marine Corps Program Manager Advanced Amphibious Assault facilities from Woodbridge, Virginia to the Detroit Arsenal. Many of the issues facing amphibious assault vehicles are similar to those facing ground vehicles: they need improved maintenance and reliability, more efficient propulsion systems, and better ballistic protection and blast protection. The Marines will directly benefit from the similar research and development being conducted by the Army and the commercial automotive sector.

Likewise, transferring the ground vehicle armament acquisition positions from the Rock Island Arsenal in Illinois to the Detroit Arsenal will increase efficiency. The positions that will be moving are mostly logistics, acquisition, and technology experts responsible for armament parts and equipment that the Army has retained active design control over. From weapons systems to on-vehicle weapon control systems, these specialists work closely with the engineers at TARDEC to ensure that these systems continue to operate successfully while TARDEC engineers find ways to improve the Army ground vehicle fleet. Again, this move is driven by the Defense Department's sensible efforts to consolidate related development and acquisition functions in one place.

As Major General William Lenaers, the Commander of TACOM, said recently: "It's all about speed and agility now - rapidly changing your systems to meet the current needs in the field. There is a lot more communications when the acquisition guys and logistics guys and the engineers can all sit face to face and discuss things and get back out and work on it. I think there will be a lot of improvements." So do I.

Finally, the Pentagon has recommended moving the Unmanned Ground Vehicles/Systems Joint Project Office from the Army Aviation and Missile Command in Huntsville, Alabama to Michigan, and there are compelling reasons to do so. Advanced technology small businesses and university researchers in Southeastern Michigan are already working with TARDEC to integrate new technologies such as artificial intelligence, sensors based on nanotechnology, and advanced computer vision systems into robotic vehicles. All of the DOD's science and technology development objectives in ground vehicles and robotic technologies are already led by TARDEC. And most of the agencies that the Joint Project Office at Huntsville reports to and collaborates with are located in southeastern Michigan. Moving this ground vehicle robotics mission to the Detroit Arsenal is common sense.

Mr. Chairman, the Detroit Arsenal is losing functions as well as gaining them in the Pentagon's recommendations. The Department's recommendations consolidate sea vehicle development and acquisition into one center of excellence for Sea Vehicles in the Washington, D.C. area. These gains in the Washington area are slated to come from the Army's Sea Vehicle Development and Acquisition Program in Detroit. We are not protesting this move because it too is inherently logical.

Likewise, the Detroit Arsenal is slated to lose approximately one hundred positions to the Defense Logistics Agency in Columbus, Ohio. While we are very concerned about any job loss in Michigan, shifting these jobs is consistent with the Department's attempt to leverage the advantages of collocation. Under the Department's recommendation, the Detroit Arsenal will lose acquisition experts for tires and a variety of other commercially available items.

The same logic which we believe is compelling to move the Marine Corps Program Manager Advanced Amphibious Assault facilities, the ground vehicle armament acquisition positions from Rock Island Arsenal, and the Unmanned Ground Vehicles/Systems Joint Project Office to the Detroit Arsenal moves us to accept the move from the Detroit Arsenal of sea vehicle development and acquisition and of certain acquisition experts for commercially available items that can be bought through the Defense Logistics Agency.

The successes of the Detroit Arsenal did not happen by accident. They are the result of long and deep collaborations between the government, academia, and the auto industry that can only take place in southeastern Michigan. Greater investment in the region will generate even greater returns. The Pentagon has made a wise recommendation regarding these facilities, and I urge you to follow that recommendation.

Regarding the Army Garrison at Selfridge, the Department of Defense has recommended closing that facility. I would like to submit for the record several letters that I have received from the community expressing their deep concerns about this proposed closure. The Garrison's proposed closure could mean that many of the support services that the military personnel in the Greater Detroit area have relied on since World War II would be closed.

Should this Commission decide to accept the Defense Department's recommendation to close the Army Garrison at Selfridge, it is essential that the Army land and support functions be transferred to the Air Force. This would protect the investment the taxpayers have already made in the military value of Selfridge and allow the continuation of the essential support functions for the military community, including the military retiree community, at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, particularly the commissary, base exchange and pharmacy.

Thank you again for this opportunity today. With that I would like to turn things over to the representatives from **Battle Creek**, Michigan, regarding the recommendations for the **Battle Creek** Air National Guard Base.

Granholtm opposes Pentagon plan to shuffle Michigan guard units

Gannett News Service

Ana Radelat

July 24, 2005

WASHINGTON -- Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm wrote Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld Friday saying she would not consent to the Pentagon's plans to shuffle Air National Guard units in her state during this year's round of military base closings.

Specifically, Granholm said she objected to moving the 110th Fighter Wing from **Battle Creek's** Air National Guard base across the state to Selfridge Air National Guard base in Harrison Township. She also objected to retiring the 15 F-16 aircraft from the Guard's 127th Wing at Selfridge.

"These recommendations appear to be the result of a seriously flawed process that has completely overlooked the important role of the state with regard to Air National Guard units," Granholm said.

The Pentagon says its proposed nationwide overhaul of the Air National Guard is needed to beef up homeland security in vulnerable communities and boost the Air Force's fighting ability.

But political opposition to the Pentagon's Air National Guard plan was sparked from the day it was disclosed as part of Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld's base closing and realignment recommendations May 13.

Opponents say the plan leaves many governors with less military help during emergencies and would hurt the National Guard's ability to attract and retain members.

Officials in Pennsylvania and Illinois have sued Rumsfeld over the proposal, saying the move would violate federal law that placed the National Guard under the authority of the state until a unit is called up to active duty. A lawyer for the base closing commission also said the move would violate the law.

The letter by Granholm, a Democrat, drew praise from the office of Rep. Joe Schwarz, R- **Battle Creek**, who opposes the Pentagon's plan to close his district's Air National Guard base.

The letter is an important step in the process of establishing that there are legal problems with the Pentagon shutting down Air National Guard bases, Schwarz spokesman Matt Marsden said.

"This is a bipartisan effort to maintain the Air National Guard in Michigan," Marsden said.

But Granholm's letter was criticized by the office of Rep. Candice Miller, R-Harrison Township, whose district includes Selfridge. Miller has said she is satisfied with the Pentagon's recommendations and that without the 110th Fighter Wing, Selfridge's future would be uncertain.

"The governor is clearly motivated by politics and not the best interests of her state," Miller spokesman Scott MacFarlane said. "The governor is disengaged from this process and very shortsighted."

Under the Pentagon plan, the Michigan Air National Guard's 110th Fighter Wing's 15 A-10 aircraft would move from **Battle Creek** and become part of the Guard's 127th Wing at Selfridge in Harrison Township.

The Pentagon's proposed changes also would send the 927th Air Refueling Wing of the Air Force

Reserve now based at Selfridge to MacDill Air Force Base in Florida. The 927th's eight KC-135 air-refueling tankers, plus four other tankers from Beale Air Force Base in California, would be transferred to the 127th Wing.

The Pentagon also would close the Army garrison at Selfridge.

The net result: A loss of 274 full-time jobs for **Battle Creek** and 216 full-time jobs for Selfridge.

Also Friday, state National Guard leaders trying to save dozens of Air National Guard units from closure or losing planes met to craft an alternative plan that is expected to affect far fewer bases.

The nation's adjutant generals -- the commanders of the National Guard in every state -- will give the Base Realignment and Closure Commission their plan early next week, said Maj. Gen. Roger Lempke of Nebraska, president of Adjutants General Association of the United States.

"The commission asked us to provide an alternative to the Air Force plans and we will honor that request in the days ahead," Lempke said.

The effort to derail the Pentagon's plan to move aircraft or shut down 29 Air National Guard units is gaining momentum because of the political firestorm it has produced from state officials, members of Congress and the politically powerful National Guard Association.

Lempke said the adjutant generals would "fine-tune" the proposal over the weekend. It was drafted in response to requests from several members of the commission who asked the adjutant generals for help in considering an alternative to the Pentagon's plan.

The **BRAC** commissioners are reviewing all of the Pentagon's base closure recommendations and must give a final list to President Bush by Sept. 8.

Unlike the Pentagon's plans for the Air National Guard, the adjutant general's recommendations do not single out any Air Guard Units for mission realignment, Lempke said. He declined to disclose many details of the proposal, but said it would likely incorporate one of the Pentagon's recommendations -- that Air Guard units with aging planes should have the aircraft retired.

Schwarz meets with base closure panel members

Gannett News Service

Katherine Hutt Scott

WASHINGTON -- Rep. Joe Schwarz met this week with two members of an independent military base closure panel in an effort to persuade them not to close **Battle Creek's** Air National Guard base and send its A-10 aircraft across the state to Selfridge Air National Guard Base.

In May, the Pentagon recommended closing 33 major U.S. bases -- including **Battle Creek's** -- and restructuring 29 others as part of a modernization effort. A nine-member Base Realignment and Closure commission is looking at the Pentagon's plan and must come up with a final list by Sept. 8.

Schwarz, R-**Battle Creek**, a member of the House Armed Services Committee, met Tuesday with Philip Coyle, a former director at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and former assistant secretary of defense for test and evaluation, and retired Army Gen. James Hill, former head of the U.S. Southern Command.

Members of the **Battle Creek** community and its elected officials have now met personally with seven of the **BRAC** commissioners, according to a Wednesday statement by Schwarz's office.

An eighth commissioner, Samuel Skinner, is scheduled to visit **Battle Creek** on July 29 to evaluate the Pentagon's closure recommendation. Skinner is a former White House chief of staff and former secretary of transportation.

Memo underlines legal problems with Air Guard closures

Associated Press

Ken Thomas

July 15, 2005

An internal memo prepared by a lawyer for the base closure commission could bolster Michigan's work to prevent changes to Air National Guard units in the state, Rep. Joe Schwarz said Friday.

The memo, written by the general counsel's office of the independent commission reviewing base closings, said the proposal to close or move Air National Guard units could be outside the scope of the commission.

"This certainly gives us more ammunition to use," said Schwarz, R-**Battle Creek**.

The arguments made in the document could back up the claims by Michigan supporters who have criticized a Pentagon proposal to shift the 110th Fighter Wing at **Battle Creek** to Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Macomb County, outside Detroit.

Michigan would benefit overall from the plan - adding 125 jobs and enhancing the Detroit Arsenal - but it would close the W.K. Kellogg Airport Air Guard Station in **Battle Creek** and the U.S. Army Garrison at Selfridge.

Schwarz and others have argued the plan would devastate the state's Air National Guard, requiring hundreds of guard members to drive across the state to drill on weekends, while closing a modern facility and costing the state hundreds of jobs in the future.

In the memo, Dan Cowhig, a deputy general counsel, notes up front that it does not necessarily represent the views of the nine-member panel. But the document says in some cases the adjustments to the Guard units could create legal problems and vary from the criteria used in the base closure law.

The Pentagon proposal would transfer A-10 aircraft stationed in **Battle Creek** to Selfridge. Selfridge would add refueling tankers from California but would lose aging C130 and F16

aircraft.

Cowhig wrote that recommendations "that mandate the placement of specific numbers of certain types of aircraft will place significant constraints on the future operations of the Air Force."

A Defense Department spokesman said Friday that the Justice Department is expected to issue its own legal ruling on the matter. He said the Pentagon is urging the commission to wait for that before deciding whether to make any changes to the military's recommendations.

Former U.S. Transportation Secretary Samuel Skinner, who serves on the commission, is scheduled to visit the **Battle Creek** facility on July 29 to review the base.

Tour From Brac Commissioner May Help Michigan Base's Situation

Inside the Pentagon

Chris Johnson

July 14, 2005

A Michigan congressman has convinced a member of the Base Realignment and Closure Commission to tour the W.K. Kellogg Airport Air Guard Station in **Battle Creek**, MI, in an effort to reverse the Defense Department's recommendation to close the base.

The commission did not schedule the visit before Rep. Joe Schwarz (R-MI) presented his case during a June 15 **BRAC** hearing in St. Louis. Commissioner Samuel Skinner and the panel's senior Air Force analyst, Kenneth Small, agreed to visit the Michigan Air National Guard base on July 29 at Schwarz's request.

"We will continue to press our case that the DOD recommendations made with respect to **Battle Creek** were made without respect to the true military value of the base, that they do not promote military transformation and that they are not cost effective," Schwarz said in a June 30 statement.

When Schwarz attended the St. Louis hearing, he presented several facts that questioned DOD's expected cost savings. DOD contends that shutting down the **Battle Creek** station and transferring some of its equipment to another air base in Selfridge, MI, would lead to recurring savings of \$13 million each year and a net present value of savings of \$167 million over 20 years.

Schwarz rebutted those numbers by arguing that DOD's plan to move **Battle Creek's** A-10 ground-attack aircraft to Selfridge would result in a greater expense than the Pentagon thought. Schwarz spokesman Matt Marsden said relocating the aircraft to Selfridge would lead to the cost of training new pilots and a one- or two-year wait before the aircraft were capable of being deployed.

"The Defense Department is weakening military value by moving the National Guard and retraining pilots," Marsden said. "We believe that the **BRAC** Commission will see the wisdom of keeping the A-10s in **Battle Creek**."

The Pentagon is already taking some heat for its base closing analysis from the Government

Accountability Office, which recently released a report suggesting that DOD used questionable assumptions when projecting the cost savings of closing bases (*Inside the Pentagon*, July 7, p6). The report does not analyze the savings that DOD anticipates specifically for the **Battle Creek** base shutdown, but it does note that DOD may have erred if it believed that it could cut costs by trimming personnel numbers with base closures.

"Claiming such personnel as **BRAC** savings without reducing end strength does not provide dollar savings that can be reapplied outside personnel accounts and could result in the Air Force having to find other sources of funding for up-front investment costs to implement its **BRAC** recommendations," reads the GAO report.

In addition to financial considerations, Marsden said the Pentagon erred in determining the local economic results of shutting down the base. Marsden said that while **BRAC** predicted initial job growth as a result of implementing the shutdown, those jobs would disappear as soon as the closure was complete.

"In 2006, you may have that gain, but if you look at it from 2006 to 2011, that original number may seem deceiving," Marsden said.

While other lawmakers are making similar claims about DOD's numbers to preserve the bases in their districts, Schwarz has already had success in defeating an earlier move to close the base. Marsden claimed credit for Schwarz in preventing the **Battle Creek** base's planned shutdown in 1993. At the time, when Schwarz was a Michigan state senator, DOD made a similar recommendation to close the base, but the **BRAC** Commission rejected the effort.

Local News Articles

BRAC picture brightens for Battle Creek

Battle Creek Enquirer

Eric J. Greene

June 22, 2005

Independent panel will study proposal to close base

Advocates for a local military base brought home a little optimism as their souvenir after a Monday trip to St. Louis.

But just a little.

"This is only the beginning," said Jan Burland, an executive at Battle Creek Unlimited and a coordinator of the effort to save the Battle Creek Air National Guard Base from closure.

Because local presenters did well at a public hearing in St. Louis, an independent panel has promised to study a proposal to close the Battle Creek base and may send one of its members here to see it firsthand, a state senator said Tuesday.

"I really think we hit a home run," said state Sen. Mark Schauer, D-Bedford Township. "It was a strong presentation. It was well-received. I feel like we've got a runner on base in scoring position and now we've got to keep the pressure on and keep our fingers crossed."

Schauer was one of five people Monday who, on behalf of Battle Creek, addressed three members of the federal Base Realignment and Closure Commission, a nine-member body appointed by President George W. Bush to investigate base changes proposed by Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld.

The Battle Creek group spent 15 minutes testifying before the panel in St. Louis in the first formal attempt to save the Battle Creek Air National Guard Base and its 334 full-time, on-base jobs.

Rumsfeld's plan calls for moving the 110th Fighter Wing, whose members fly and maintain A-10 attack jets at the local airport, to Selfridge Air National Guard Base north of Detroit.

Commissioners didn't immediately respond to a request that they visit Battle Creek, Schauer said, but their research staff has agreed to meet with a few Battle Creek advocates next week in Washington, D.C.

The follow-up meeting is intended to expound on the arguments for retaining the local base. It's not clear how many other communities are getting opportunities to meet with the research staff, but local officials said it's a good sign for Battle Creek.

Local advocates also want to persuade at least one BRAC commissioner to visit Battle Creek, if only for a few hours.

"We feel like we have a good chance of being granted a site visit," Schauer said.

Burland said BRAC commissioners appeared pleased Monday that Battle Creek focused its case on military value and data used by the Pentagon to rate the base.

Representatives from other states spent much of their time bemoaning the potential loss of jobs and economic effects of base closures, Burland said.

Part of Battle Creek's mission Monday was to stir skepticism of Rumsfeld's proposal.

"What we were really able to accomplish with the three commissioners was to pique their interest that something was amiss in Battle Creek," Burland said.

Schauer said commissioners seem to be taking their job very seriously. He was encouraged by one member's comment that Rumsfeld's proposal was only "one side of the story."

"That, to me, was a definite clue that they are seeking all sides of the story relating to what the impact of the recommendations might be," Schauer said.

BRAC commissioners appear impressed by Battle Creek arguments

Gannet News Service

Katherine Hutt Scott

June 21, 2005

ST. LOUIS -- A panel of independent experts appeared impressed Tuesday by a detailed criticism presented by **Battle Creek** representatives of a Pentagon recommendation to close the city's W.K. Kellogg Airport Air Guard Station.

Under the Pentagon plan, the 110th Fighter Wing's 15 A-10 Thunderbolt aircraft -- and the men and women who fly and maintain them -- would leave **Battle Creek** and move across the state to become part of the 127th Wing at Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Harrison Township.

"The Michigan delegation had good facts and were challenging the specifics of the military value equation," said Harold Gehman, a member of the Base Realignment and Closure (**BRAC**) Commission that is reviewing the Pentagon's recommended military base closures and will come up with a final list by Sept. 8.

"They gave us homework to do," Gehman said in reference to the Michigan delegation. He spoke to reporters at the end of a daylong hearing held by three of the nine **BRAC** commissioners on proposed closures and restructurings in seven Midwestern states.

Gehman specifically said he was struck by testimony by retired Maj. Gen. Gordon Stump that the Air Force's recommended changes appeared to be an effort to pay for their future force by taking money away from their guard and reserve operations. Stump served as Michigan's adjutant general, overseeing the state's Army and Air National Guard units, from 1991 until 2003.

Other arguments made by the four **Battle Creek** representatives testifying included a detailed critique presented by George Erickcek of the Upjohn Institute, a Kalamazoo research group. Erickcek argued:

-- The Pentagon didn't gather the correct information to analyze the military value of the Kellogg Air Guard Station. For example, it asked about the base's weather conditions at 3,000 feet, but A-10s operate at 500 feet or lower.

-- The Pentagon overstated the cost savings of closing the Kellogg Air Guard Station, which it estimated at \$167 million over 20 years. The Pentagon used an inflated annual cost of operating the Kellogg base, ignored the cost of improving Selfridge to house the A-10s and didn't fully account for the cost of retraining Selfridge pilots to fly A-10s.

Battle Creek's presentation was bolstered by the presence of about 30 residents who drove and bused down to attend the hearing, in an effort organized by the **Battle Creek** Area Chamber of Commerce. All the supporters wore blue T-shirts with a photo of A-10s.

"We wanted to show our group solidarity," said Kathleen Mechem, the chamber's president and CEO, as she displayed her shirt during the hearing.

Gehman also said he would relay to **BRAC** commission Chairman Anthony Principi the Michigan representatives' request that commission members visit the **Battle Creek** base. But Gehman also noted that the commission has little time to do its work.

The commission's task began May 13 when the Pentagon recommended closing 33 major U.S. bases -- including the Kellogg Air Guard Station -- and restructuring 29 others as part of a modernization plan.

Rep. Joe Schwarz, one of the **Battle Creek** representatives testifying, said he was confident that the **BRAC** commissioners would visit **Battle Creek**. The Kellogg Air Guard Station was the only proposed major closure that commissioners hadn't yet promised to visit, said Schwarz, R-**Battle Creek**, a member of the House Armed Services Committee.

Also representing Michigan during the 30-minute presentation was Sen. Carl Levin, the top Democrat on the Senate Armed Services Committee, who spoke in favor of a Pentagon proposal to move various operations to the Detroit Arsenal from Illinois, Alabama and Virginia for a gain of 647 jobs.

Levin also addressed a recommendation to close the Army garrison at Selfridge, which provides housing and other support services to military personnel at the base. Levin said members of the local community disagree on whether to shut down the garrison but agree that if it is closed, its land and support functions should be transferred to the Air Force.

Noticeably absent from the hearing was Rep. Candice Miller, R-Harrison Township, whose district includes Selfridge. She has said she is satisfied with the Pentagon's recommendations and that without **Battle Creek's** A-10s, Selfridge's future would be uncertain.

The Pentagon's proposed changes would send Selfridge's 927th Air Refueling Wing to MacDill Air Force Base in Florida but increase the fleet of Selfridge's 127th Wing, in part by sending over **Battle Creek's** A-10 aircraft. The result would be a loss of 216 full-time jobs for Selfridge and a loss of 274 full-time jobs for **Battle Creek**.

Levin said that keeping Kellogg Air Guard Station open wouldn't doom Selfridge because the **BRAC** commission could send aircraft from elsewhere in the country to Selfridge.

Michigan officials make case before base closing panel

Associated Press State and Local Wire

Ken Thomas

June 20, 2005

State leaders on Monday pressed federal base commissioners to protect Michigan's military installations and expand an automotive technology center outside Detroit, making their case in a high-stakes lobbying effort in St. Louis.

Michigan's delegation, led by Democratic Sen. Carl Levin and Republican Rep. Joe Schwarz, sought to defend the expansion of the Detroit Arsenal in Warren while contesting a portion of the Pentagon plan that would close an Air National Guard base in **Battle Creek**.

The Department of Defense blueprint would infuse 125 jobs into the state, but it would close the W.K. Kellogg Airport Air Guard Station in **Battle Creek** and the U.S. Army Garrison at Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Macomb County, near Detroit.

"We'd like to find a Michigan solution. We'd like to see both of them stay open," Schwarz told three members of the Base Realignment and Closure Commission.

Schwarz asked the commissioners to visit the **Battle Creek** installation, noting that it was the only facility slated for termination that has not received assurances of an inspection.

Levin defended the plan for the Arsenal, which would gain nearly 650 jobs to become the military's top center for automotive and ground vehicle research and development. It would be a boon to the Tank-Army Automotive and Armaments Command (TACOM), taking advantage of its location near Detroit's Big Three automakers.

"The successes of the Detroit Arsenal did not happen by accident," Levin said. "They are the result of long and deep collaborations between the government, academia, and the auto industry that can only take place in southeastern Michigan."

Levin said in a phone interview that the group made a "strong case" for the facilities.

Battle Creek made a visible sign of its support for the base, bringing a busload of supporters dressed in matching blue T-shirts. The group boarded the bus at 5:30 a.m. to make the 7-hour drive from Kalamazoo and Calhoun counties.

Supporters of the base oppose the plan to shift the 110th Fighter Wing at **Battle Creek** to Selfridge, contending that it does not take into account the cost of retraining the pilots and technicians on new aircraft.

They also say it could have a devastating impact on the Guard, forcing more than 700 members to drive several hours across state to drill on weekends.

Schwarz reviewed the plans and says they would cost Michigan about 1,000 jobs by 2011 and mistakenly close a modern facility with the state's only 10,000-foot runway suitable for any military aircraft.

Battle Creek's case also was made by Democratic state Sen. Mark Schauer, George Erickcek of the Kalamazoo-based W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research, retired Lt. Gen. Gordon Stump, and **Battle Creek** Mayor John Godfrey.

Commission member Harold Gehman Jr., a retired Navy admiral, said the commission would

address national concerns about the Air National Guard in a June 30 special hearing in Atlanta.

Gehman said he was grateful for Michigan's supply of specific analysis on the Pentagon's recommendations and indicated it would be considered in their evaluation.

"We have a limited number of analysts," Gehman said.

Levin submitted letters from supporters of the Army garrison at Selfridge, and asked that the Army land and support functions be transferred to the Air Force to allow the continuation of the commissary, base exchange and pharmacy.

Local backers of Selfridge did not make a show of force in St. Louis. Rep. Candice Miller, a Republican from Macomb County's Harrison Township, has said the state should accept the plan because another proposal could threaten Selfridge's future.

Six other states testified before three members of the commission during the lengthy meeting at St. Louis University. In addition to Gehman, the panel included James Hansen, a former Utah congressman, and Sue Ellen Turner, a retired Air Force brigadier general.

The commission will make recommendations to President Bush by September.

Delegation to argue in defense of B.C. base

Battle Creek Enquirer

Eric Greene

June 19, 2005

Advocates for Air National Guard base to fight in St. Louis on Monday to keep 334 jobs in B.C.

Like lawyers before a big case or athletes before a championship game, advocates for a **Battle Creek** military base today are carefully reviewing their mission against the Pentagon itself.

They're picturing the hearing room in St. Louis, where on Monday they'll present arguments for sparing the **Battle Creek** Air National Guard Base and its 334 on-base jobs from a government shut-down.

They're anticipating questions from the Base Realignment and Closure Commission and refining the answers they hope will demonstrate how closing the **Battle Creek** base will hurt the military's recruitment efforts, save little to no money and cost more jobs than initially estimated.

They're choosing the words they plan to use during a precious 15 minutes before the independent panel, whose nine members are traveling the country in pursuit of the public's input on a sweeping proposal to transform the American military.

"We're feeling pretty confident," said Jan Burland, a **Battle Creek** Unlimited executive and a coordinator of the local effort. "We don't want to be overconfident, but we think we have the facts - no smoke and mirrors - and we're making credible, factual statements."

While **Battle Creek** residents were relieved that Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's proposal last month didn't call for the closure of the Hart-Dole-Inouye Federal Center, a major local job provider where some 1,800 people work, they quickly began to line up behind an effort to save the air guard base, which is on the hit list.

Monday, U.S. Rep. Joe Schwarz, R-**Battle Creek**, is expected to lead local officials to St. Louis, where representatives of Michigan bases will get a combined 30 minutes to comment on the proposal. Five political, economic and military experts will speak during **Battle Creek's** 15 minutes.

As of Friday, the planned speaking order was state Sen. Mark Schauer, D-Bedford Township; George Erickcek, regional analyst at the Kalamazoo-based W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research; retired Michigan Adj. Gen. Gordon Stump; **Battle Creek** Mayor John Godfrey; and Schwarz.

The hearing in St. Louis is the third of at least 14 the **BRAC** Commission is hosting this summer across the United States. Members must decide by Sept. 8 which military facilities stay on the list for closure or realignment.

Under the law that created the closure process, President George W. Bush then has until Sept. 23 to either accept or reject the list.

Battle Creek is preparing for its 15 minutes in the limelight in St. Louis and for other upcoming opportunities to weigh in, such as through individual meetings with commissioners. The case will be made that Rumsfeld's proposal:

- * Would weaken the capability of the Michigan Air National Guard.
- * Would deter the recruitment and retention of Guard members.
- * Doesn't fully assess the burdens associated with moving the 110th Fighter Wing from **Battle Creek** to a base near Mount Clemens.

Retired Col. Howard Strand, a **Battle Creek** resident and former commander of the **Battle Creek** base, said he is mystified by the Pentagon plan. The local base, Strand said, is top-notch and combining its operation on the other side of Michigan would be neither cheap nor easy.

"We've got a lot of good arguments and if these people have any brains at all, they can't possibly close that base," Strand said.

Strand, 83, who spent a total of 16 years as base commander in the 1950s and 1970s, said he has watched with pride as the 110th became known for its ability to perform in combat.

The stability of the fighter wing could diminish, he said, if its members are suddenly ordered to report to a new base.

Lawmakers are opposing the **BRAC** plan in several ways, including congressional attempts to stop or delay this round of base closures and legal arguments against closing National Guard bases without a governor's consent.

For now, however, the fight is centered in the **BRAC** process itself.

"Most members of Congress, myself included, would like to see a process, where people are so deeply invested, work and be fair and logical," Schwarz said. "What we have now is unfair and patently illogical."

'THIS DECIMATES THE ... GUARD'

In a recent hour-long interview with the Enquirer, Schwarz and his senior legislative assistant, Aaron Taliaferro, cited the Pentagon's own data - culled primarily from Air Force research - as evidence that sending **Battle Creek's** planes and equipment to Selfridge Air National Guard Base is a bad idea.

"This decimates the Michigan Air National Guard in numbers of aircraft and certainly, if it's in numbers of aircraft, it's in numbers of personnel as well," Schwarz said.

Secretary Rumsfeld's plan would shift planes and people in Michigan and send some aircraft to other states. It's still not known how many people stationed in **Battle Creek** would move with the planes to Selfridge.

Schwarz said Selfridge stands to lose its F-16 fighter jets and C-130 cargo planes and gain **Battle Creek's** A-10 attack jets as well as KC-135 refueling tankers currently stationed in California.

Although the Pentagon claims Michigan's military facilities will collectively gain 125 jobs after the base closings, Schwarz uses the military's own projections to argue that the moves would cost the Michigan Air National Guard more than 1,000 jobs over the next six years.

Fewer planes and fewer types of planes based in Michigan will shrink the need for pilots, mechanics, civilian jobs and off-base supply jobs, Schwarz said.

"Selfridge, despite the initial euphoria, does not make out well in this," Schwarz said.

Schwarz insists that arguments for **Battle Creek** and the Michigan Air National Guard are intertwined. On the other hand, U.S. Rep. Candice Miller, R-Macomb County, has said her local base, Selfridge, fares well in the base plan and that Michigan politicians should not fight it.

RECRUITMENT WOES

Closing the base in **Battle Creek** would strain members of the National Guard in southwest Michigan by forcing them into a career dilemma - stay in the military or drive an extra two or three hours to report to the home base - at a time when recruiters are struggling to meet their goals across the United States.

In addition to 274 combat-ready personnel at the **Battle Creek** base, 658 traditional members report here for deployment and monthly training. About 200 those 932 people live in Kalamazoo or Calhoun counties, while others live an hour or two away. A few come from as far away as Indiana and Illinois.

Moving a member's home base 150 miles across the state not only can lead to numerous openings in the Guard's ranks, Taliaferro said, it can hurt the quality of a unit itself. The 110th Fighter Wing in **Battle Creek** is effective - having been deployed to Iraq and other wars and decorated for its service - in part because of where it's based and where its members live, he said.

Reading from an Air Force base closing analysis, Taliaferro, an Air Force veteran and major in the Air Force Reserve, said recruitment and retention in the National Guard relies on the geographic location of its bases and the ability for members to quickly report.

"That puts an even bigger stress on your life. What's the likelihood that that retention is going to be as high as it was with distances spread out?" Taliaferro said. "That's a part of the recruiting and retention that just doesn't make sense. And that's not a Michigan problem. That's everywhere."

Similar arguments are forming in other states, but National Guard Bureau Chief Lt. Gen. Steven Blum has said the changes are necessary.

"The demographics that once supported those installations have ... moved to new and different places," Blum said, according to congressional newsletter CongressDaily. "By closing or divesting [the Guard] of inefficient facilities and moving to places where we have better demographics ... I think we give better opportunity to the members of the Reserve component."

SAVINGS OVERSTATED?

According to a Pentagon projection, the closure of the **Battle Creek** base would save \$168 million over the next 20 years.

The closure of the U.S. Army Garrison at Selfridge is projected to save another \$261 million.

However, Taliaferro contends that the savings related to the Army Garrison are overstated because the base still would have to pay for the housing and other services currently provided by the Army.

The garrison, he said, provides basic services and infrastructure for the entire base, whose needs would remain even after the garrison leaves.

"If you consider that the Air Force will have to pick up the tab ... you get no savings. For what? To realign guard units, retire aircraft and close **Battle Creek**," Taliaferro said.

Also, Taliaferro contends that the 20-year savings after closing **Battle Creek** is \$13 million, not \$168 million.

The projected savings also don't account for more than \$37 million in new buildings the government has spent at the **Battle Creek** base in the past 10 years.

That's what bothers Strand the most.

"To move away from there after spending (\$37 million) is ridiculous when all the other factors don't support it," Strand said. "It's just ridiculous."

"To waste that kind of money, I can't abide by it," Strand said.

A common perception in politics is that the **BRAC** Commission will not be easily swayed by arguments from communities afraid of losing their bases.

But Schwarz maintains that **Battle Creek's** case is strong.

"I don't think for a minute that the **BRAC** Commission is aware yet of any of this," Schwarz said. "My job is to keep **Battle Creek** open and I believe there is prima facie evidence, irrefutable logic, that this base should be kept open. That's where I'm going."

BREAKOUT

Enquirer's coverage

To read past stories on the 2005 base-closure process and plans to close the Michigan Air National Guard base in **Battle Creek**, go to "News Extras" at battlecreekenquirer.com.

What's it all about?

Last month, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld proposed a broad plan to close and combine military installations across the U.S.

Part of that plan calls for closing the 58-year-old **Battle Creek** Air National Guard Base, a major occupant of the city-owned W.K. Kellogg Airport.

Monday, a team that is trying to save the local base will make its official counter-argument before the nine-member Base Realignment and Closure Commission, whose nine members are appointees of President George W. Bush.

Closing the **Battle Creek** base, local officials say, would hurt the Michigan Air National Guard and cost the community hundreds of jobs.

Decision timeline

Sept. 8: Deadline for the base-closing commission to give President George W. Bush a final report.

Sept. 23: Deadline for Bush to accept or reject the report. If he rejects it, the commission must submit another.

Oct. 20: Deadline for the commission to submit revised recommendations to the president.

Nov. 7: Deadline for Bush to accept or reject the revised list. If he accepts it, the recommendations become binding 45 legislative days later. If he rejects it, the process ends without any bases being closed.

Meet them in St. Louis?

More than 50 local people plan to ride a bus to St. Louis on Monday to attend the **BRAC** Commission's regional hearing. Another 25 to 50 local people reportedly are driving or flying to the Busch Student Center on the campus of Saint Louis University.

They'll be wearing matching T-shirts in a sign of support for the **Battle Creek** Air National Guard Base.

The **BRAC** hearing begins at 8:30 a.m. Central Time but the **Battle Creek** delegation isn't

scheduled to speak until about 5:30 p.m. Central Time.

The hearing is open to the public and the venue holds about 500 people. St. Louis is about 440 miles, or six and a half hours driving time, from **Battle Creek**.

To learn about the location of the Busch Student Center, go to the Saint Louis University Web site www.slu.edu/campusmap/bmc.html

The local argument

The people studying the potential effects of the base closure say it:

Would weaken the capability of the Michigan Air National Guard.

Would deter the recruitment and retention of Guard members.

Doesn't fully assess the burdens associated with moving the 110th Fighter Wing from **Battle Creek** to a base near Mount Clemens.

Selfridge would get 182 Kellogg jobs under Pentagon plan

Gannet News Service

Katherine Hutt Scott

June 18, 2005

WASHINGTON -- A Pentagon plan would give the Selfridge Air National Guard base in Harrison Township 182 jobs from the W.K. Kellogg Airport Air Guard Station in **Battle Creek**, according to documents.

The jobs would be transferred in fiscal year 2007 and the Kellogg base would close the next fiscal year, under a Pentagon scenario. The scenario also calls for eliminating 92 of the 274 full-time jobs at the Kellogg base.

Recommendations released by the Pentagon in May proposed closing the Kellogg Air Guard Station and sending the 110th Fighter Wing's 15 A-10 Thunderbolt aircraft to become part of the 127th Wing at Selfridge. The men and women who fly and maintain the A-10s would follow the planes to Selfridge, Air Force officials have said.

Nationwide, the Pentagon recommended closing 33 major U.S. bases and restructuring 29 others as part of a modernization plan.

The Pentagon's recommendations are being reviewed by the independent Base Realignment and Closure Commission, which will come up with a final list by Sept. 8.

Representatives of Michigan will testify at a commission hearing in St. Louis, Mo., on Monday. Rep. Joe Schwarz, R-**Battle Creek**, will argue that his base should remain open.

His colleague, Rep. Candice Miller, R-Harrison Township, doesn't plan to attend the hearing. She

has said she is satisfied with the Pentagon's recommendations.

Miller told reporters this week that although she and Schwarz are friends, "He doesn't want to give up the planes and I need the planes."

The Pentagon's proposed changes would send Selfridge's 927th Air Refueling Wing to MacDill Air Force Base in Florida but increase the fleet of Selfridge's 127th Wing, in part by sending over the A-10 aircraft from **Battle Creek**. The Pentagon also would close the Army garrison at Selfridge, for a net loss of 216 jobs at the base.

Other Pentagon documents compare the **Battle Creek** and Harrison Township bases in terms of size and quality of life for military personnel.

The Kellogg base is smaller and has less room to expand than Selfridge. Kellogg, located at **Battle Creek's** municipal airport, has 320 acres, of which 123 are "available for development," according to an environmental profile of Air Force facilities. Selfridge has 2,562 acres, of which 174 are available for development.

One of the four key military criteria the Pentagon considered was a base's ability to accommodate the military's needs for future space.

John Pike of GlobalSecurity.org, a defense analysis firm, said Friday that in general the Pentagon wants to consolidate its operations on a smaller number of larger bases so it can reduce operating costs. But, it wants to be able to expand those remaining bases in the future to respond to new security threats.

Since Selfridge is bigger overall, the Pentagon could always knock down existing facilities and rebuild, if it needed new facilities, Pike said. Kellogg's location at the city airport also is problematic, he said.

"At the municipal airport, you're always going to have the risk that the chamber of commerce is going to have some brainstorm about land use at the airport and gobble up all that future expansion land," Pike said.

Another consideration in the base-closure process -- but according to the Pentagon not as important as the military considerations -- is the ability of a local community to support the people who work at a base.

The Pentagon's demographic analysis of the areas housing the Kellogg and Selfridge bases presented a mixed picture. It showed the **Battle Creek**-Kalamazoo area has lower average housing costs, a lower unemployment rate and students with higher average SAT scores than the greater Detroit area that encompasses Selfridge.

However, the Detroit area has a higher high school graduation rate, better access to doctors and a lower crime rate, according to the Pentagon.

Diverging views emerge on base closings in Michigan

Associated Press State and Local Wire

Ken Thomas

May 27, 2005

In Michigan, responding to the latest round of military base closings can be summed up this way: contest the Defense Department's plan or keep a low profile and count your blessings.

Republican Rep. Joe Schwarz vows to fight to save an installation from closing in his hometown of **Battle Creek**. He wants to meet with members of the commission deciding the fate of his base and argues the hard work could save hundreds of jobs in the coming decade.

But Rep. Candice Miller, a fellow Republican from Macomb County's Harrison Township, says bringing members of the commission to Michigan could open up a Pandora's box of problems - potentially costing the state jobs and threatening the long-term viability of Selfridge Air National Guard base in her district.

"At some point in this process, we need to be happy we were spared the fate of those in other states facing the loss of thousands of jobs, declare victory and look to the future," Miller wrote Gov. Jennifer Granholm in a letter Thursday.

Both members of Congress want to protect the military presence in their districts, but Schwarz and Miller represent diverging strategies on how best to react to the Base Closure and Realignment Commission, or **BRAC**.

A Pentagon plan announced two weeks ago said Michigan would gain 125 jobs, helped by an expansion of the Detroit Arsenal and additions at Selfridge. But the proposal outlined two significant closings: the W.K. Kellogg Airport Air Guard Station in **Battle Creek** and the U.S. Army Garrison at Selfridge, near Detroit.

Michigan's delegation largely expressed relief and support for the plan because it avoided shutting down major installations and was expected to provide a slight boost in jobs at a time when the state's unemployment rate ranks among the nation's highest.

But Granholm and some members of Congress want to protect the two installations targeted for closing and are concerned Michigan advocates may not get the chance to present their cases to commissioners at regional public hearings in St. Louis or Buffalo next month.

They also want Anthony Principi, the **BRAC** commission chairman, to have a commission member visit Michigan, a move that could build the case for the facilities' solvency.

Closing Kellogg Field would cost 274 jobs and the loss of the garrison would mean 300 fewer jobs, along with various spinoff jobs and economic consequences in both locations.

"From the governor's perspective, we're going to fight for every job as long as we can fight for them, and those are jobs in **Battle Creek** and Macomb County," said John Burchett, Granholm's top aide in Washington. "It makes no sense to me to just give up."

Schwarz opposes the shifting of A-10 aircraft at Kellogg to Selfridge and contends the plan deals a harsh blow to units of the state's Air National Guard.

He also has pored over military documents with his staff and contends the proposed changes ultimately would lead to a loss of about 1,000 jobs by 2011 and offer little savings for the military.

"The more we delve into the rationale used for the realignment between **Battle Creek** and Selfridge, the more an absolute airtight case can be made that this doesn't benefit Michigan in any way," Schwarz said.

Miller, however, worries that seeking an alteration to the list could harm Michigan military facilities this year or in future base closing rounds. She notes that the bulk of the state's military-related jobs - at Selfridge, the Hart-Dole-Inouye Federal Center in **Battle Creek**, and the Detroit Arsenal - were maintained or enhanced.

While disappointed the garrison is slated for closing, she said she remains hopeful the commissary and base exchange at Selfridge will remain open.

When members of the delegation circulated a letter this week urging a **BRAC** commissioner to visit Michigan and give the state an audience with the panel, she declined to sign it. That approach could jeopardize Selfridge and other military installations down the road, she said.

"We're not on the list now. Goodness, we don't want to give them an opening to put us on the list," Miller said. "We survived."

"It's not perfect, but go to Connecticut where they just lost 8,900 jobs," she said.

Burchett says adding a new facility to the list would require support from seven of nine commissioners. During a closed-door session with gubernatorial aides shortly before the release of the list, Principi said he was "disinclined" to add facilities, Burchett said.

The commission will consider the plan this summer and send their recommendations to the White House in September. The closures and downsizings would begin in 2006, but the commission stresses it wants to hear from the states.

"We are here to listen," Principi said Thursday. "The commission's purpose in holding regional hearings over the next few months is to receive community input from affected stakeholders."

"There will be multiple opportunities for affected states and communities to influence the process and make their voices heard," he said.

Announcement 'bittersweet' for some

Battle Creek Enquirer

Nick Schirripa

May 18, 2005

Tuesday's announcement that Duncan Aviation will bring some 380 jobs to **Battle Creek** tempered some of the anxiety over the 110th Fighter Wing bombshell that dropped last week.

Area residents reacted to the news with hopes that the expansion would counter the potential job

loss at the **Battle Creek** Air National Guard Base, just across the airport from Duncan.

The federal Base Realignment and Closure plan - or **BRAC** list - released last week includes a proposal to transfer the 110th Fighter Wing and 318 jobs to the east side of the state.

"It's bittersweet," said Angel Wynne of **Battle Creek**. "It's an opportunity for people who don't have jobs, but people who are working are losing their jobs."

Lisa Stevens, a teacher and **Battle Creek** resident, said she sees the emotional impacts of lost jobs everyday in some of her students whose parents work at the air base.

"For me, the biggest concern is how it will affect my students," she said. "I think any time jobs come into the community, it's a good thing. But any time jobs leave the community, it's a bad thing."

Dianne Hatley, personnel manager for **Battle Creek** Public Schools, said the new jobs raise a standard-of-living question.

"If you look at the number of jobs, it all looks well and great," she said. "But you have to look at the quality of life those new jobs will provide."

The jobs being lost with the Air National Guard are probably higher-paying jobs, Hatley said, and are taking more money from the economy than many of the new jobs at Duncan Aviation likely will put in.

Gus Calbert, principal at Southwestern Middle School in **Battle Creek**, said the situation is basically a wash.

"It's a tradeoff for the community," he said. "I would have loved to have kept the existing jobs and create new ones."

The fact that a **Battle Creek** business is expanding is a positive sign, Calbert said, and sends a good message to residents and other businesses in the area.

"It says this is still a viable, healthy community," he said.

Vernon Avila, 44, of **Battle Creek** said the expansion at Duncan Aviation is exciting news.

"It's nice to see a business bringing in new jobs and being successful," he said. "I'd like to see more businesses expanding like that."

Nick Stull, 17, a student at **Battle Creek** Central High School, said he has relatives working in the Hart-Dole-Inouye Federal Center, and he's relieved at its absence from the **BRAC** list.

Stull said he has seen a pattern of jobs coming to and leaving **Battle Creek**, so Duncan's announcement isn't a big surprise.

"The way **Battle Creek** is, it's not uncommon for jobs to come and go," he said. "The jobs coming in is a good thing for people who need employment, but it's bad because the Air National Guard is leaving."

Katie Stull, 15, Nick's sister, was a little more optimistic about the new jobs at Duncan Aviation.

"It's going to help the economy in **Battle Creek**," she said. "It means people will be coming to **Battle Creek**."

City vows to fight closing

Battle Creek Enquirer

Eric Greene

May 14, 2005

BRAC list targets B.C.'s Air National Guard Base; federal center spared

The 110th Fighter Wing in **Battle Creek** will move to a base in eastern Michigan if the Pentagon gets its way.

The Fighter Wing's 15 A-10 Thunderbolt aircraft are slated for the move under the Base Realignment and Closure list released Friday. The change would shut down the **Battle Creek** Air National Guard Base and save the military an estimated \$167 million over the next 20 years.

The proposal by Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, whose list includes changes in military towns across America, could put **Battle Creek** at the center of a major political and legal fight. Such heavy hitters as Gov. Jennifer Granholm, Attorney General Mike Cox and U.S. Rep. Joe Schwarz, R-**Battle Creek**, are stepping to the plate on this town's behalf.

"That's going to be done over my ... dead body," said Schwarz, using an expletive. "I can't even tell you how angry this makes me."

"We're delighted about the federal center, but we're going to war on the A-10s."

It's not clear how many of the 318 people employed by the 110th would move to Selfridge Air National Guard Base near Mount Clemens.

News of the decision to move the 110th is bittersweet in **Battle Creek**, where community leaders are relieved the Hart-Dole-Inouye Federal Center is not on the list.

The federal center employs about 1,800 people who coordinate a variety of technical functions for the military, including equipment cataloging and disposal.

Also, the Fort Custer Army National Guard Base, which now employs about 100 people, stands to gain an estimated 25 jobs and the construction of a new Armed Forces Reserve Center.

Schwarz said he had suspected "for a number of reasons" that the **Battle Creek** ANG Base, despite its continual presence in **Battle Creek** since 1947, would be targeted by this year's **BRAC** round.

"I believe this was in the works for a while and that people in the Michigan Air National Guard knew this was coming and didn't do anything to oppose it," Schwarz said.

Schwarz declined to elaborate, saying, "In the emotion of the moment, I don't want to say anything that's going to hurt our chances (in getting off the list)."

According to analysis released by the Pentagon on Friday, moving the 110th is justified because Selfridge is "significantly higher in military value" than the base in **Battle Creek**. It's not clear how the base would be used if the military leaves.

Fighter Wing members routinely are sent to fight wars, including recent and ongoing operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, to provide close air support.

In addition to the 274 military jobs here, the relocation would eliminate 167 jobs that support the base in various ways, economists have predicted.

Michigan Sen. Carl Levin, D-Detroit, said "it's too early for me to know" if the decision to move the tank-killing A-10s, known casually as Warthogs, to Selfridge is based on sound rationale. He said the A-10s would replace the F-16 fighter jets currently stationed at Selfridge.

"Overall for Michigan we did very well," Levin said. "It's more of a mixed picture for **Battle Creek**, but being able to preserve the Hart-Dole-Inouye Center was our first goal and we spent a lot of time doing that - and we felt there was some risk - and the fact that it is protected is very, very good news."

"So overall Selfridge gains at the expense of Kellogg (airport)," Levin said. "So that's clearly a loss for the **Battle Creek** area."

Members of Congress, many of whom were waiting in their offices in Washington, D.C., received the list about 9:15 a.m. and quickly read through it. U.S. Rep. Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, initially said, "We made it. We're not on the list," and then immediately corrected himself when he read the line about the air base.

"At least the federal center is not on the list. Let's face it, that's the big enchilada," Upton said.

Jim Hettinger, president of **Battle Creek** Unlimited, said he's "immensely relieved" the federal center is not on the list.

Hettinger said he, like Schwarz, is inclined to fight the Pentagon's proposal to move the 110th.

"We plan to fight very hard and I personally will fight very hard," said Schwarz, explaining that he'll lobby the nine **BRAC** Commission members and participate in congressional action.

"In the end, the Congress will determine whether or not this will happen," Schwarz said.

It's unclear how many of the 318 full-time employees, the vast majority of whom live within 50 miles of **Battle Creek**, would move with the 110th to Selfridge.

At a news conference Friday afternoon, Maj. Robert DeCoster, spokesman for the 110th, said more than 200 of the 274 military jobs at the **Battle Creek** ANG Base are held by civilians. The other civilian jobs on the base include groundskeepers and maintenance workers, he said.

Of the estimated 850 traditional guard members who report to the base for training and deployment, about 65 percent live within 50 miles of **Battle Creek**, DeCoster said.

It's also unclear how soon the move to Selfridge would occur. Implementation of the **BRAC** changes, which likely won't be final until later this year, must begin within two years and be complete within six.

DeCoster said the announcement won't affect the work at the base.

"We are disappointed with the decision," DeCoster said. "We're going to continue to press on as we always have."

Gov. Jennifer Granholm's spokeswoman, Liz Boyd, said "the governor will fight for the **Battle Creek** Air National Guard Base."

Boyd said Granholm has already spoken with Michigan Attorney General Mike Cox about legal options for fighting the closure of the **Battle Creek** facility.

"There is some concern about the ability to close an air national guard base without a governor's consent," Boyd said. "There has been talk about lawsuits in other states and we are going to actively pursue all options in this state."

As recently as Tuesday, Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan argued that closing an air or army national guard base without a governor's consent is a violation of a federal law. Illinois state officials had promised to file a lawsuit if any of its guard bases were on the **BRAC** list, but it didn't immediately appear Friday that any of that state's bases would be so affected.

Retired Brig. Gen. Robert Mansfield, co-chairman of the Governor's Task Force to Protect Michigan's Military Facilities, said he's surprised the 110th is on the list.

"The people who are employed there, the guardsmen, the active duty and the civilians, have proven to be superior, premier performers whenever they've been deployed into action," Mansfield said. "We will be looking very carefully at the rationale and preparing for the visitation of the commission to make our case about the facility, how well it does perform and its integration into what we call this transformation concept."

At least two members of the nine-member **BRAC** Commission will have a public hearing in **Battle Creek** before the commission announces its recommendations. That list must be released by Sept. 8.

John Burchett, director of Granholm's office in Washington, D.C., said Friday morning he and others had yet to understand the Pentagon's rationale for moving the 110th. Burchett said the governor's task force will meet Monday to discuss the rationale and determine next steps.

"Then we'll determine our best military arguments in the next three or four months that they made a mistake," Burchett said.

DeCoster said the unit will follow orders and isn't allowed to join a political fight to spare it from the **BRAC** list.

"We have performed our role thus far, and we've provided information as requested. We can't politic against the **BRAC** Commission's decision. We are part of the entire military organization and we follow the orders we are given," DeCoster said.

DeCoster said the 110th responded to about a dozen official inquiries, or data calls, from the Pentagon over the past two years. He said the base had no indication before Friday whether it would be on the **BRAC** list or not.

The military and **Battle Creek** community have spent \$50 million to \$70 million on upgrades at the air base in the past 20 years, Hettinger said. As much as \$25 million was spent since 1990, DeCoster said.

State Rep. Mike Nofs, R-**Battle Creek**, said the proposal to close a facility that is continually upgraded is perplexing.

"It disturbs me greatly, both as a legislator and as a taxpayer, to hear that the DOD wants to close this facility after spending millions of dollars to upgrade and construct new facilities over the past several years," Nofs said in a press release. "The grass has barely begun to grow at the new weapons depot that was just completed. It's completely illogical."

Tim Hoyle, spokesman for the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Service, which is headquartered at the federal center, said **BRAC** 2005 isn't yet complete.

"We're certainly happy that the federal center wasn't recommended for closure or realignment, but it's a process we'll continue to watch," Hoyle said.

"The **BRAC** commissioners have the ability to ... add things or take things off the list," Hoyle said.

Hoyle said the federal center and 110th have maintained good relationships over the years. "Naturally, as part of the DOD, we want to wish them well and show our support," Hoyle said.

Closing base will 'impact everything'

Battle Creek Enquirer

Nick Schirripa

May 14, 2005

Friday's good news-bad news base-closing revelations left some **Battle Creek**-area residents with conflicted feelings.

While there was relief that the Hart-Dole-Inouye Federal Center escaped the Defense Department's hit list, there was dismay that Michigan Air National Guard 110th Fighter Wing may be shifted to the east side of the state.

But those concerned about losing the 110th Fighter Wing to Selfridge Air National Guard Base near Mount Clemens were confident state and federal representatives will fight to keep the base in **Battle Creek**.

Gail McClure of **Battle Creek** said the possibility of the base being removed from the list is on the shoulders of the right man - U.S. Rep. Joe Schwarz.

"If anyone can do it, he can. Let's put our hope in him," she said. "He's a champion for the area."

McClure said she remembers when Schwarz was a **Battle Creek** city commissioner in 1984.

Schwarz played a key role in getting the W.K. Kellogg Airport runway extended to 10,000 feet, she said, in a deal that kept the Air National Guard base here.

McClure said even though she is glad only the Air National Guard base made the list, she is still concerned about the 318 jobs that could be lost.

"It's not huge, and it's not the same as the Federal Center closing, but those are families. It will impact those families. It will impact schools. It will impact everything," she said. "Think of the impact of 300 people moving into downtown **Battle Creek**. That's enough to create a micro-economy."

Chris Singer and his brother, Bill Singer, said they think it's an incredible waste to close the base. Moving the base operations to Selfridge doesn't make any sense to them, especially with the millions spent on improvements at the **Battle Creek** base.

"What's Selfridge going to offer them that we don't have here already?" Chris Singer said.

And they said they believe the local economy relies on these jobs. The health system, city government and businesses rely on the people who live in **Battle Creek**.

"When I look at it, I don't look at just them closing down the air base," Singer said.

Myrtle Morre can remember when the federal center was Percy Jones Army Hospital and her husband worked there. The Pennfield woman said she was relieved to hear those jobs would be saved.

"I'm glad they're not closing the federal center," she said. "A lot of people work there, you know."

Brothers Brad and Mark Wilson, both factory workers, hadn't heard anything about the base closing. They said that while it's sad anytime the area loses jobs, Michigan factories consistently have shipped jobs overseas without this kind of response.

Their company has shrunk by more than half in the decade they've worked there. Mark Wilson said if his job is lost, the newspaper probably won't be doing a community reaction story.

"It sucks anytime jobs go away," Brad Wilson said. "But it doesn't directly affect me."

Phyllis VanOrder said it's wrong for local residents to be apathetic.

"I think it's a mistake that (some residents) don't think it affects them," she said. "When you talk about an employer that size, it affects everyone in the community."

Melanie Watkins was waiting at Verona Elementary School to pick up her son Friday. She said she didn't believe the federal center would close, but wonders about all the military closings nationwide.

She noted that **Battle Creek** Public Schools plans to close three elementary schools at the end of the year.

"They're closing the schools. They're closing the bases. They're closing all kinds of stuff," she said. "But where is all the bigger tax money going?"

At the family-owned Palermo Ristorante just down Dickman Road from the air base, Gina Basso was worried.

"We get a lot of business from there and they've been very supportive," she said. "They're a huge part of what keeps us going."

Basso said a lot of business comes from the Fort Custer Industrial Park, as well, and the closing of businesses there has hurt the restaurant.

"Jobs leaving is always a concern," she said. "But our biggest concern is for the families who are affected. Our hearts go out to them."

Paul Harvey, owner of Harvey's Nest on Capital Avenue Southwest, said he was relieved to hear the federal center was not on the base-closing list because he has many friends who there.

"The number of jobs and the number of lives kept here in **Battle Creek** - this is good for them and it's good for the community," he said.

As a resident and a business owner, Harvey said he recognizes the loss of even a few jobs.

"Any job loss has an impact. When you look at the total picture, it's a minimal impact, but there's still an impact," he said. "Even with the uncertainty that has been prevalent recently, people are more cautious about their buying."

Greg Purcell, Calhoun County administrator-controller, said the loss of the 110th Fighter Wing will mean a loss of about \$25 million in payroll alone, which will mean a bigger economic impact extending beyond Calhoun County.

While the impact is generally focused on Calhoun County, surrounding counties will feel the loss of jobs, too, Purcell said.

"Those dollars in payroll are spent on groceries at area hardware stores, restaurants, golf courses, purchase of homes and renovations, et cetera," he said. "Take \$25 million out of the local economy and some of people are no longer spending as much on those local purchases, and if they are transferred to Selfridge, they are spending zero dollars in Calhoun County."

Purcell said members of the 110th have played a critical role in the national defense, and he believes their mission can best be accomplished from the facility in **Battle Creek**.

To that end, Purcell said a local Citizen Base Retention Committee will be meeting to provide information aimed at keeping the base at the airport.

"Any loss of jobs in Calhoun County is significant," he said. "Our local Base Retention Commission will be working to reverse the decision that would move the 110th from **Battle Creek**."

Christine Iwan contributed to this report. Nick Schirripa covers Calhoun County and Marshall. He can be reached at 966-0692 or nschirrip@battlecr.gannett.com. Read his blog in the News Extras area at battlecreekenquirer.com.

BREAKOUT

Battle Creek and BRAC

Local military installations affected by the Base Realignment and Closing recommendations:

Federal center: Not on the list.

110th Fighter Wing: Recommended to be moved to Selfridge Air National Guard Base near Mount Clemens, closing the Air National Guard Base at W.K. Kellogg Airport, where 318 people work full-time.

Fort Custer Army National Guard Base is recommended as the site of a new Armed Forces Reserve Center that would combine existing operations in **Battle Creek** and Lansing. The effect on jobs in **Battle Creek** was unclear.

BRAC picture brightens for Battle Creek

The Battle Creek Enquirer

Eric J. Greene

The Enquirer

Advocates for a local military base brought home a little optimism as their souvenir after a Monday trip to St. Louis.

But just a little.

"This is only the beginning," said Jan Burland, an executive at **Battle Creek** Unlimited and a coordinator of the effort to save the **Battle Creek** Air National Guard Base from closure.

Because local presenters did well at a public hearing in St. Louis, an independent panel has promised to study a proposal to close the **Battle Creek** base and may send one of its members here to see it firsthand, a state senator said Tuesday.

"I really think we hit a home run," said state Sen. Mark Schauer, D-Bedford Township. "It was a strong presentation. It was well-received. I feel like we've got a runner on base in scoring position and now we've got to keep the pressure on and keep our fingers crossed."

Schauer was one of five people Monday who, on behalf of **Battle Creek**, addressed three members of the federal Base Realignment and Closure Commission, a nine-member body appointed by President George W. Bush to investigate base changes proposed by Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld.

The **Battle Creek** group spent 15 minutes testifying before the panel in St. Louis in the first formal attempt to save the **Battle Creek** Air National Guard Base and its 334 full-time, on-base jobs.

Rumsfeld's plan calls for moving the 110th Fighter Wing, whose members fly and maintain A-10 attack jets at the local airport, to Selfridge Air National Guard Base north of Detroit.

Commissioners didn't immediately respond to a request that they visit **Battle Creek**, Schauer said, but their research staff has agreed to meet with a few **Battle Creek** advocates next week in Washington, D.C.

The follow-up meeting is intended to expound on the arguments for retaining the local base. It's not clear how many other communities are getting opportunities to meet with the research staff, but local officials said it's a good sign for **Battle Creek**.

Local advocates also want to persuade at least one **BRAC** commissioner to visit **Battle Creek**, if only for a few hours.

"We feel like we have a good chance of being granted a site visit," Schauer said.

Burland said **BRAC** commissioners appeared pleased Monday that **Battle Creek** focused its case on military value and data used by the Pentagon to rate the base.

Representatives from other states spent much of their time bemoaning the potential loss of jobs and economic effects of base closures, Burland said.

Part of **Battle Creek's** mission Monday was to stir skepticism of Rumsfeld's proposal.

"What we were really able to accomplish with the three commissioners was to pique their interest that something was amiss in **Battle Creek**," Burland said.

Schauer said commissioners seem to be taking their job very seriously. He was encouraged by one member's comment that Rumsfeld's proposal was only "one side of the story."

"That, to me, was a definite clue that they are seeking all sides of the story relating to what the impact of the recommendations might be," Schauer said.

Editorial/Opinion Articles

Advocates to plead B.C. Guard Base case to BRAC

The Battle Creek Enquirer (Battle Creek , MI)

Eric J. Greene

June 3, 2005

The independent Base Realignment and Closure Commission will let representatives of Michigan military facilities, including the air base in Battle Creek, present arguments at a hearing in St. Louis, Mo., lawmakers said.

A group of Michigan congressional delegates, including U.S. Rep. Joe Schwarz, R-Battle Creek, had asked the BRAC Commission to hear a case for sparing the Battle Creek Air National Guard Base from closure.

Until Wednesday, it appeared local advocates would not be allowed to plead their case to the commission, whose nine members have begun holding regional hearings across the country.

U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld has proposed that personnel and equipment at the Battle Creek base be moved to another base in eastern Michigan. The BRAC Commission is investigating that proposal, along with others across the country, as part of a sweeping plan to reposition the American military for future wars.

The local base employs 300-plus people and houses 17 A-10 Thunderbolt aircraft. It's unknown what would happen to the 320 acres the military currently leases at the city-owned W.K. Kellogg Airport.

The new date of the St. Louis hearing, initially scheduled for Tuesday, has not been set.

Schwarz and Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., issued statements Wednesday, saying they were pleased the commission chose to listen to Michigan's concerns.

In addition to the Battle Creek base, Michigan stands to lose hundreds more jobs through the possible closure of the U.S. Army Garrison at Selfridge Air National Guard Base near Mount Clemens.

"We are very pleased that our request has been granted," Levin said of the commission's decision. "Our request was reasonable. If the Department of Defense considers a facility's closure to be a major closure, then that facility and its community should be able to make a case for its preservation. The BRAC commission agreed with our assessment, and these Michigan communities will have a chance to make their cases."

Schwarz renewed his vow to fight for the military jobs in Michigan.

"By rejecting the Defense Department's list of recommended base closings, we are not only doing the right thing for the future of the Michigan Air National Guard, but also Battle Creek and the state of Michigan. Whether it's just one or hundreds of jobs at stake, I am going to fight all the way to the finish to keep these jobs in Battle Creek and the state."