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AUG 17 2005

Mr. Art Beauchamp
Analyst
Defense Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Mr. Beauchamp:

The enclosure responds to your inquiry concerning two Technical Joint Cross Service Group recommendations from the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure process.

Thank you for the opportunity to address your questions.

Sincerely,

for Alan R. Shaffer
Executive Director
Technical Joint Cross Service Group

Enclosure
As stated.

Tracker #798C

Technical Joint Cross Service Group (TJCSG) Response
to BRAC Commission Inquiry - August 17, 2005

QUESTION 1: Create an Air Integrated Weapons & Armaments Research, Development & Acquisition, Test & Evaluation Center. This recommendation appears to be transferring all engineering positions authorized from the 84th Munitions Sustainment Group (MUSG) to the Air Armament Center Hill Air Force Base, to the Munitions Product Center at Eglin AFB, FL.

Issue: If this recommendation is implemented it could have a negative impact on Hill's ability to provide munitions sustainment program management and engineering support to the Air Force. The recommendation specifically transfers all 22 engineering authorizations assigned to the 84th MUSG to Eglin Air Armaments Center, yet Hill will still have munitions sustainment engineering mission. The recommendation also transfers 10 other engineering positions that don't exist at the 84th Munitions Sustainment Group. The loss of the 22 engineers is a particular concern as it results in the 84th MUSG losing all engineering expertise. This is significant given the fact that Hill is the only installation within the Air Force that provides sustainment support and management of Air to Ground munitions. Is this the intent of this recommendation? If yes, how will sustainment engineering support be provided to the Air Force if this recommendation is approved? Hill is also impact by the transferring 11 engineering positions that don't exist at the 84th MUSG (i.e. Hill will have to take them out of other areas within the base population). Is this an oversight?

It appears that in trying to consolidate RDAT&E engineering for munitions at Eglin, the Air Force discounted the sustainment engineering support provided by Hill. It also appears that the Air Force selected the transfer of engineering personnel at Hill based on 3600 appropriations (i.e., research and development funding) received in the past.

TJCSG RESPONSE: Hill Air Force Base staff identified 404 weapons and armaments positions in their certified data. Of these positions, 242 are sustainment related, 33 are in-service engineering related, and the remaining 129 are related to other weapon and armament functions. After careful consideration and deliberation, the recommendation realigned only those positions associated with in-service engineering.

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QUESTION 2: Establish Centers for Fixed Wing Air Platform Research, Development & Acquisition, Test & Evaluation. This recommendation relocates fixed wing related air platform Research Development & Acquisition, Test & Evaluation (RDAT&E) to Wright Patterson Air Force Base, OH. It includes eight positions from A-10 System Program Office at Hill (supporting A-10 Precision Engagement Program) and nine positions from the Landing Gear Program Office.

Issue: Landing gear RDAT&E engineering positions do not exist at Hill. According to Hill personnel, they never did. In the past, engineering sustainment support was through contractors which was funded from Congressional plus-up. If this recommendation is implemented Hill will have to take nine positions out of its base population to support. Is this the intent of this recommendation? It appears that the Air Force made an assumption that Hill AFB had RDAT&E positions based on the level of 3600 appropriation Hill received in the past.

TJCSG RESPONSE: The recommendation to Establish Centers for Fixed Wing Air Platform RDAT&E takes Air Force Development and Acquisition functions at Hill AFB Logistics Center and relocates them to Wright Patterson AFB. It includes the development/modernization work currently associated with fixed wing air platforms which reportedly encompasses A-10. The Landing Gear work at Hill AFB, however, was not part of the proposed consolidation.