

**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 127<sup>th</sup> 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>
<b>Baseline</b>	(68)	(206)	
Reductions			
Realignments			
<b>Total</b>	<b>(68)</b>	<b>(206)</b>	

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

	<b>Out</b>		<b>In</b>		<b>Net Gain (Loss)</b>	
	<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)						
<b>Total</b>	(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) Debbie Stabenow (D)	(202) 224-6221 (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