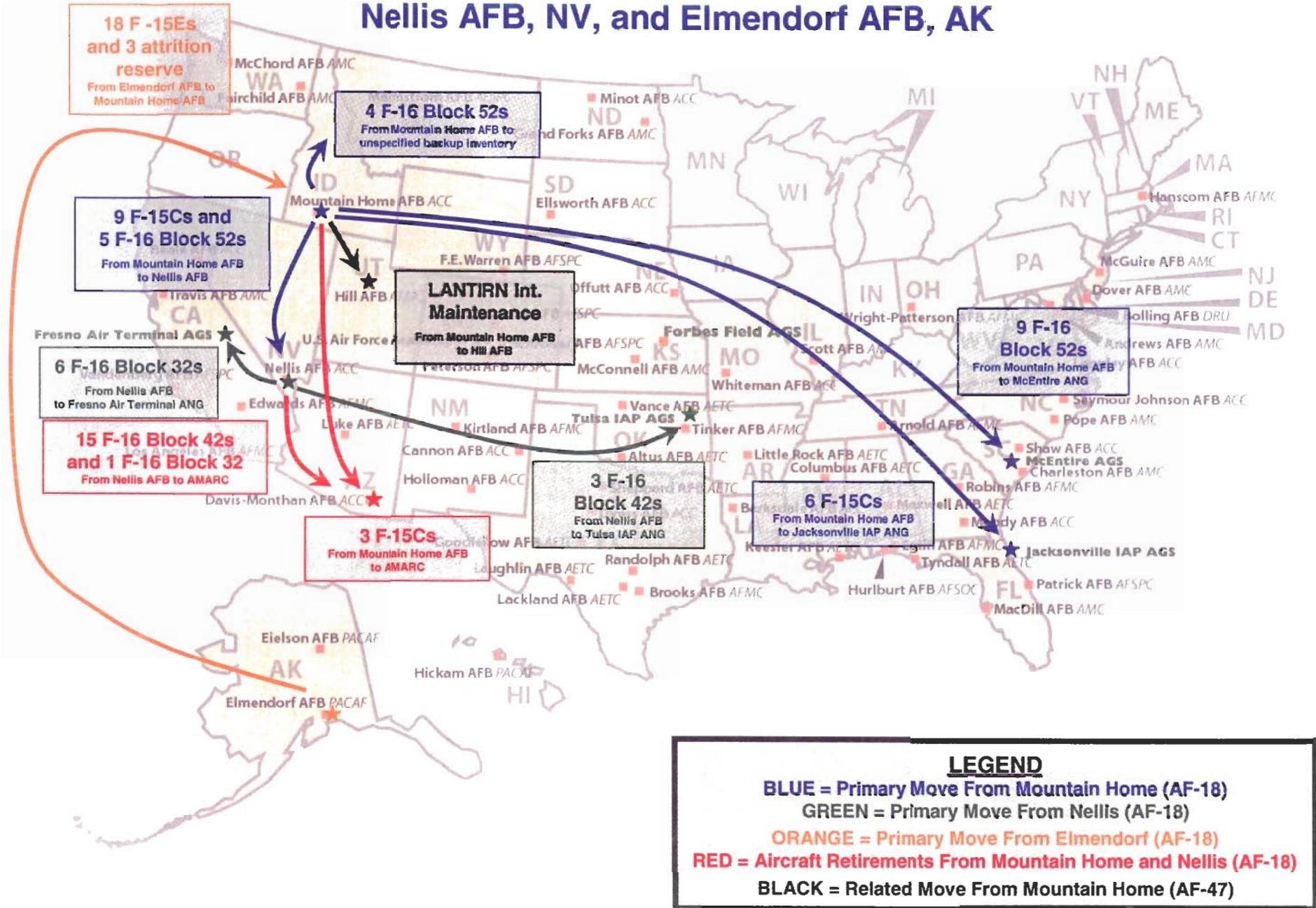


Air Force 18 – Mountain Home AFB, ID, Nellis AFB, NV, and Elmendorf AFB, AK



COMMITTEES:

ENERGY AND COMMERCE

OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS

VICE CHAIRMAN

ENERGY AND AIR QUALITY

TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND THE
INTERNET

RESOURCES

FORESTS AND FOREST HEALTH
CHAIRMAN

WATER AND POWER



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

STATEMENT OF
HON. GREG WALDEN
OF OREGON

Friday, June 17, 2005

GREG WALDEN
2D DISTRICT, OREGON
DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

WASHINGTON, DC OFFICE:
1210 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3702
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JAMISON BUILDING
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131 NW HAWTHORNE STREET
BEND, OR 97701
TELEPHONE: (541) 389-4408

WEBSITE:
<http://walden.house.gov>
(E-MAIL AVAILABLE ON WEBSITE)

Members of the commission, distinguished colleagues and concerned citizens, I thank you all for coming.

First of all I'd like to thank Chairman Principi and the Base Realignment and Closure Commission for holding this hearing here today and recognize each of the commissioners for the difficult task they have undertaken. I appreciate the opportunity to share my thoughts about the Pentagon's recommendations for the 2005 BRAC Round.

I have joined with the rest of my state's House delegation in a letter to Chairman Principi expressing my concern with the Department of Defense's (DOD) recommendation to move the 142nd Fighter Wing's F-15 aircraft from the Portland Air National Guard Base. In the letter we outlined our belief that moving the aircraft will leave vulnerability in our nation's air defense creating a gap that could expose the people of the Northwest to increased risk from attack. Such a reduction in homeland security readiness could threaten millions of citizens in the region, and I reiterate my request that the Commission not accept the DOD's recommendation and instead retain the 142nd Fighter Wing's important security mission.

I am pleased, however, that the DOD's recommendations to the BRAC Commission do not call for a reduction in the number of aircraft or personnel in the 173rd Fighter Wing based at Kingsley Field in Klamath Falls.

The 173rd Fighter Wing is the preeminent training unit for highly qualified F-15 pilots in the United States and each year more than 40 pilots undertake the rigorous training there, taking full advantage of the availability of a significant amount of acceptable training air space near the base. After completing their training, these pilots take on integral roles in our country's homeland security functions.

This important role in preparing pilots for emergency situations that may arise throughout the country or around the world was recognized by the DOD when their recommendations were made last month, and it is my sincere hope that the BRAC Commission will also appreciate this critical need and retain the vital missions conducted at Kingsley Field.

Once again, I appreciate the opportunity to submit my thoughts to the Commission. Thank you for your time and please feel free to contact me if I can be of assistance as the BRAC process continues.

DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

BASE SUMMARY SHEET

Mountain Home AFB, ID

INSTALLATION MISSION

- U.S. Air Force's air expeditionary wing and F-15C/D, F-15E, F-16CJ/D operations.

DoD RECOMMENDATION

- Realign Mountain Home AFB, ID by distributing aircraft from the 366th Fighter Wing as follows:
 - 9 F-15Cs to the 57th Fighter Wing, Nellis AFB, NV
 - 6 F-15Cs to the 125th Fighter Wing, Jacksonville IAP AGS, FL
 - 3 F-15Cs to retirement
 - 9 F-16 Block 52s to the 169th Fighter Wing, McEntire AGS, SC
 - 5 F-16 Block 52s to the 57th Wing, Nellis AFB, NV
 - 4 F-16 Block 52s to backup inventory
 - Total aircraft = 36
- Realign Elmendorf AFB, AK by distributing aircraft from the 3d Wing as follows:
 - 18 F-15Es to the 366th Fighter Wing, Mountain Home AFB, ID
 - 3 F-15Es to attrition reserve
 - Total aircraft =21

DoD JUSTIFICATION

- Military value was the predominant consideration in moving the F-15Es from Elmendorf (36) to Mountain Home (23) and F-16s to Nellis (12) and McEntire (48)
- Streamlines Mountain Home's aircraft operations to fly only F-15Es since its location is well suited for air-to-ground, low-level and air-to-air flight training.
- This recommendation also aligns common versions of F-16s and F-15Cs.

COST CONSIDERATIONS DEVELOPED BY DoD

- One-Time Costs: \$ 74.2 million
- Net Savings (Cost) during Implementation: \$21.2 million
- Annual Recurring Savings: \$37.8 million
- Return on Investment Year: 2005 (Immediate)
- Net Present Value over 20 Years: \$389.0 million

MANPOWER IMPLICATIONS OF THIS RECOMMENDATION (EXCLUDES CONTRACTORS)

	<u>Military</u>	<u>Civilian</u>	<u>Students</u>
Baseline	4,365	470	
Reductions			
Realignments	(498)	(30)	
Total	3,867	440	

Note: FY 05 baseline numbers were provided during the base visit. Those numbers are presented in the table below.

	<u>Military</u>	<u>Civilian</u>	<u>Students</u>
Baseline	4,165	414	
Reductions			
Realignments	(498)	(30)	
Total	3,667	384	

MANPOWER IMPLICATIONS OF ALL RECOMMENDATIONS AFFECTING THIS INSTALLATION (INCLUDES STUDENTS)

	<u>Out</u>		<u>In</u>		<u>Net Gain (Loss)</u>	
	<u>Military</u>	<u>Civilian</u>	<u>Military</u>	<u>Civilian</u>	<u>Military</u>	<u>Civilian</u>
This recommendation	(1,195)	(53)	697	23	(498)	(30)
Other recommendations	(40)	(1)			(40)	(1)
Total	(1,235)	(54)	697	23	(538)	(31)

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Nellis Air Force Base is in a National Ambient Air Quality Standards nonattainment area for carbon monoxide (serious), particulate matter (PM10, serious), and ozone (8-hr, subpart 1). A preliminary assessment indicates that nonconformity determination may be required to verify that positive conformity can be achieved. Costs to mitigate this potential impact have been included in the payback calculation and this is not expected to be an impediment to the implementation of this recommendation.
- There are also potential impacts air quality; cultural, archeological, or tribal resources; land use constraints or sensitive resource areas; noise; threatened and endangered species or critical habitat; waste management; water resources; and wetlands that may need to be considered during the implementation of this recommendation. There are no anticipated impacts to dredging; or marine mammals, resources, or sanctuaries.
- Impacts of costs include \$1.89 million in costs for environmental compliance and waste management. These costs were included in the payback calculation. There are no anticipated impacts to the costs of environmental restoration. The aggregate environmental impact of all recommended BRAC actions affecting the installations in this recommendation have been

reviewed. There are no known environmental impediments to the implementation of this recommendation.

REPRESENTATION

Governor: Dirk Kempthorne (R)

Senators: Larry Craig (R)

Michael D. Crapo (R)

Representative: Mike Simpson (R)

ECONOMIC IMPACT

This Recommendation

- Potential Employment Loss: 833 jobs (528 direct and 305 indirect)
- MSA Job Base: 14,441 jobs
- Percentage: 5.8 percent decrease

Other Recommendation

- Potential Employment Loss: 65 jobs (41 direct and 24 indirect)
- MSA Job Base: 14,441 jobs
- Percentage: 0.45 percent decrease

Cumulative

- Potential Employment Loss: 898 jobs (569 direct and 329 indirect)
- MSA Job Base: 14,441 jobs
- Percentage: 6.2 percent decrease

MILITARY ISSUES

COMMUNITY CONCERNS/ISSUES

ITEMS OF SPECIAL EMPHASIS

Tanya Cruz/Air Force/23 May 2005



BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

Portland, Oregon Regional Hearing
Friday, June 17, 2005
8:30a.m.-12:00p.m.

Witness List

OREGON

Panel I

The Honorable Ron Wyden, U.S. Senator, State of Oregon

The Honorable Gordon Smith, U.S. Senator, State of Oregon

The Honorable Ted Kulongoski, Governor, State of Oregon

**The Honorable Earl Blumenauer, U.S. Representative,
State of Oregon**

**The Honorable Darlene Hooley, U.S. Representative,
State of Oregon**

Panel II

**Brig. Gen. Raymond C. Byrne, Jr., Acting Adjutant
General the State of Oregon**

**Mr. Robert Jordan, Special Agent in Charge
Portland Federal Bureau of Investigations**

**Col. Bradley J. Applegate, Commander,
142nd Fighter Wing**

**Maj. Gen. David E.B. Ward, (Ret.), Former
Commander, State of Oregon Air National Guard**

MONTANA

Panel I

The Honorable Max Baucus, U.S. Senator, State of Montana

The Honorable Conrad Burns, U.S. Senator, State of Montana

WASHINGTON

Panel I

Major General Frank Scoggins, *Assistant Adjutant General,
Washington National Guard*

Mr. David Graybill, *President & CEO, Tacoma/Pierce
County Chamber*

Mr. John Folsom, *Chairman of Ft. Lewis/McChord AFB
BRAC Citizens*

Mr. Rich Hadley, *President, Spokane Chamber of Commerce*

IDAHO

Panel I

The Honorable Larry Craig, *U.S. Senator, State of Idaho*

The Honorable Mike Crapo, *U.S. Senator, State of Idaho*

The Honorable Dirk Kempthorne, *U.S. Governor, State
of Idaho*

Please turn cell phones off.

Due to a significant time constraint, please hold applause until end.

BRAC INFORMATION

"BRAC" is an acronym that stands for Base Realignment and Closure. It is the congressionally authorized process the Department of Defense uses to reorganize its base structure to more efficiently and effectively support forces, increase operational readiness and facilitate new ways of doing business.

The BRAC Commission is an independent body responsible for reviewing the Secretary of Defense's recommendations. The commission will furnish the report of its findings and its own suggestions to the President and to the American public on September 8, 2005.

The commission can change the Department of Defense's recommendations if it finds that the Secretary of Defense deviated substantially from the force structure plan and/or selection criteria.

Share your thoughts with the BRAC Commission:

www.brac.gov

2005 Defense Base Realignment and Closure Commission

2521 S. Clark St., Ste. 600

Arlington, VA 22202



BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

PORTLAND, OREGON
REGIONAL HEARING
JUNE 17, 2005

AGENDA

OPENING REMARKS

ADMINISTER OATH

PORTLAND 60 MINUTES

BREAK

MONTANA 30 MINUTES

BREAK

WASHINGTON 60 MINUTES

BREAK

IDAHO 30 MINUTES

CLOSING REMARKS

PRESS AVAILABILITY

*Please turn cell phones off.
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