

**ATLANTA, GA REGIONAL HEARING
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FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 1995

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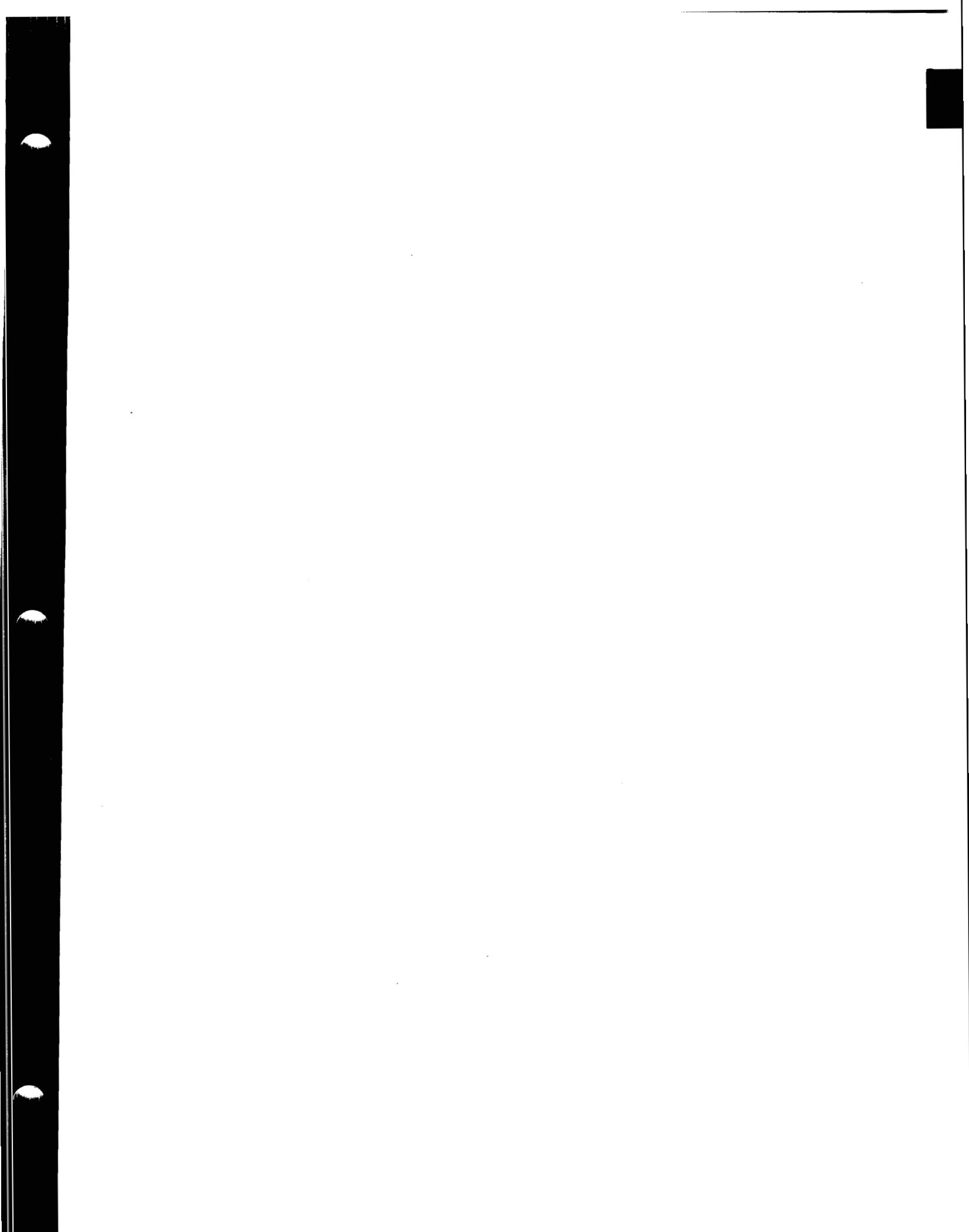
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THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION
1700 NORTH MOORE STREET SUITE 1425
ARLINGTON, VA 22209
703-696-0504

ALAN J. DIXON, CHAIRMAN

COMMISSIONERS:
AL CORNELLA
REBECCA COX
GEN J. B. DAVIS, USAF (RET)
S. LEE KLING
RADM BENJAMIN F. MONTOYA, USN (RET)
MG JOSUE ROBLES, JR., USA (RET)
WENDI LOUISE STEELE

SCHEDULE FOR REGIONAL HEARING

ATLANTA, GA

June 9, 1995

9:00-9:10 a.m.	Opening remarks	
9:10-10:50 a.m.	Georgia	100 minutes
10:50-10:55 a.m.	break	
10:55-11:20 a.m.	Alabama	25 minutes
11:20-11:25 a.m.	break	
11:25-12:00 p.m.	Public comment: Georgia, Alabama	
12:00-1:00 p.m.	break	
1:00-1:45 p.m.	Mississippi	45 minutes
1:45-1:50 p.m.	break	
1:50-2:15 p.m.	Florida	25 minutes
2:15-2:20 p.m.	break	
2:20-2:46 p.m.	Public comment: Mississippi, Florida	

(AS OF 5/15/95)

**ATLANTA REGIONAL HEARING
JUNE 9, 1995**

COMMISSIONERS ATTENDING:

**Commissioner Al Cornella
Commissioner Rebecca Cox
Commissioner S. Lee Kling
Commissioner Joe Robles
Commissioner Wendi Steele**

STAFF ATTENDING:

**Bond Almand
Merrill Beyer
CeCe Carman
Melissa Chalfant
Bob Cook
Madelyn Creedon
Chris Goode
Mike Kennedy
Shelley Kestner
Rob Kress
David Lyles
Wade Nelson
Mark Pross
Ann Reese
Charlie Smith
Christy Still
Alex Yellin**

ITINERARY

Thursday, June 8

**4:56PM ET S. Lee Kling departs St. Louis, MO en route Atlanta, GA:
TWA flight 534.**

**5:00PM ET Commissioners and staff depart NAS Meridian, MS en route Atlanta, GA:
via MILAIR.**

**Al Cornella
Wendi Steele
Charlie Smith**

7:00PM ET Commissioners and staff arrive Atlanta from NAS Meridian, MS (Fulton County Airport).

Al Cornella
Wendi Steele
Charlie Smith

*Picked up by Bond Almand and transported to RON.

7:33PM ET S. Lee Kling arrives Atlanta, GA from St. Louis, MO.

*Picked up by Rob Kress and transported to RON.

**Atlanta RON: The Wyndham Midtown
Peachtree and Tenth Street, NE
(404) 873-4800**

**Al Cornella
S. Lee Kling
Wendi Steele
Bond Almand
Merrill Beyer
CeCe Carman
Melissa Chalfant
Madelyn Creedon
Chris Goode
Mike Kennedy
Shelley Kestner
Rob Kress
Wade Nelson
Jim Owsley
Charles Smith
Mark Pross
Ann Reese
Christy Still
Alex Yellin**

Friday, June 9

5:30AM CT Joe Robles departs San Antonio, TX en route Atlanta, GA (Fulton County Airport):

Corporate Plane.

7:20AM ET Commissioner and staff depart DC National en route Atlanta, GA:
Delta flight 1411.

Rebecca Cox
Bob Cook
David Lyles

7:00AM to ALL STAFF OLYMPIC BREAKFAST/BRIEFING

8:00AM ET Peachtree Club
999 Peachtree Street
Atlanta, GA

***Next door to Wyndham Hotel. Meet in hotel lobby at 6:50am and walk over together.**

8:15AM ET Joe Robles arrives Atlanta, GA (Fulton County Airport) from San Antonio, TX.
*Picked up by Cobb County Chamber of Commerce personnel and transported to hearing site.

8:30AM ET Commissioners depart Peachtree Club en route Fox theatre.
*Driven by Mark Pross and Alex Yellin.
*Staff departs Wyndham Midtown en route Fox Theater via Hotel vans.

9:00AM to ATLANTA REGIONAL HEARING
2:46PM ET

9:07AM ET Commissioner and staff arrive Atlanta, GA from DC National.
*Picked up by Christy Still and Cobb County Chamber of Commerce personnel and transported to hearing site.

Rebecca Cox
Bob Cook
David Lyles

11:30AM ET Joe Robles departs Atlanta, GA (Fulton County Airport) en route Anniston, AL via corporate plane.
*Driven to Airport by Rob Kress.

3:41PM ET Rebecca Cox departs Atlanta, GA en route DC National:
Delta flight 608.
*Driven to airport by Christy Still.

4:30PM CT Commissioners and staff depart Atlanta, GA en route Dallas/Ft. Worth:
American flight 2093.

Al Cornella
S. Lee Kling
Wendi Steele
Bob Cook
Madelyn Creedon
Chris Goode
David Lyles
Wade Nelson

***Transported to Airport by Governor's office.**

5:30PM ET Rebecca Cox arrives DC National from Atlanta, GA.

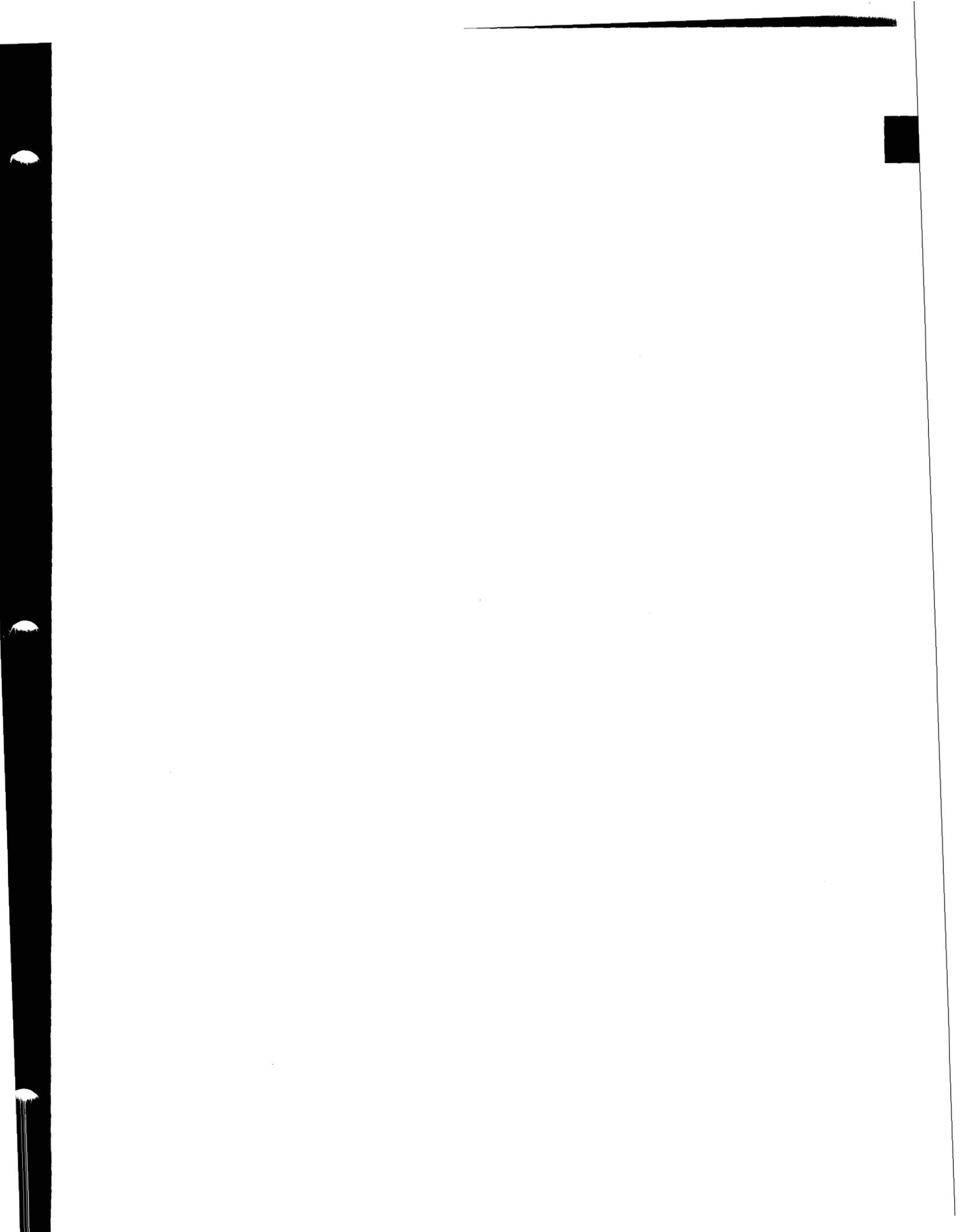
5:52PM CT Commissioners and staff arrive Dallas/Ft. Worth from Atlanta, GA.

Bob Cook
Madelyn Creedon
Chris Goode
David Lyles
Wade Nelson
Jim Owsley

*Picked up by Commission staff and transported to RON.

**Ft. Worth RON: The Worthington Hotel
200 Main Street
Ft. Worth Texas
817-882-1650**

**Al Cornella
S. Lee Kling
Wendi Steele
Merrill Beyer
Jeff Campbell
Bob Cook
Madelyn Creedon
John Earnhardt
Chris Goode
Paul Hegarty
Rob Kress
David Lyles
Wade Nelson
Marc Pross
Chip Walgren**





THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

1700 NORTH MOORE STREET SUITE 1425

ARLINGTON, VA 22209

703-696-0504

ALAN J. DIXON, CHAIRMAN

COMMISSIONERS:

AL CORNELLA

REBECCA COX

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S. LEE KLING

RADM BENJAMIN F. MONTOYA, USN (RET)

MG JOSUE ROBLES, JR., USA (RET)

WENDI LOUISE STEELE

OPENING STATEMENT

COMMISSIONER S. LEE KLING

REGIONAL HEARING

Atlanta, Georgia

June 9, 1995

GOOD MORNING, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, AND WELCOME TO THIS REGIONAL HEARING OF THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION.

MY NAME IS LEE KLING AND I AM A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION CHARGED WITH THE TASK OF EVALUATING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE REGARDING THE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT OF MILITARY INSTALLATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES.

ALSO HERE WITH US TODAY ARE MY COLLEAGUES, COMMISSIONERS WENDI STEELE, AL CORNELLA, JOE ROBLES AND REBECCA COX.

THE COMMISSION IS ALSO AUTHORIZED BY LAW TO ADD BASES TO THE SECRETARY'S LIST FOR REVIEW AND POSSIBLE REALIGNMENT OR CLOSURE. ON MAY 10, AS ALL OF YOU KNOW, WE VOTED TO ADD 35 BASES TO THE LIST. TODAY WE WILL HEAR FROM SOME OF THOSE NEWLY-AFFECTED COMMUNITIES.

FIRST LET ME THANK ALL THE MILITARY AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL WHO HAVE ASSISTED US SO CAPABLY DURING OUR VISITS TO THE MANY BASES REPRESENTED AT THIS HEARING.

WE HAVE SPENT SEVERAL DAYS LOOKING AT THE INSTALLATIONS THAT WE ADDED TO THE LIST ON MAY 10 FOR REVIEW AND ASKING QUESTIONS THAT WILL HELP US MAKE OUR DECISIONS. THE COOPERATION WE'VE RECEIVED HAS BEEN EXEMPLARY. THANKS VERY MUCH.

THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THE BASE VISITS WE HAVE CONDUCTED IS TO ALLOW US TO SEE THE INSTALLATION FIRST-HAND AND TO ADDRESS WITH MILITARY PERSONNEL THE ALL-IMPORTANT QUESTION OF THE MILITARY VALUE OF THE BASE.

IN ADDITION TO THE BASE VISITS, THE COMMISSION IS CONDUCTING A TOTAL OF FIVE REGIONAL HEARINGS REGARDING ADDED INSTALLATIONS, OF WHICH TODAY'S IS THE FOURTH. THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THE REGIONAL HEARINGS IS TO GIVE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY THESE CLOSURE RECOMMENDATIONS A CHANCE TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS.

WE CONSIDER THIS INTERACTION WITH THE COMMUNITY TO BE ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT AND VALUABLE PARTS OF OUR REVIEW OF THE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT LIST.

LET ME ASSURE YOU THAT ALL OF OUR COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF ARE WELL AWARE OF THE HUGE IMPLICATIONS OF BASE CLOSURE ON LOCAL COMMUNITIES. WE ARE COMMITTED TO OPENNESS IN THIS PROCESS, AND WE ARE COMMITTED TO FAIRNESS. ALL THE MATERIAL WE GATHER, ALL THE INFORMATION WE GET FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, ALL OF OUR CORRESPONDENCE IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

WE ARE FACED WITH AN UNPLEASANT AND PAINFUL TASK, WHICH WE INTEND TO CARRY OUT AS SENSITIVELY AS WE CAN. AGAIN, THE KIND OF ASSISTANCE WE'VE RECEIVED HERE IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

NOW LET ME TELL YOU HOW WE WILL PROCEED HERE TODAY. IT IS THE SAME FORMAT AS AT OUR FOURTEEN PREVIOUS REGIONAL HEARINGS.

THE COMMISSION HAS ASSIGNED A BLOCK OF TIME TO EACH STATE AFFECTED BY THE BASE CLOSURE LIST. THE OVERALL AMOUNT OF TIME WAS DETERMINED BY THE NUMBER OF INSTALLATIONS ON THE LIST AND THE AMOUNT OF JOB LOSS. THE TIME LIMITS WILL BE ENFORCED STRICTLY.

WE NOTIFIED THE APPROPRIATE ELECTED OFFICIALS OF THIS PROCEDURE AND LEFT IT UP TO THEM, WORKING WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITIES, TO DETERMINE HOW TO FILL THE BLOCK OF TIME.

TODAY, WE WILL BEGIN WITH TESTIMONY FROM THE STATE OF GEORGIA FOR 100 MINUTES, FOLLOWED BY A 25-MINUTE PRESENTATION BY THE STATE OF ALABAMA. AFTER THAT, THERE WILL BE A 35-MINUTE PERIOD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING THE GEORGIA AND ALABAMA INSTALLATIONS ON OUR LIST. THE RULES FOR THIS PORTION OF THE HEARING HAVE BEEN CLEARLY OUTLINED, AND PERSONS WISHING TO SPEAK THIS MORNING SHOULD HAVE SIGNED UP BY NOW.

WE WILL THEN TAKE A ONE HOUR LUNCH BREAK BEGINNING AT NOON.

WE WILL RESUME AT 1 P.M. WITH A 45-MINUTE PRESENTATION FROM THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, FOLLOWED BY 25 MINUTES FROM THE STATE OF FLORIDA.

THEN WE WILL HEAR PUBLIC COMMENT FROM MISSISSIPPI AND FLORIDA FOR 26 MINUTES. SIGN UP FOR PERSONS WISHING TO SPEAK THIS AFTERNOON WILL BEGIN AT NOON OUTSIDE THE AUDITORIUM.

THE HEARING SHOULD CONCLUDE AT ABOUT 2:45 P.M.

LET ME ALSO SAY THAT THE BASE CLOSURE LAW HAS BEEN AMENDED SINCE 1993 TO REQUIRE THAT ANYONE GIVING TESTIMONY BEFORE THE COMMISSION DO SO UNDER OATH, AND SO I WILL BE SWEARING IN WITNESSES, AND THAT WILL INCLUDE INDIVIDUALS WHO SPEAK IN THE PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION OF THE HEARING.

WITH THAT, I BELIEVE WE ARE READY TO BEGIN.

(FIRST WITNESS...ADMINISTER OATH)



THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

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ARLINGTON, VA 22209

703-696-0504

ALAN J. DIXON, CHAIRMAN

COMMISSIONERS:

AL CORNELLA

REBECCA COX

GEN J. B. DAVIS, USAF (RET)

S. LEE KLING

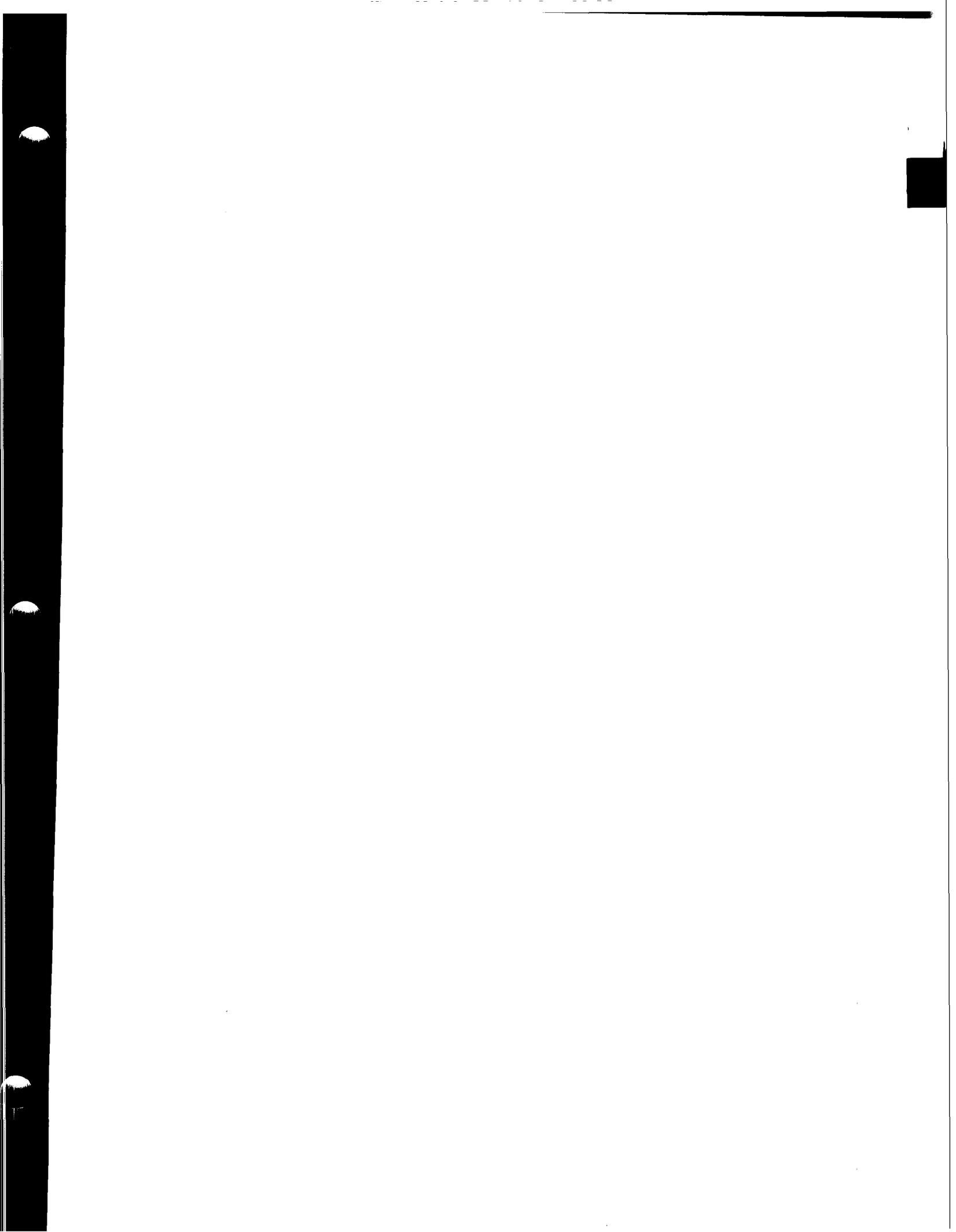
RAADM BENJAMIN F. MONTOYA, USN (RET)

MG JOSUE ROBLES, JR., USA (RET)

WENDI LOUISE STEELE

WITNESSES' OATH

**DO YOU SOLEMNLY SWEAR OR AFFIRM THAT THE TESTIMONY YOU
ARE ABOUT TO GIVE TO THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND
REALIGNMENT COMMISSION SHALL BE THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE
TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH?**



GEORGIA

100 minutes

ATLANTA, GA REGIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE OF WITNESSES

9:10AM - 9:25AM

15 minutes

Governor Zell Miller

Congressman Newt Gingrich, 6th District

Senator Paul Coverdell

Senator Sam Nunn

9:25AM - 10:00AM

35 minutes

NAS Atlanta

Congressman Bob Barr, 7th District

Rear Admiral James D. Olson, II
Deputy Commander, Naval
Reserve Force and Commander
Naval Air Reserve Force

Major General James E. Livingston
Commanding General, US Marine
Corps Reserve Force

Captain E. H. Frazier
Commanding Officer,
NAS Atlanta

Congressman Newt Gingrich, 6th District

10:00AM - 10:50AM 50 minutes

Robins Air Force Base

**Congressman Saxby Chambliss,
8th District**

**Mr. George Israel
Chairman, 21st Century
Partnership**

**Brigadier General Billy Barrett
USAF (Ret.)**

**Mr. George Israel
Chairman, 21st Century
Partnership**

GEORGIA

Naval Air Station Atlanta Atlanta, GA

1. If NAS Atlanta should close, we understand that Dobbins AFB would not realize any noticeable savings since the functions and services to operate the base are paid for by the Air Force. Will the Navy be required to assume costs that would not be incurred if NAS Atlanta was kept open ?
2. NAS Atlanta formerly hosted four squadrons which have recently been deactivated or moved. What accommodations are required to house aircraft and personnel as a result of the 1993 BRAC decision to move reserve aircraft to NAS Atlanta and how much will it cost ?

Robins Air Force Base Warner-Robins, GA

1. What is your opinion of the Air Force tiering system that assigned Robins Air Force Base to the middle installation tier and top depot tier?
2. The Air Force has proposed downsizing of all its depots in lieu of closing a depot to reduce excess capacity. What are your recommendations to reduce overhead and excess capacity -- downsize or close facilities?
3. Do you believe the depot assets at Robins Air Force Base are being utilized to the extent appropriate?

**Warner Robins Defense Distribution Depot
Warner Robins, GA**

1. What percentage of the Warner Robins Distribution Depot's mission supports the collocated Air Force's maintenance mission as opposed to off base, or regional, or worldwide support?

2. What is the utilization, in percentage terms, of the facilities you currently have? Has the Warner Robins Air Logistics Center offered any additional space which would allow for additional storage capacity?

GEORGIA

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**ATLANTA, GA REGIONAL HEARING
FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 1995**

GEORGIA STATE MAP

NAS ATLANTA

-Facility Summary Sheet

WARNER ROBINS AFB

-Facility Summary Sheet

-DoD Recommendation

-Staff Base Visit Report

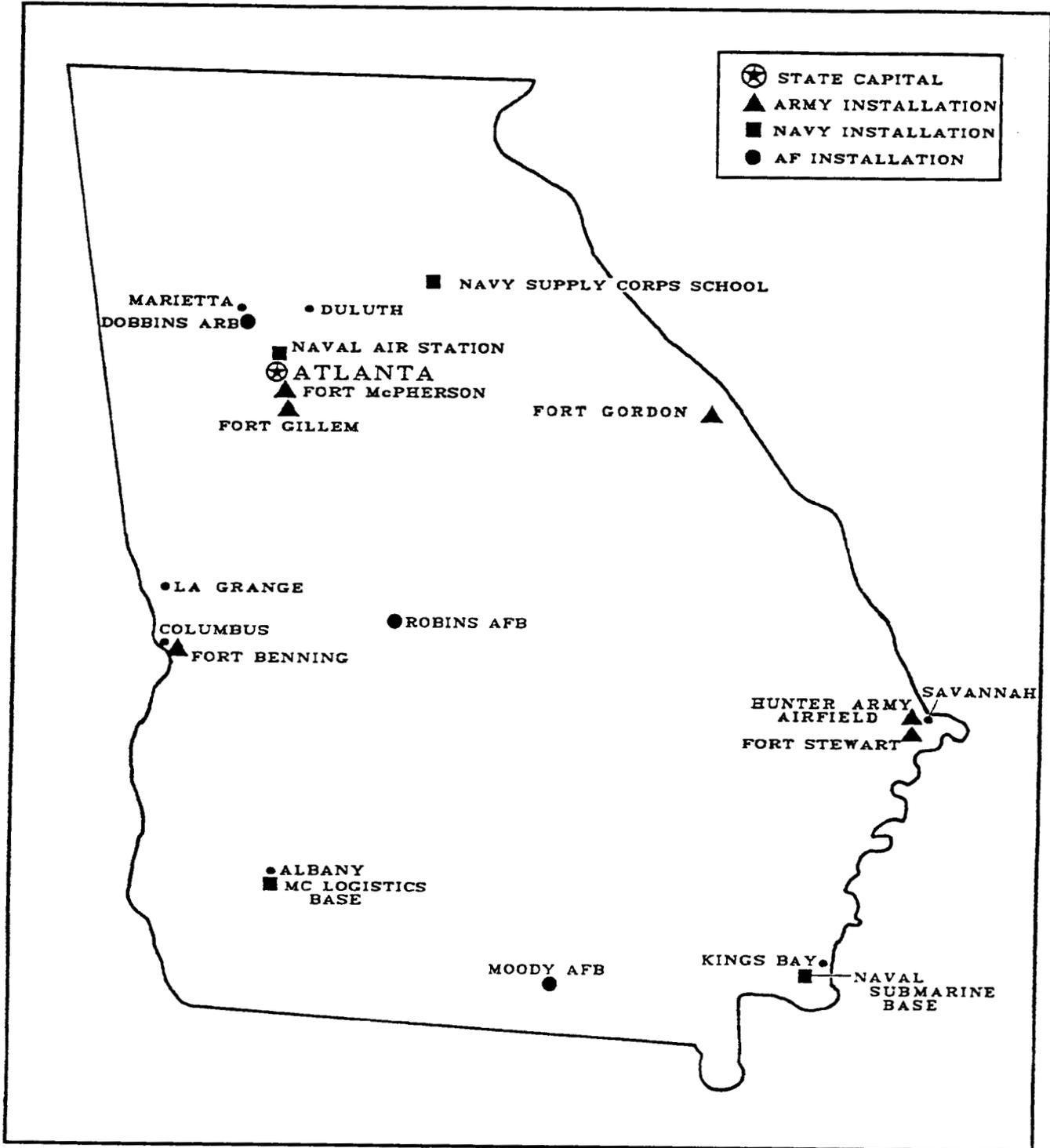
DEFENSE DISTRIBUTION DEPOT WARNER ROBINS (DDWR)

-Facility Summary Sheet

STATE CLOSURE HISTORY

MAP NO. 11

GEORGIA



Prepared By: Washington Headquarters Services
Directorate for Information
Operations and Reports

DRAFT

DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

SUMMARY SHEET

NAVAL AIR STATION ATLANTA, GA

INSTALLATION MISSION

NAS Atlanta is a tenant on Dobbins AFB ; serves as a reserve mobilization point for 2300 reservists; and provides support for Naval Reserve air operations.

DOD RECOMMENDATION

- None.

COMMISSION ALTERNATIVE

- Commission added NAS Atlanta for consideration to close.

JUSTIFICATION

- The Secretary of the Navy identified NAS Atlanta as a base for potential closure. The Navy cited demographic reasons as the main justification for keeping Atlanta open. To ensure fairness in the evaluation process, the Commission added NAS Atlanta to the list of bases for consideration to close.

COST CONSIDERATIONS DEVELOPED BY DOD

- One-Time Cost: \$ 47.2 million
- Net Savings During Implementation: \$ 62.0 million
- Annual Recurring Savings: \$ 21.5 million
- Break-Even Year: 1 year
- Net Present Value Over 20 Years: \$ 215.4 million

MANPOWER IMPLICATIONS OF THIS RECOMMENDATION (EXCLUDES CONTRACTORS)

Baseline	<u>Military</u>	<u>Civilian</u>	<u>Students</u>
Reductions	343	153	0
Realignments	410	25	0
Total	853	178	0

DRAFT

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>
853	178	0	0	(853)	(178)

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- None at this time.

REPRESENTATION

Governor: Zell Miller
Senators: Sam Nunn
Paul Coverdell
Representative: Newt Gingrich

ECONOMIC IMPACT

- Potential Employment Loss: 1272 (449 indirect)
- Atlanta, GA MSA Job Base: 1,923,937
- Percentage: (0.1%)
- Cumulative Economic Impact (year-year): (0.1%)

MILITARY ISSUES

- Because the Navy's force structure is declining, the Navy must look at the total laydown of Navy aircraft including reserve and active duty forces. The Navy will need to consider several options (should Atlanta be closed) to determine the most cost-effective way to base it's aircraft on the east coast.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS/ISSUES

- The community believes that there is some confusion about Atlantas' demographics and its' record as an air station. In addition, the community points out that NAS Atlanta requires no military construction money to house either personnel or aircraft that are scheduled to be assigned there.

ITEMS OF SPECIAL EMPHASIS

- None at this time.

D. L. Reedy/Navy/05/31/95 5:53 PM



DRAFT

DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

SUMMARY SHEET

ROBINS AIR FORCE BASE

INSTALLATION MISSION

Warner Robins Air Logistics Center

- Provides support to F-15, C-141, C-130 aircraft, and accomplishes most helicopter depot level maintenance
 - 78th Air Base Wing
Headquarters, United States Air Force Reserve
19th Air Refueling Wing (AMC)
 - 20 KC-135R, 1 EC-135Y, and 2 C-12F
AFSOC (Special Operation Flight)
 - 1EC-137D
- 5th Combat Communication Group (ACC)
9th Space Warning Squadron (AFSPC)

Planned changes:

The Air Force has designated Robins AFB as the main US operating base for the Joint Surveillance and Target Attack Radar System (JSTARS). The resulting manpower authorizations, number of aircraft, and construction requirements have not been finalized.

The 116th Fighter Wing (ANG), currently located at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, GA will relocate to Robins AFB. The unit will begin a conversion from 15 F-15A/B to 8 B-1B aircraft in mid-1995. The conversion/relocation will result in an increase of 192 full-time military, 976 drill, and 453 civilian position authorizations.

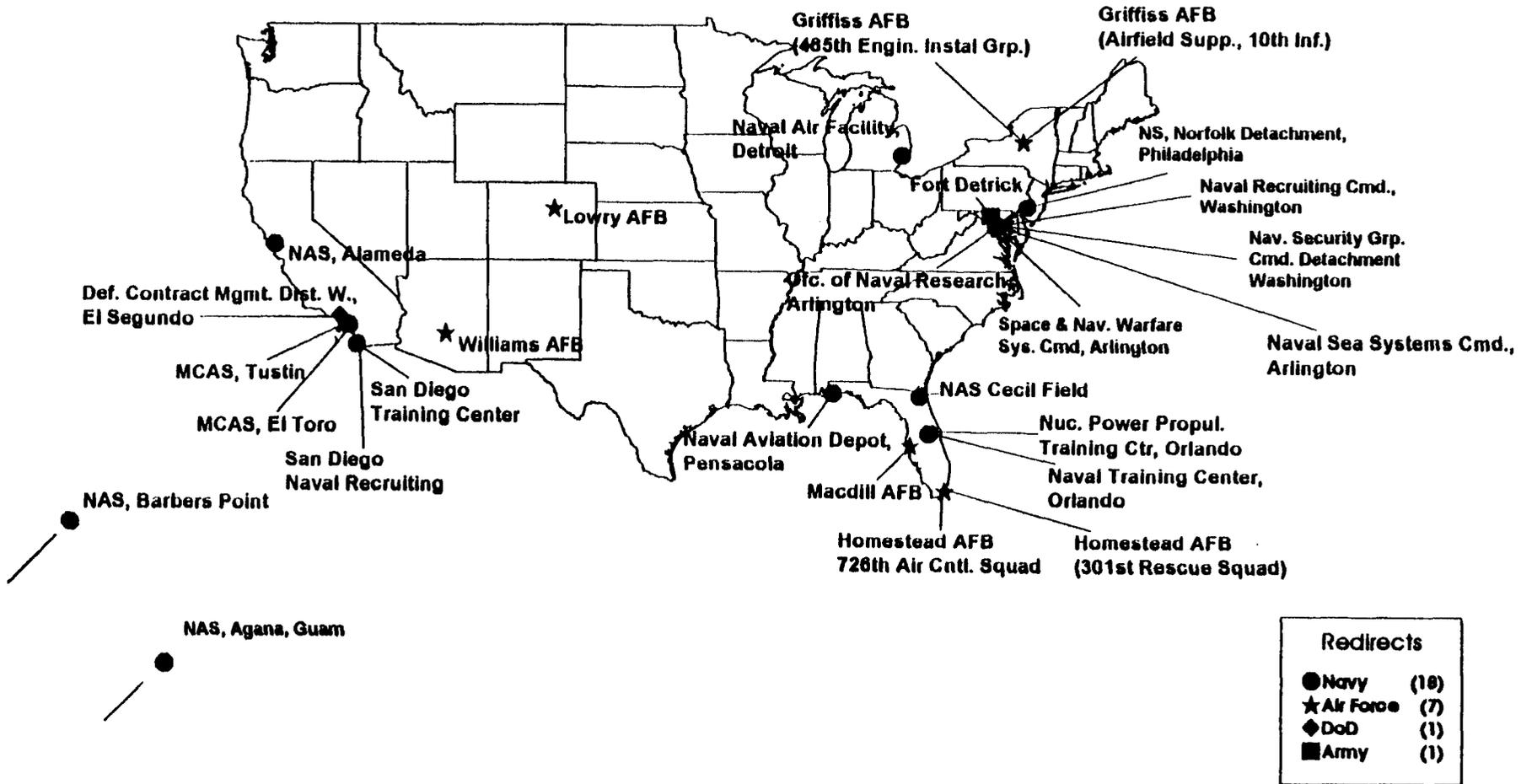
DOD RECOMMENDATION

Downsize Warner Robins Air Logistics Center.

Consolidate the following workload to Warner Robins Air Logistics Center:

- Tubing Manufacturing
- Airborne electronics
- Airborne electronic automatic equipment software
- sheet metal repair and manufacturing
- machining manufacturing
- electronic manufacturing (printed wire boards)
- plating

1995 DoD Recommendations Redirects



DRAFT

DOD JUSTIFICATION

Reductions in force structure have resulted in excess depot capacity across Air Force depots. The recommended Air Logistic Center realignments will consolidate production lines and move workload to a minimum number of locations, allowing the reduction of. The net effect of the realignments is to transfer approximately 3.5 million direct labor hours and to eliminate 37 production lines across the five depots. These actions will allow the Air Force to demolish or mothball facilities, or make them available for use by other agencies. These consolidations will reduce excess capacity, enhance efficiencies, and produce cost savings without the one-time costs associated with closing a depot. Air Force actions is intended to reduce depot capacity by 1.5-2 depot equivalents. However, no infrastructure will be eliminated; the Air Force action eliminates capacity by laying away workstations and mothballing space.

COST CONSIDERATIONS DEVELOPED BY DOD

The following describes the Air Force-wide savings for ALCs:

• One-Time Cost:	\$ 183 million
• Net (Costs) and Savings During Implementation:	\$ 138.7 million
• Annual Recurring Savings:	\$ 89 million
• Break-Even Year:	2000 (2 years)
• Net Present Value Over 20 Years:	\$ 991.2 million

Robins portion of the ALC savings are 1 March version):

• One-Time Cost:	\$ 29.4 million
• Net (Costs) and Savings During Implementation:	\$ 40.9 million
• Annual Recurring Savings:	\$ 17.3 million
• Break-Even Year:	1999 (1 year)
• Net Present Value Over 20 Years:	\$ 205.9 million

Robins portion of the ALC savings are 11 April version):

• One-Time Cost:	\$ 18.3 million
• Net Costs During Implementation:	\$ 3.1 million
• Annual Recurring Savings:	\$ 4.6 million
• Break-Even Year:	2003 (5 years)
• Net Present Value Over 20 Years:	\$ 41.7 million

DRAFT

MANPOWER IMPLICATIONS OF THIS RECOMMENDATION (EXCLUDES CONTRACTORS)

The Air Force has provided two revisions to its BRAC recommendation since the 1 March submission. The following displays the personnel impacts the original and most current version of the BRAC recommendation:

	Military	Civilian
Baseline	4,008	11,119
1 March recommendation		
reduction	8	368
realignments	0	118
11 April update		
reduction	4	113
realignments	0	0

ADDITIONAL OPTION FOR CONSIDERATION

Close or further realign Robins Air Force Base.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Volatile organic compounds, paint strippers, paints, solvents, phosphoric and chromic acids, oils cyanide and carbon remover used on base.
- Robins placed on National Priority List in 1987

REPRESENTATION

Governor: Zell Miller
Senators: Sam Nunn, Paul Coverdale
Representative: Saxby Chambliss

ECONOMIC IMPACT

- Potential Employment Loss: 254 jobs (117 direct and 137 indirect)
- Macon Area Job Base: 157,770 jobs
- Percentage: .2 percent decrease
- Cumulative Economic Impact (1996-2001): .2 percent decrease

DRAFT

MILITARY ISSUES

none at this time

COMMUNITY CONCERNS/ISSUES

Closure of Robins Air Force Base would have a devastating impact on the Community. The Community has supported the base throughout its history beginning with the donation of land upon which the base was build. More recently, the Community Colleges has established courses specifically to support the skills needed by the base.

ITEMS OF SPECIAL EMPHASIS

- Warner Robins does approximately 30 % of the airframe work and 34% of the aircraft component work for the Air Force
- The Air Force rated Warner Robins AFB in tier 2 (middle ranking) and rated the depot activities in tier 1 (highest ranking).

Reese/Cross Service Team/06/01/95 1:38 PM

1995 DoD Recommendations and Justifications

Air Logistics Centers

Recommendation: Realign the Air Logistics Centers (ALC) at Hill AFB, Utah; Kelly AFB, Texas; McClellan AFB, California; Robins AFB, Georgia; and Tinker AFB, Oklahoma. Consolidate the followings workloads at the designated receiver locations:

<u>Commodity/Workload</u>	<u>Receiving Locations</u>
Composites and plastics	SM-ALC, McClellan AFB
Hydraulics	SM-ALC, McClellan AFB
Tubing manufacturing	WR-ALC, Robins AFB
Airborne electronic automatic equipment software	WR-ALC, Robins AFB, OC-ALC, Tinker AFB, OO-ALC, Hill AFB
Sheet metal repair and manufacturing	OO-ALC, Hill AFB, WR-ALC, Robins AFB
Machining manufacturing	OC-ALC, Tinker AFB, WR-ALC, Robins AFB
Foundry operations	SA-ALC, Kelly AFB, OO-ALC, Hill AFB
Instruments/displays	SM-ALC, McClellan AFB (some unique work remains at OO-ALC, Hill AFB and WR-ALC, Robins AFB)
Airborne electronics	WR-ALC, Robins AFB, OC-ALC, Tinker AFB, OO-ALC, Hill AFB
Electronic manufacturing (printed wire boards)	WR-ALC, Robins AFB
Electrical/mechanical support equipment	SM-ALC, McClellan AFB
Injection molding	SM-ALC, McClellan AFB
Industrial plant equipment software	SA-ALC, Kelly AFB
Plating	OC-ALC, Tinker AFB, OO-ALC, Hill AFB, SA-ALC, Kelly AFB, WR-ALC, Robins AFB

Move the required equipment and any required personnel to the receiving location. These actions will create or strengthen Technical Repair Centers at the receiving locations in the respective commodities. Minimal workload in each of the commodities may continue to be performed at the other ALCs as required.

Justification: Reductions in force structure have resulted in excess depot maintenance capacity across Air Force depots. The recommended realignments will consolidate production lines and

1995 DoD Recommendations and Justifications

move workload to a minimum number of locations, allowing the reduction of personnel, infrastructure, and other costs. The net effect of the realignments is to transfer approximately 3.5 million direct labor hours and to eliminate 37 product lines across the five depots. These actions will allow the Air Force to demolish or mothball facilities, or to make them available for use by other agencies. These consolidations will reduce excess capacity, enhance efficiencies, and produce substantial cost savings without the extraordinary one-time costs associated with closing a single depot.

This action is part of a broader Air Force effort to downsize, reduce depot capacity and infrastructure, and achieve cost savings in a financially prudent manner consistent with mission requirements. Programmed work reductions, downsizing through contracting or transfer to other Service depots, and the consolidation of workloads recommended above result in the reduction of real property infrastructure equal to 1.5 depots, and a reduction in manhour capacity equivalent to about two depots. The proposed moves also make available over 25 million cubic feet of space to the Defense Logistics Agency for storage and other purposes, plus space to accept part of the Defense Nuclear Agency and other displaced Air Force missions. This approach enhances the cost effectiveness of the overall Department of Defense's closure and realignment recommendations. The downsizing of all depots is consistent with DoD efforts to reduce excess maintenance capacity, reduce cost, improve efficiency of depot management, and increase contractor support for DoD requirements.

Return on Investment: The total estimated one-time cost to implement this recommendation is \$183 million. The net of all costs and savings during the implementation period is a savings of \$138.7 million. Annual recurring savings after implementation are \$89 million with a return on investment expected in two years. The net present value of the costs and savings over 20 years is a savings of \$991.2 million.

TINKER

Impacts: Assuming no economic recovery, this recommendation could result in a maximum potential reduction of 3,040 jobs (1,180 direct jobs and 1,860 indirect jobs) over the 1996-to-2001 period in the Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Metropolitan Statistical Area, which is 0.5 percent of the economic area's employment. The cumulative economic impact of all BRAC 95 recommendations and all prior-round BRAC actions in the economic area over the 1994-to-2001 period could result in a maximum potential decrease equal to 0.3 percent of employment in the economic area. Environmental impact from this action is minimal and ongoing restoration of Tinker AFB will continue.

ROBINS

Impacts: Assuming no economic recovery, this recommendation could result in a maximum potential reduction of 1,168 jobs (534 direct jobs and 634 indirect jobs) over the 1996-to-2001 period in the Macon, Georgia Metropolitan Statistical Area, which is 0.7 percent of the economic area's employment. The cumulative economic impact of all BRAC 95 recommendations and all prior-round BRAC actions in the economic area over the 1994-to-2001 period could result in a maximum potential decrease equal to 0.7 percent of employment in the economic area.

1995 DoD Recommendations and Justifications

Environmental impact from this action is minimal and ongoing restoration of Robins AFB will continue.

KELLY

Impacts: Assuming no economic recovery, this recommendation could result in a maximum potential reduction of 1,446 jobs (555 direct jobs and 891 indirect jobs) over the 1996-to-2001 period in the San Antonio, Texas Metropolitan Statistical Area, which is 0.2 percent of the economic area's employment. The cumulative economic impact of all BRAC 95 recommendations, including the relocation of some Air Force activities into the San Antonio area, and all prior-round BRAC actions in the economic area over the 1994-to-2001 period could result in a maximum potential decrease equal to 0.9 percent of employment in the economic area. Environmental impact from this action is minimal and ongoing restoration will continue.

McCLELLAN and HILL

Impacts: The recommendations pertaining to consolidations of workloads at these two centers are not anticipated to result in employment losses or significant environmental impact.

BASE VISIT REPORT

WARNER ROBINS AFB, GA

22-23 MARCH 95

LEAD COMMISSIONER:

JB Davis

ACCOMPANYING COMMISSIONER:

Wendi Steele

COMMISSION STAFF:

Jim Owsley
Ann Reese
Dave Olson

LIST OF ATTENDEES:

MG William Halin, Commander, WR-ALC
George Falldine, Deputy Director, Comptroller Directorate
Mike Cronan, Deputy Director, C-141 Management Directorate
Colonel Niebalski, Deputy Director, Technology & Industrial Support
John Lavecchia, Electronic Warfare

BASE'S PRESENT MISSION:

Warner Robins Air Logistics Center

- Provides support to F-15, C-141, C-130 aircraft, and accomplishes most Air Force helicopter depot level maintenance
 - 78th Air Base Wing
Headquarters, United States Air Force Reserve
19th Air Refueling Wing (AMC)
 - 20 KC-135R, 1 EC-135Y, and 2 C-12F
AFSOC (Special Operation Flight)
 - 1EC-137D
- 5th Combat Communication Group (ACC)
9th Space Warning Squadron (AFSPC)

Planned changes:

The Air Force has designated Robins AFB as the main U.S. operating base for the Joint Surveillance and Target Attack Radar System (JSTARS). The resulting manpower authorizations, number of aircraft, and construction requirements have not been finalized.

The 116th Fighter Wing (ANG), currently located at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, GA will relocate to Robins AFB. The unit will begin a conversion from 15 F-15A/B to 8 B-1B aircraft in mid-1995. The conversion/relocation will result in an increase of 192 full-time military, 976 drill, and 453 civilian position authorizations.

DOD RECOMMENDATION:

Downsize Warner Robins Air Logistics Center.

DOD JUSTIFICATION FOR ACTION:

Reductions in force structure have resulted in excess depot capacity across Air Force depots. The recommended Air Logistic Center realignments will consolidate production lines and move workload to a minimum number of locations, allowing the reduction of personnel, infrastructure and other costs. The net effect of the realignments is to transfer approximately 3.5 million direct labor hours and to eliminate 37 production lines across the five depots. These actions will allow the Air Force to demolish or mothball facilities, or make them available for use by other agencies. These consolidations will reduce excess capacity, enhance efficiencies, and produce cost savings without the one-time costs associated with closing a depot. Air Force actions to reduce depot capacity will result in a reduction of real property infrastructure equal to 1.5 depots and a reduction in capacity equivalent to about two depots.

MAIN FACILITIES REVIEWED:

The following facilities were toured:

- F-15 Depot Maintenance area,
- JSTARS and B-1 beddown areas,
- WR-ALC SOF team
- C-141 Depot Maintenance area,
- Technology and Industrial Support Directorate
- Electronic Warfare Management Directorate
- Avionics Management Directorate

For each facility, a description of the work performed; data describing annual workload, one-shift capacity, two-shift capacity; and workload transfers resulting from DoD's base closure recommendation was provided.

The tour of the F-15 facility highlighted a new computer application. The F-15 facility is prototyping the Programmed Depot Maintenance Scheduling System for the DoD's Joint Logistics System Center, a multi-billion dollar computer system up-grade program. This application will reduce Air craft flowdays and increase maintenance capacity.

Warner Robins will be receiving JSTARS and B-1 aircraft during FY 1996. No significant issues were highlighted.

The WR-ALC SOF team manages the full spectrum of SOF aircraft to include; C-130 gunships, combat talons, combat tankers, the SOF variant of the C-141 and SOF helicopters. The tour highlighted two unique capabilities developed by WR-ALC, the secondary liquid oxygen converter for the AC-130H and bicarbonate of soda stripping process. The oxygen converter allows for a higher altitude profile and therefore increased survivability. The bicarbonate stripping process has resulted in a 96% reduction in the use of hazardous wastes. The WR-ALC has been designated as the SOF Center of Excellence.

The WR-ALC provides integrated weapon system management of the C-141, the "... backbone of the Nation's strategic airlift fleet. " Prior to WR-ALC having in-house responsibility for C-141 isochronal inspection (ISO), the down time due to inspection was 53 days. Downtime is now 14 days, resulting in increase availability, improved reliability and financial savings. The WR-ALC process is now being used as a model for other systems.

The Technology and Industrial support directorate is the largest WR-ALC directorate. TI manages:

- sheet metal repair facility (largest in the Air Force),
- machining manufacturing,
- F-15 wing repair capability,
- fastener capability (the only air craft grade fastener capability in DoD),
- propeller overhaul capability,
- sheetmetal manufacturing (the largest and most modern in DoD),
- composites and metal bond repair capability, and
- tubing manufacturing.

In addition to describing the work performed at WR, the tour highlighted the impact of the DoD base closure recommendations, as follows:

	annual workload (in 000's of hours)	impact from BRAC (in 000's of hours)
• sheet metal repair	680	loss of 191
• machining manufacturing	182	gain of 109
• F-15 wing repair	228	none
• fastener capability	unknown	none
• propeller overhaul	93	none
• sheetmetal manufacturing	72	loss of 30
• composites/ metal repair	211	loss of 148
• tubing manufacturing	9	gain of 17

The TI directorate also manages the product data support center. The Center is currently digitizing 44,000 technical manuals.

The tour of the Electronic Warfare Directorate highlighted unique Warner Robins capabilities to include: over 20 threat generators, and 2 anechoic chambers.

The Avionics Management Directorate provides integrated management of the electronic warfare product group, avionics product group and communication product group.

KEY ISSUES IDENTIFIED:

During the tour, Commission Steele questioned whether the synergies of collocation reflected in the DoD data calls. Warner Robins staff responded that no, the response to the data call did not and could not reflect synergies. However, a measurement of "flowdays" could imply synergies. Commission Stelle commented that "the value of things being collocated should have been gauged through the data calls".

Commission Davis stated that the Commission Staff must immediately request data reflecting the effects of BRAC consolidations directly from the Air Logistics Centers.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS RAISED:

The Community outlined the history of community support for Warner Robins beginning with the donation of land in 1941. Most recently, local colleges include incorporate into curricula course which are exclusively designed to meet the technical needs of Warner Robins. The Community stated that the community support is translated into enhanced military value of Warner Robins AFB.

REQUESTS FOR STAFF AS A RESULT OF VISIT:

Commissioner Steele asked if there is a legal prohibition on permitting private sector contractors from utilizing Air Logistic Center facilities. The Commission's legal staff is researching this.

Commissioner Davis suggested the Commission staff consider obtaining data which describes the impacts of BRAC workload transfers/downsizing actions directly from each ALC Commander. There appeared to be discrepancies between information discussed during the Air Force Hearing and the information briefed during the base visit.

Reese/Cross Service Team/06/01/95 1:37 PM



DRAFT

DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

SUMMARY SHEET

DEFENSE DISTRIBUTION DEPOT WARNER-ROBINS (DDWG)

INSTALLATION MISSION

The Warner Robins Defense Distribution Depot receives, stores, and issues wholesale and retail material in support of DLA and the Military Services. It is a collocated depot located on the same installation with an Air Force maintenance depot--Robins Air Force Base--its largest customer. Its primary mission is to provide rapid response to this customer.

DOD RECOMMENDATION: None

COMMISSION ALTERNATIVE

Commission added Defense Distribution Depot Warner Robins for consideration for closure.

JUSTIFICATION

- The requirement to study the disestablishment of the DLA distribution depot is driven by the Commission's decision to study the closure of the Robins Air Force Base--the distribution depot's primary customer.
- The Distribution Concept of Operations states DLA's distribution system will support the size and configuration of the Defense Depot Maintenance System. Thus, if depot maintenance activities are disestablished, collocated depots will also be disestablished.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Environmental considerations do not prohibit this recommendation from being implemented.

REPRESENTATION

Senators:	Paul Coverdell Sam Nunn
Representative:	Saxby Chambliss
Governor:	Zell Miller

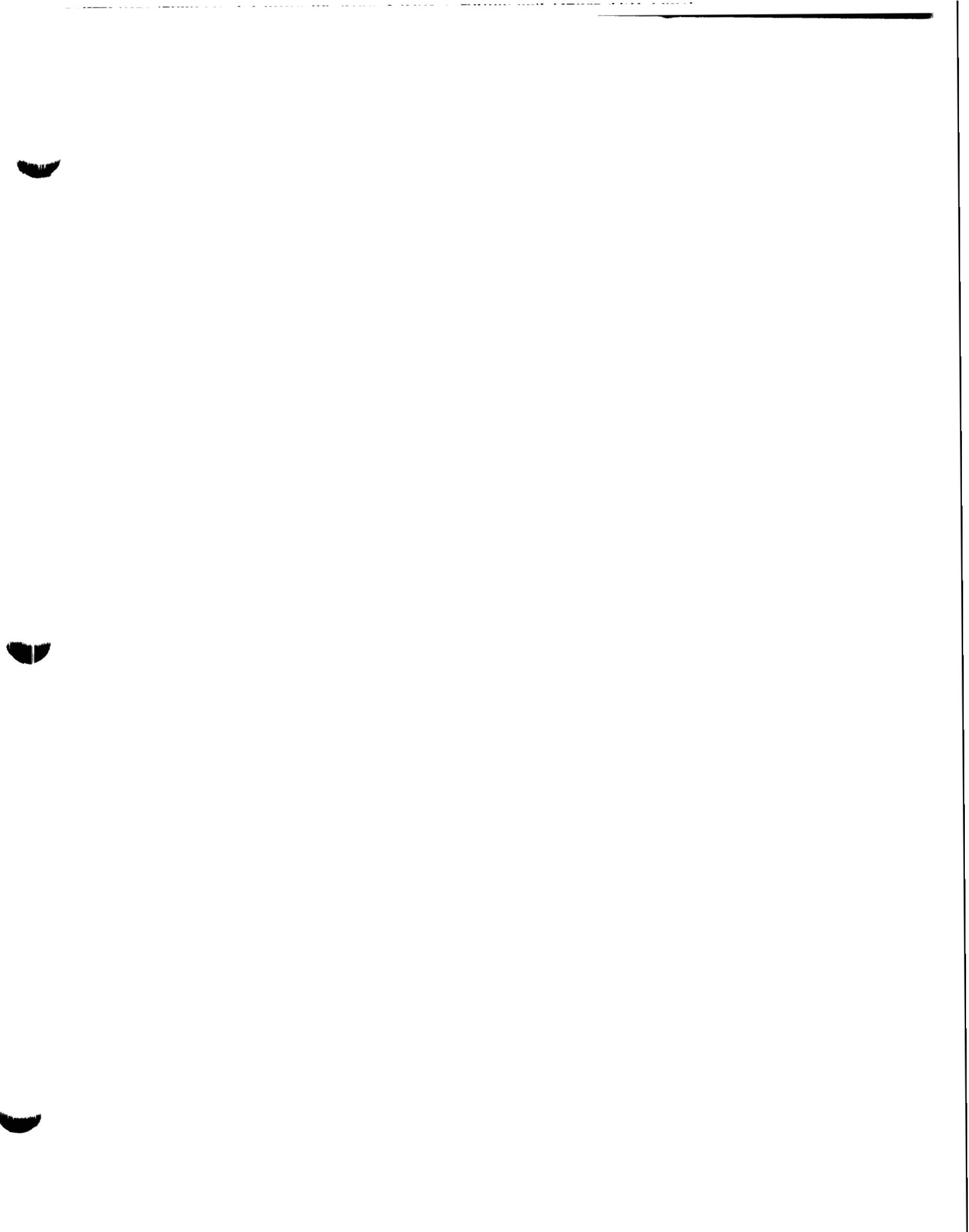
DRAFT

ECONOMIC IMPACT *

- Potential Employment Loss: 31,848 jobs
(16,026 direct and 15,822 indirect)
- Macon, GA MSA Job Base: 157,770 jobs
- Percentage: 20.2% percent decrease
- Cumulative Economic Impact (1996-2001): 20.2% percent decrease

* These economic impact numbers include the complete closure of Robins Air Force Base as well as the attendant Warner Robins Defense Distribution Depot.

Marilyn Wasleski/Interagency IssuesTeam/05/31/95 5:02 PM



CLOSURE HISTORY - INSTALLATIONS IN GEORGIA

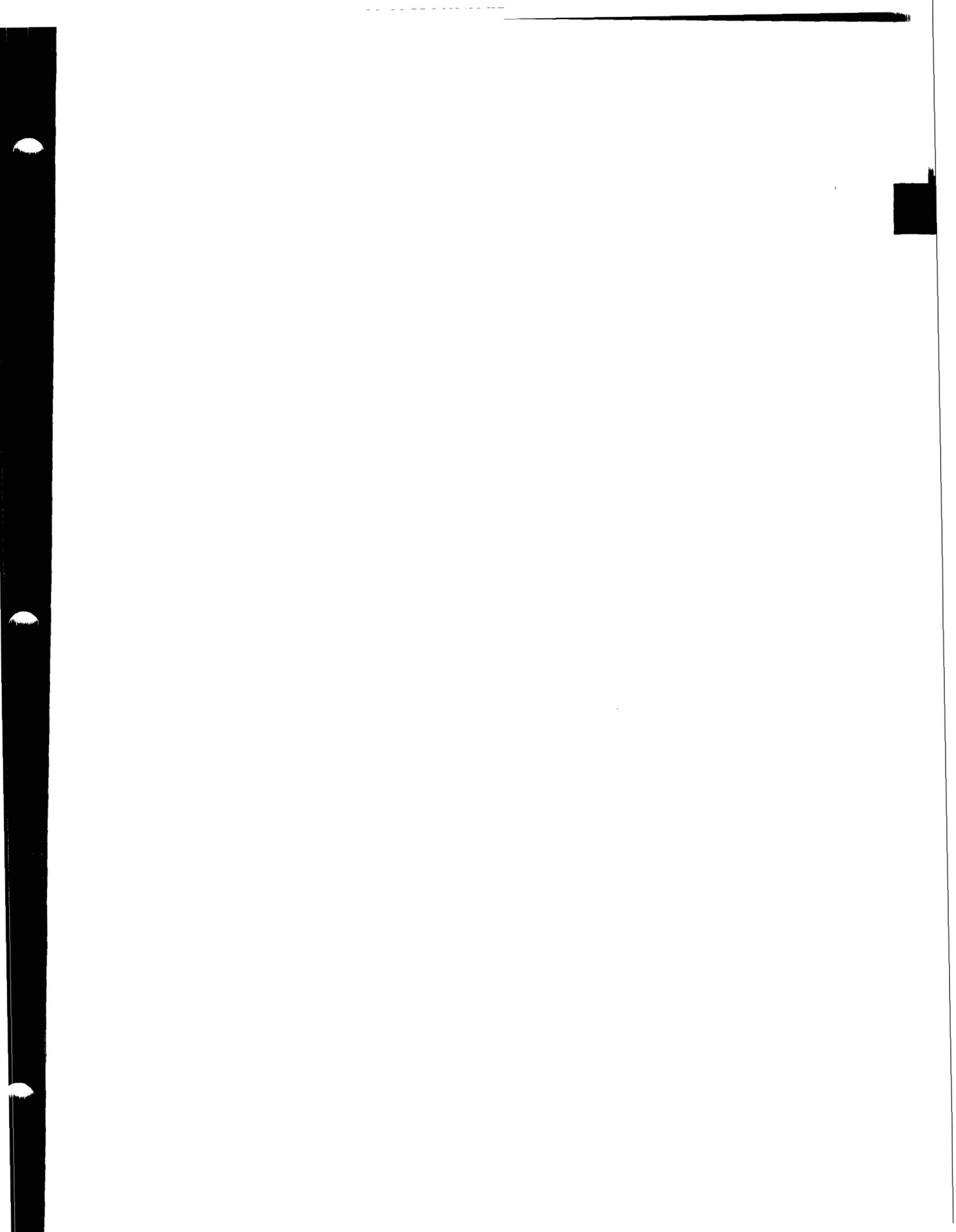
31-May-95

SVC	INSTALLATION NAME	ACTION YEAR	ACTION SOURCE	ACTION STATUS	ACTION SUMMARY	ACTION DETAIL
A	FORT BENNING					
	FORT GILLEM	90	PRESS		DECS. REV.	1990 PRESS: Realign to semiactive status (Changed by Public Law 101-510)
	FORT GORDON					
	FORT MCPHERSON					
	FORT STEWART					
	HUNTER ARMY AIRFIELD					
AF	DOBBINS ARB					
	MCCOLLUM AGS					
	MOODY AFB	93	DBCRC	ONGOING	REALIGNUP	1993 DBCRC: Due to the Realignment of Homestead AFB, FL the F-16s from the 31st Fighter Wing will remain temporarily assigned at Moody and Shaw AFB, SC.
	ROBINS AFB	90/93	PRESS/DBCRC	ONGOING	REALIGNUP	1990 Press Release indicated realignment. No specifics given. 1993 DBCRC: Gained management responsibilities from Closing Newark AFB, OH to include flight control instruments (22), ground communications electronics (9) and airborne electronics (46 pers). 77 Civilian positions gained.
	SAVANNAH IAP AGS					
MC	MCLB ALBANY					
N	NAS ATLANTA					
	NAVAL SUB BASE KINGS BAY					

CLOSURE HISTORY - INSTALLATIONS IN GEORGIA

31-May-95

SVC	INSTALLATION NAME	ACTION YEAR	ACTION SOURCE	ACTION STATUS	ACTION SUMMARY	ACTION DETAIL
	NAVY SUPPLY CORPS SCHOOL ATHENS NRC MACON	93	DBCRC	ONGOING	CLOSE	1993 DBCRC: Recommended closure of the Naval Reserve Center Macon, GA because its capacity is in excess of projected requirements.



ALABAMA

25 minutes

ATLANTA, GA REGIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE OF WITNESSES

10:55AM - 11:00AM	5 minutes	Congressman Bud Cramer, 5th District
11:00AM - 11:05AM	5 minutes	Dr. Ralph Langley Retired Minister, Huntsville, AL
11:05AM - 11:12AM	7 minutes	Mr. Ed Buckbee President, Buckbee and Associates Huntsville, AL
11:12AM - 11:17AM	5 minutes	Ms. Linda Green President, Colonial Bank Huntsville, AL
11:17AM - 11:20AM	3 minutes	Dr. Ralph Langley Retired Minister, Huntsville, AL

ALABAMA

**Space And Strategic Defense Command
Huntsville, AL**

1. Are there any operational efficiencies to be gained by combining Space and Strategic Defense Command (SSDC) with the Missile Command at Redstone Arsenal?
2. What are SSDC's plans for vacating leases and moving to Redstone Arsenal?

ALABAMA

TABLE OF CONTENTS

**ATLANTA, GA REGIONAL HEARING
FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 1995**

ALABAMA STATE MAP

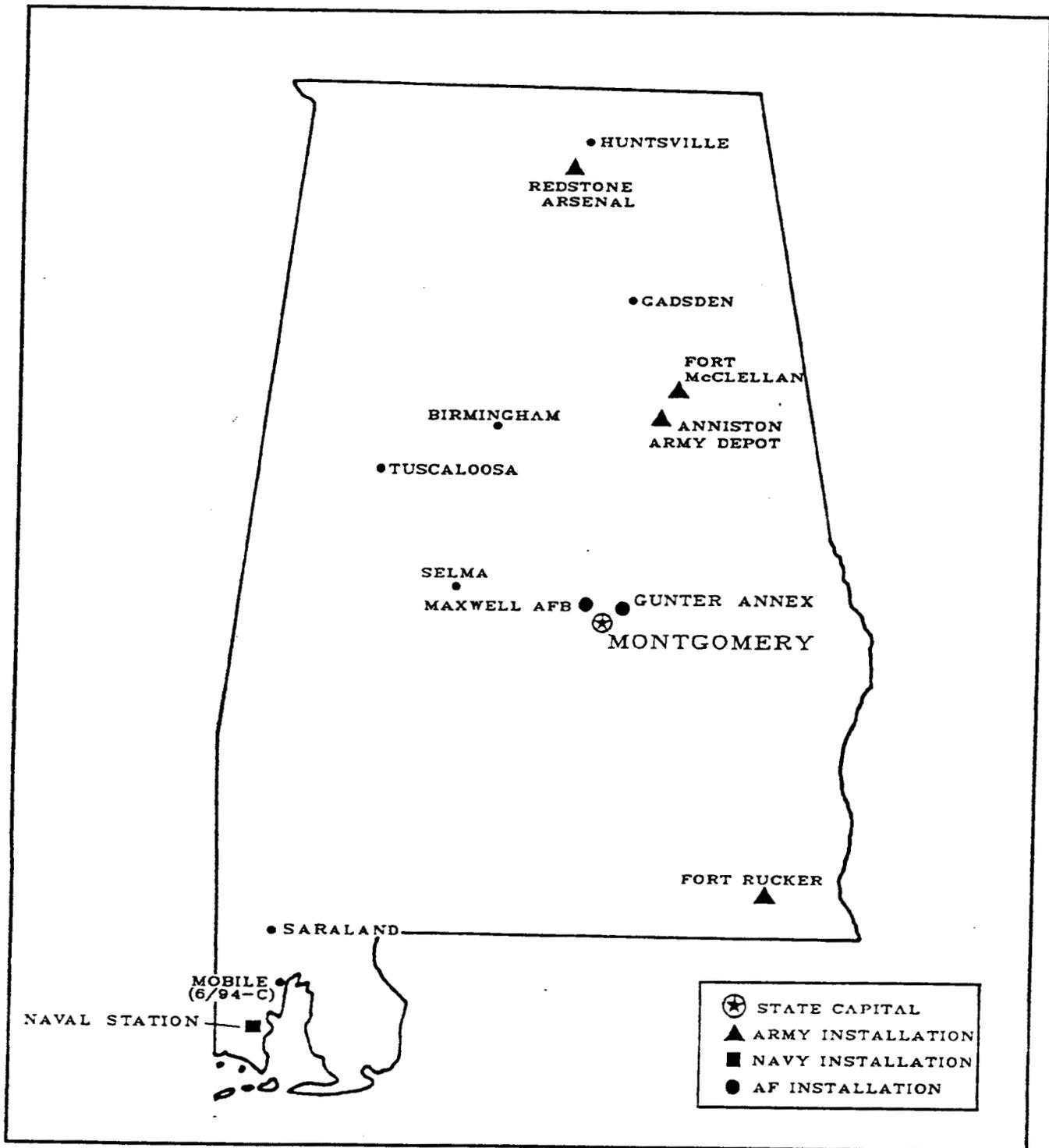
SPACE AND STRATEGIC DEFENSE COMMAND

-Facility Summary Sheet

STATE CLOSURE HISTORY

MAP NO. 1

ALABAMA



Prepared By: Washington Headquarters Services
Directorate for Information
Operations and Reports

DRAFT

DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

SUMMARY SHEET

SPACE AND STRATEGIC DEFENSE COMMAND

INSTALLATION MISSION

Responsible for exploitation of space assets for use by warfighting Commanders-in-Chief, Army space related tactical Exploitation Demonstration Programs, and research on technologies for space.

DOD RECOMMENDATION: None

COMMISSION ALTERNATIVE:

Commission added Space and Strategic Defense Command for relocation to Redstone Arsenal.

JUSTIFICATION

Realignment of this headquarters was not financially advantageous; therefore, the Army discontinued study of this lease.

STAFF COMMENTS

- Army assumed new construction was required to move SSDC onto Redstone Arsenal, however, there is excess administrative space for 1500 people.
- Army based space requirements on 950 personnel, however, SSDC has only 876 people assigned.

COST CONSIDERATIONS DEVELOPED BY DOD

- One-Time Costs: \$ 21.5 million
- Net Costs During Implementation: \$ 16.9 million
- Annual Recurring Savings: \$ 1.3 million
- Return on Investment Year: 2021 (23 years)
- Net Present Value Over 20 years: +\$ 3.8 million

DRAFT

MANPOWER IMPLICATIONS OF THIS RECOMMENDATION (EXCLUDES CONTRACTORS)

	<u>Military</u>	<u>Civilian</u>	<u>Students</u>
Baseline	35	915	0
Reductions	0	0	0
Realignments	35	915	0
Total	35	915	0

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>
35	915	0	0	(35)	(915)

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- None at this time.

REPRESENTATION

Governor: Fob James, Jr.
Senators: Howell T. Heflin
Richard C. Shelby
Representative: Bud Cramer

ECONOMIC IMPACT

- Potential Employment Loss: 0
- Madison County, AL Job Base: 168,293 jobs
- Percentage: 0.0
- Cumulative Economic Impact (1994-2001): 0.0

MILITARY ISSUES

- None at this time.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS/ISSUES

DRAFT

- None at this time.

ITEMS OF SPECIAL EMPHASIS

- None at this time.

Michael Kennedy/Army Team/05/15/95 10:34 AM

CLOSURE HISTORY - INSTALLATIONS IN ALABAMA

31-May-95

SVC INSTALLATION NAME ACTION YEAR ACTION SOURCE ACTION STATUS ACTION SUMMARY ACTION DETAIL

A

SVC	INSTALLATION NAME	ACTION YEAR	ACTION SOURCE	ACTION STATUS	ACTION SUMMARY	ACTION DETAIL
	ALABAMA ARMY AMMUNITION PLANT	88	DEFBRAC	COMPLETE	CLOSE	1988 DEFBRAC: Close; completed prior to Commission recommendation; pending disposal
	ANNISTON ARMY DEPOT	88/93	DEFBRAC/DBCRC	ONGOING	REALGNNDN	1988 DEFBRAC: Storage mission realigned from Coosa River Storage Annex, AL; completed FY 92
	COOSA RIVER STORAGE ANNEX	88	DEFBRAC	COMPLETE	CLOSE	1993 DBCRC: Realign tactical missile maintenance to Letterkenny Army Depot, PA; scheduled FY 94-97
	FORT MCCLELLAN	90/91/93	PRESS/DBCRC	DENIED		1988 DEFBRAC: Close and realign ammunition storage mission to Anniston Army Depot, AL; completed FY 92; pending disposal 1990 PRESS: Close (Changed by Public Law 101-510)
	FORT RUCKER	91	DBCRC	COMPLETE	REALGNNDN	1991 DBCRC: DoD recommendation to close installation and realign Chemical and Military Police Schools to Fort Leonard Wood, MO and the Defense Polygraph School to Fort Huachuca, AZ denied. 1993 DBCRC: DoD recommendation to close installation and realign Chemical and Military Police Schools and DoD Polygraph Institute to Fort Leonard Wood, MO but retain Chemical Decontamination Training Facility at Fort McClellan denied. 1991 DBCRC: Realign biodynamics research mission from the U.S. Army Aeromedical Research Laboratory to the Armstrong Laboratory, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH; completed FY 93

CLOSURE HISTORY - INSTALLATIONS IN ALABAMA

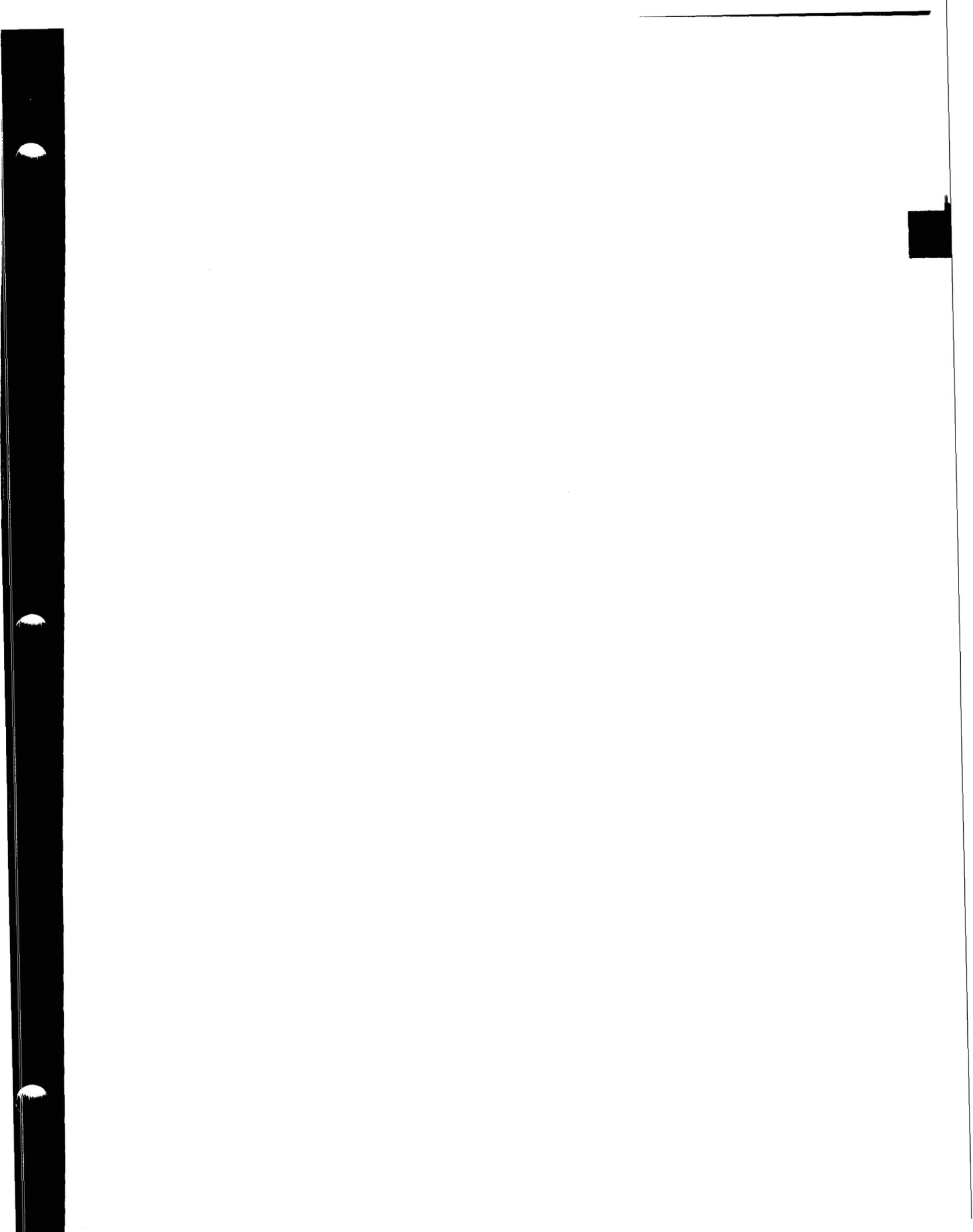
31-May-95

SVC	INSTALLATION NAME	ACTION YEAR	ACTION SOURCE	ACTION STATUS	ACTION SUMMARY	ACTION DETAIL
	REDSTONE ARSENAL	88/91/93	DEFBRAC/DBCRC	ONGOING	REALGNUP	<p>1988 DEFBRAC: Central Test Measurement and Diagnostic Activity realigned from Lexington-Blue Grass Army Depot, KY; completed FY 92</p> <p>1991 DBCRC: Materiel Readiness Support Activity (Ionization, Radiation, and Dosimetry Center) and Logistics Control Agency realigned from Lexington-Blue Grass Army Depot, KY and Presidio of San Francisco, CA (Change to 1988 SECDEF Commission recommendation); scheduled FY 93-95</p> <p>Armaments, Munitions, and Chemical Command realigned from Rock Island Arsenal, IL (Changed to remain at Rock Island Arsenal by 1993 Defense Base Closure Commission)</p> <p>Fuze development and production mission (missile related) realigned from Adelphi Laboratory Center, MD; scheduled FY 94</p>
AF	ABSTON AGS					
	BIRMINGHAM MAP AGS					
	DANNELLY FIELD AGS					
	GUNTER AFB					
	HALL AGS					
	MAXWELL AFB					
N	NAVAL STATION MOBILE	93	DBCRC	CLOSED	CLOSE	<p>1993 DBCRC Close NAVSTA Mobile and relocate assigned ships to NAVSTAs Pascagoula, MS and Ingleside, TX.</p>
	NRC GADSDEN	93	DBCRC	CLOSED	CLOSE	<p>1993 DBCRC: Recommended closure of the Naval Reserve Center at Gadsen, AL.</p>

CLOSURE HISTORY - INSTALLATIONS IN ALABAMA

31-May-95

SVC	INSTALLATION NAME	ACTION YEAR	ACTION SOURCE	ACTION STATUS	ACTION SUMMARY	ACTION DETAIL
	NRC MONTGOMERY	93	DBCRC	CLOSED	CLOSE	1993 DBCRC: Recommended closure of the Naval Reserve Center Montgomery, AL because its capacity is excess to projected requirements.





THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION
1700 NORTH MOORE STREET SUITE 1425
ARLINGTON, VA 22209
703-696-0504

ALAN J. DIXON, CHAIRMAN

COMMISSIONERS:
AL CORNELLA
REBECCA COX
GEN J. B. DAVIS, USAF (RET)
S. LEE KLING
RADM BENJAMIN F. MONTOYA, USN (RET)
MG JOSUE ROBLES, JR., USA (RET)
WENDI LOUISE STEELE

**REMARKS BY CHAIR AT BEGINNING OF
GEORGIA AND ALABAMA PUBLIC COMMENT
PORTION OF ATLANTA REGIONAL HEARING**

**WE ARE NOW READY TO BEGIN A PERIOD SET ASIDE FOR PUBLIC
COMMENT. OUR INTENTION IS TO TRY TO INSURE THAT ALL OPINIONS ON
THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECRETARY OR THE ADDITIONS OF THE
COMMISSION AFFECTING GEORGIA AND ALABAMA ARE HEARD. WE HAVE
ASSIGNED 35 MINUTES FOR THIS PERIOD.**

**WE ASKED PERSONS WISHING TO SPEAK TO SIGN UP BEFORE THE
HEARING BEGAN, AND THEY HAVE DONE SO BY NOW. WE HAVE ALSO ASKED
THEM TO LIMIT THEIR COMMENTS TO TWO MINUTES, AND WE WILL RING A
BELL AT THE END OF THAT TIME. PLEASE STOP AFTER YOUR TWO
MINUTES ARE UP. WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF ANY LENGTH IS WELCOMED BY
THE COMMISSION AT ANY TIME IN THIS PROCESS. IF ALL THOSE SIGNED UP
TO SPEAK WOULD RAISE YOUR RIGHT HANDS, I WILL ADMINISTER THE
OATH.**



THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION
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ARLINGTON, VA 22209
703-696-0504

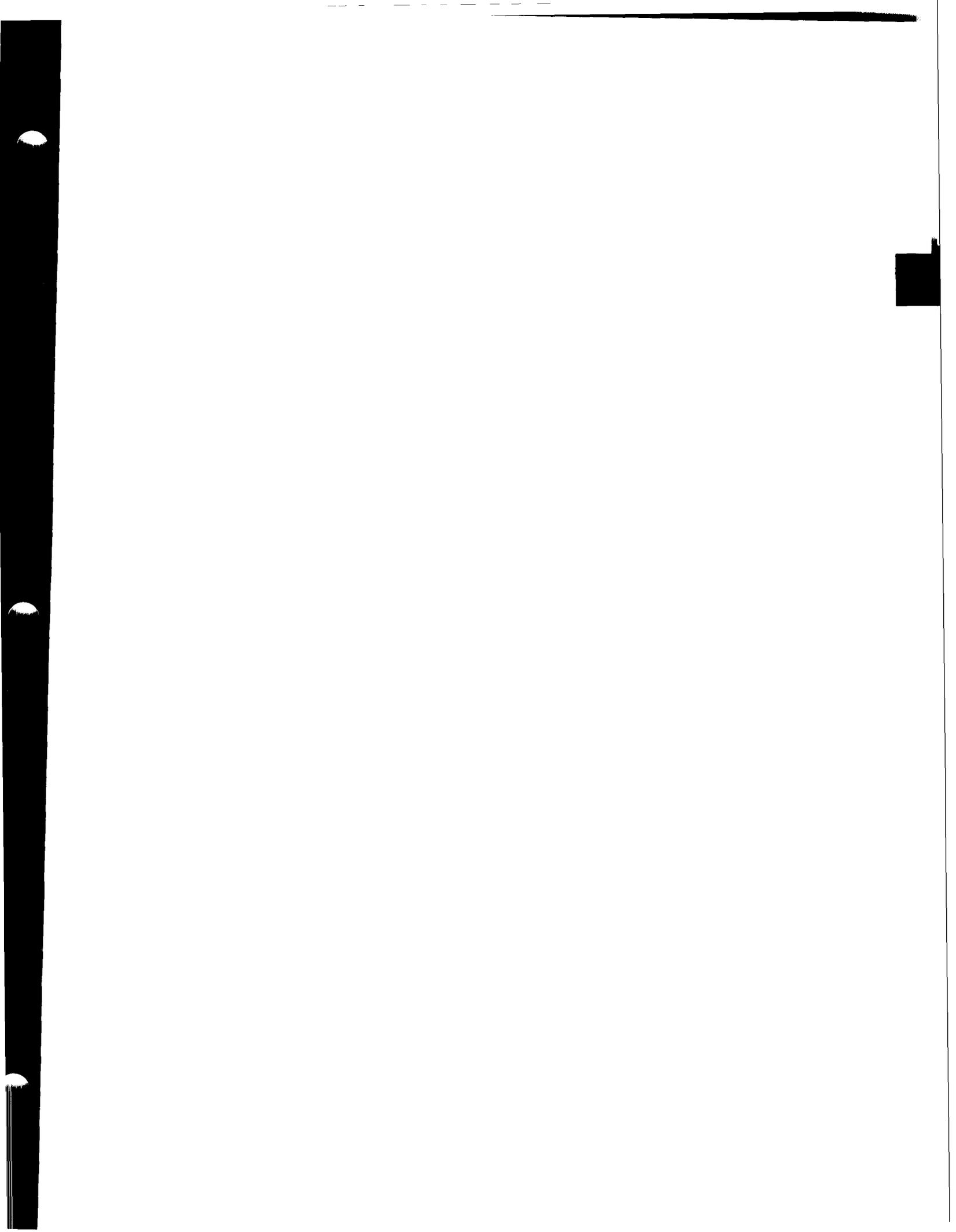
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S. LEE KLING
RADM BENJAMIN F. MONTOYA, USN (RET)
MG JOSUE ROBLES, JR., USA (RET)
WENDI LOUISE STEELE

WITNESSES' OATH

**DO YOU SOLEMNLY SWEAR OR AFFIRM THAT THE TESTIMONY YOU
ARE ABOUT TO GIVE TO THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND
REALIGNMENT COMMISSION SHALL BE THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE
TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH?**





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MG JOSUE ROBLES, JR., USA (RET)
WENDI LOUISE STEELE

OPENING REMARKS OF COMMISSIONER KLING FOR AFTERNOON SESSION
ATLANTA REGIONAL HEARING

**GOOD AFTERNOON, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, AND WELCOME TO OUR
AFTERNOON SESSION. I AM LEE KLING AND WITH ME ARE MY FELLOW
COMMISSIONERS AL CORNELLA, REBECCA COX AND WENDI STEELE.**

**THIS AFTERNOON WE WILL HEAR A PRESENTATION FROM THE STATE
OF MISSISSIPPI WHICH WILL LAST FOR 45 MINUTES, FOLLOWED BY A
PRESENTATION BY FLORIDA FOR 25 MINUTES. AS IS THE CASE WITH ALL
OUR REGIONAL HEARINGS, THE COMMISSION HAS GIVEN A BLOCK OF TIME
TO THE STATES BASED ON THE NUMBER OF INSTALLATIONS ON THE LIST
AND THE JOB LOSS. WE HAVE LEFT IT TO ELECTED OFFICIALS AND
COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO DECIDE HOW TO FILL THE BLOCK OF TIME.**

AFTER THE TWO PRESENTATIONS, THERE WILL BE A PERIOD OF 26 MINUTES FOR ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT FROM MISSISSIPPI AND FLORIDA.

THE PERSONS WHO WISH TO SPEAK AT THAT TIME SHOULD HAVE SIGNED UP BY NOW OUT IN THE LOBBY. THEY ARE ASKED TO LIMIT THEMSELVES TO TWO MINUTES, AND THAT LIMIT WILL BE ENFORCED.

WE WILL BE READY TO BEGIN THE MISSISSIPPI PRESENTATION AS SOON AS I HAVE SWORN IN THE WITNESSES.



THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

1700 NORTH MOORE STREET SUITE 1425

ARLINGTON, VA 22209

703-696-0504

ALAN J. DIXON, CHAIRMAN

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S. LEE KLING

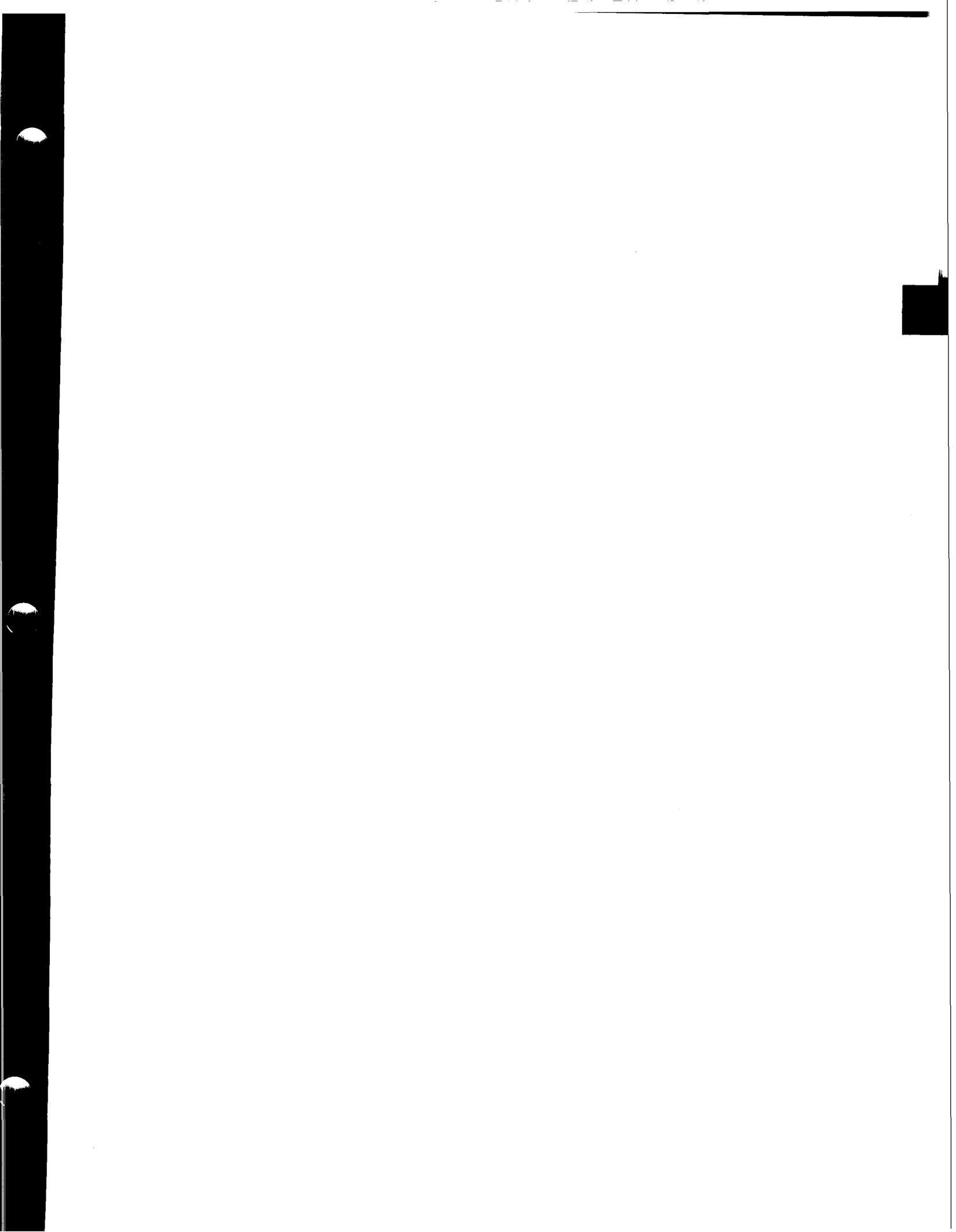
RADM BENJAMIN F. MONTOYA, USN (RET)

MG JOSUE ROBLES, JR., USA (RET)

WENDI LOUISE STEELE

WITNESSES' OATH

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ARE ABOUT TO GIVE TO THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND
REALIGNMENT COMMISSION SHALL BE THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE
TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH?**



MISSISSIPPI

45 minutes

ATLANTA, GA REGIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE OF WITNESSES

1:00PM - 1:45PM

45 minutes

Lt General Billy Boles
Vice Commander, Air Education
and Training Command, USAF

Governor Kirk Fordice

Mr. Fred Hayslett
Team Leader, Columbus Air
Force Base 2000

Col Nick Ardillo, USAF (Ret.)
Fmr. Cmndr., 14th Flying
Training Wing

Lt Col Paul Rowcliffe, USAF (Ret.)
Fmr. Cmndr., 14th Flying
Training Wing Operations Group

MISSISSIPPI

Columbus Air Force Base Columbus, MS

1. Since all undergraduate flying training bases are ranked so closely, what characteristics distinguish Columbus Air Force Base from the other bases?
2. If Columbus Air Force Base is closed, the potential employment loss in Lowndes and Monroe Counties, Mississippi, could total over 2,000 jobs between 1996 and 2001. This represents a 4.1 percent decrease in the employment base. What impact would the closure of Columbus Air Force Base have on communities in this region?

MISSISSIPPI

TABLE OF CONTENTS

**ATLANTA, GA REGIONAL HEARING
FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 1995**

MISSISSIPPI STATE MAP

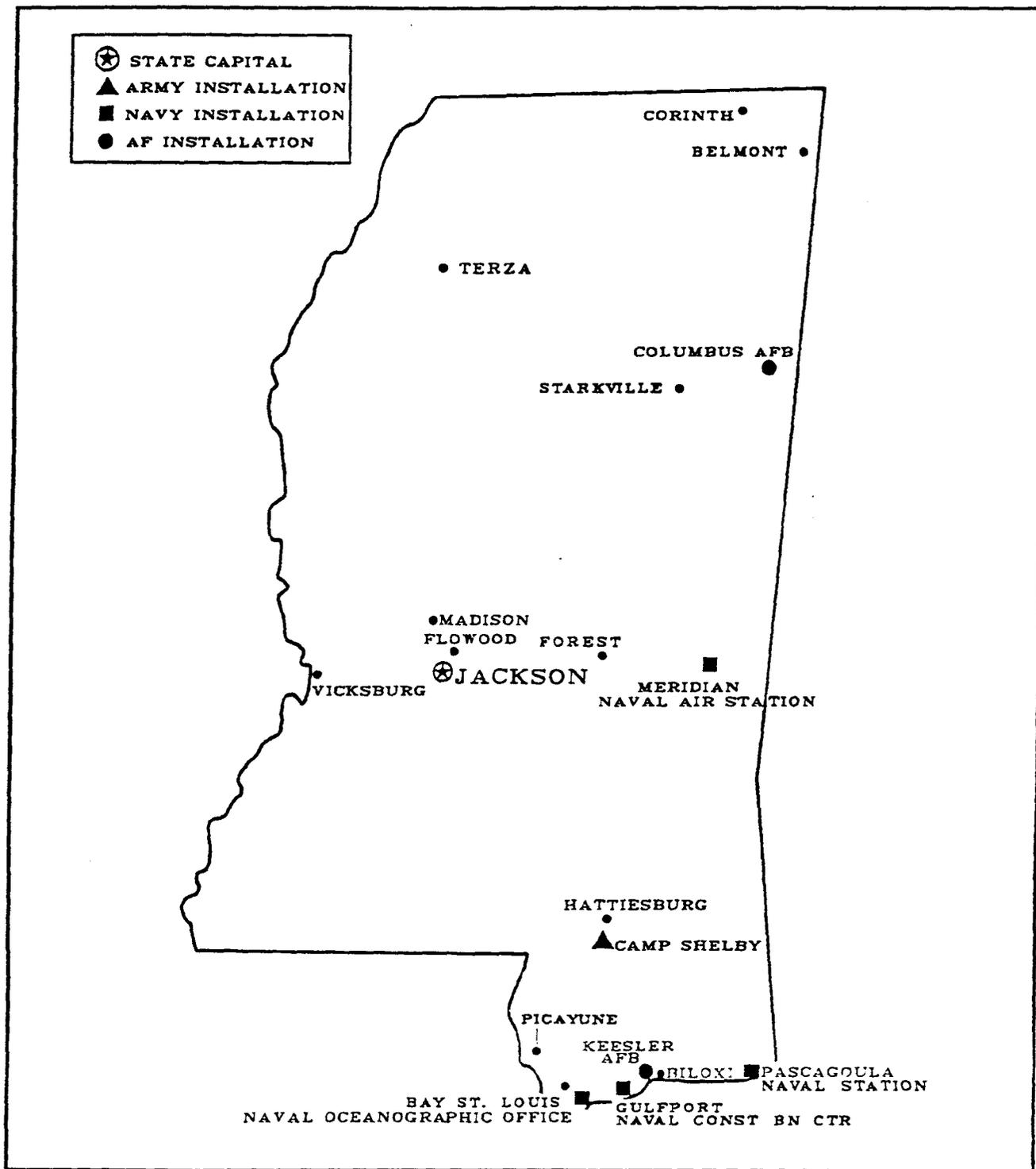
COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE

-Facility Summary Sheet

STATE CLOSURE HISTORY

MAP NO. 25

MISSISSIPPI



Prepared By: Washington Headquarters Services
Directorate for Information
Operations and Reports

DRAFT

DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

SUMMARY SHEET

COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE, MISSISSIPPI

INSTALLATION MISSION

An Air Education and Training Command (AETC) base. The base is included in the Undergraduate Flying Training category. The major unit is the 14th Flying Training Wing, which provides undergraduate pilot training (UPT) and Introduction to Fighter Fundamentals in 45 T-37B, 57 T-38A, and 21 AT-38B aircraft. The base was activated in 1941 for pilot training.

DOD RECOMMENDATION

None.

COMMISSION ALTERNATIVE

The Commission added Columbus AFB for consideration for closure or realignment.

STAFF COMMENTS

- The Air Force has one more Undergraduate Flying Training (UFT)--Pilot and Navigator--base than necessary to support Air Force pilot training requirements consistent with the DoD Force Structure Plan.
- Columbus AFB ranked second overall when compared with other UFT bases (Reese AFB, Laughlin AFB, Randolph AFB, and Vance AFB) when evaluated on various measures of merit using staff-revised weighting.
 - Columbus AFB ranked in the middle in such factors as weather (crosswinds and density altitude) and airspace availability (volume and distance to training areas). It ranked relatively high in encroachment, airfields, and maintenance facilities. It ranked relatively low in ground training facilities.
- Columbus AFB also ranked second overall when compared with other UFT bases (Reese AFB, Laughlin AFB, Randolph AFB, and Vance AFB) when evaluated on various measures of merit using corrected Air Force data.
 - Columbus AFB ranked relatively high in such factors as encroachment, airfields, and maintenance facilities. It ranked in the middle in weather (crosswinds and density altitude). It ranked relatively low in airspace availability (volume and distance to training areas) and ground training facilities.
- Columbus AFB is characterized as the best UPT base for bomber/fighter training.
 - It has low-pressure altitude.
 - It has a long runway.
 - It has ready access to an air-to-ground gunnery range.

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- Its advanced students have their instrument rating.
- It has mission flexibility as a former Strategic Air Command base.

COST CONSIDERATIONS (Level)

- One-Time Costs: \$ 18.2 million
- Net Costs (Savings) During Implementation: \$ 86.2 million savings
- Annual Recurring Savings: \$ 25.3 million
- Return on Investment Year: 1998 (1 Year)
- Net Present Value Over 20 Years: \$327.1 million

MANPOWER IMPLICATIONS OF THIS RECOMMENDATION (EXCLUDES CONTRACTORS)

	<u>Military</u>	<u>Civilian</u>	<u>Students</u>
Baseline	913	221	152
Reductions	315	31 (additional)	0
Realignments	598	252	152
Total:	913	221	152

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

<u>Recommendation</u>	<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>
Close Laughlin AFB	(1,065)	(463)	0	0	(1,065)	(463)

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Environmental cleanup action was initiated on several sites and investigation is on-going at remaining sites.

REPRESENTATION

Governor: Kirk Fordice
Senators: Thad Cochran
Trent Lott
Representative: G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery (3)

ECONOMIC IMPACT

- Potential Employment Loss (1996-2001): 2,012 jobs (1,528 direct/484 indirect)
- Lowndes and Monroe Counties, MS, MSA Job Base: 48,953 jobs
- Percentage: 4.1 percent decrease

DRAFT

- Cumulative Economic Impact (1994-2001): 4.1 percent decrease

MILITARY ISSUES

- \$1.2 million in Military Construction Cost Avoidance at Columbus AFB listed in COBRA.
- Air Force Air Education and Training Command Capacity Analysis assumes four UPT bases only:
 - Excludes Randolph AFB: performs no UPT, only Undergraduate Navigator Training (UNT) and Pilot Instructor Training (PIT).
 - Excludes Sheppard AFB: performs some UPT, mainly Euro-NATO Jet Pilot Training (ENJJPT).
 - Excludes Hondo Municipal Airport and USAF Academy Airfields: perform Flight Screening only.
 - Assumes Specialized UPT at each base, i.e., all three training aircraft types present (T-1, T-37/JPATS, and T-38) to train pilots for Primary, Bomber/Fighter, and Airlift/Tanker.
- Air Force UPT Capacity Analysis:
 - Based analysis on meeting Air Force Pilot Training Requirements (PTR) only.
 - Assumes 5-day work week to allow recovery capacity for unforeseen impacts.
 - Capacity expressed in "UPT graduate equivalents."

CAPACITY	
COLUMBUS	408
LAUGHLIN	424
REESE	392
VANCE	396
SUBTOTAL	1,620
CLOSE LOWEST	- 392
TOTAL	1,228

REQUIREMENT	
BOMBER/FIGHTER	394
AIRLIFT/TANKER	592
FIXED-WING UPGRADE	4
FMS	31
SUBTOTAL	1,021
INTRO, FTR FUND	57
TOTAL	1,078

CAPACITY	1,228	
PTR	-1,078	
	150	(12 percent EXCESS)

- Need for Excess
 - JPATS Transition 100
 - Instructor Crossflow (T-37 to T-38): 39
 - Operations beyond 95 percent capacity will be compromised

COMMUNITY CONCERNS/ISSUES

- The community stressed that the Joint Cross-Service Group on UPT and the Air Force Base Closure Executive Group rated Columbus AFB as the highest ranking UPT base in Criterion I (flying training mission).
- Columbus AFB received the highest rating on Criterion II (facilities and infrastructure).

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- Columbus AFB has the infrastructure to support increased pilot production as demonstrated by past graduation rates, without an additional expenditure on facilities. An increase in pilot production at Columbus AFB would reduce greatly the cost-per-graduate for the Air Force.
- Columbus AFB offers several attributes, such as excellent airspace, no crosswind problems, and hydrant fueling system pits, which offer mission flexibility.
- Columbus AFB is the only UPT base that is well suited to support any of the five Air Force flying missions: primary training, fighter, bomber, tanker, or transport (airlift).
- Housing at Columbus AFB is being upgraded with \$2.5 million invested in improvements since 1993.
- The City of Columbus responded to Columbus AFB's request to provide municipal-level water and sewer services. Planned completion is mid-1997.
- The student/teacher ratio in Columbus Municipal Schools is lower than required by the State Department of Education.
- Graduate degrees are offered at two universities in the local area.
- Improvements at Baptist Memorial Hospital-Golden Triangle are set to begin June 1, 1995, and will involve a \$44 million renovation/expansion.
- The community questions the "Icing in Area Days" figures used during the Adds Hearings in UPT Staff Analysis II. They believe icing data has been doubly counted. The community suggests the correct figure should be 42 days--and not the 144 days used in Staff Analysis II.
- The real issue concerning weather should be "sorties canceled or rescheduled" as a result of weather. (Icing, ceiling, and visibility are included in this category of the base questionnaire and thus doubly counted by receiving far more weighted value than deserved.)

ITEMS OF SPECIAL EMPHASIS

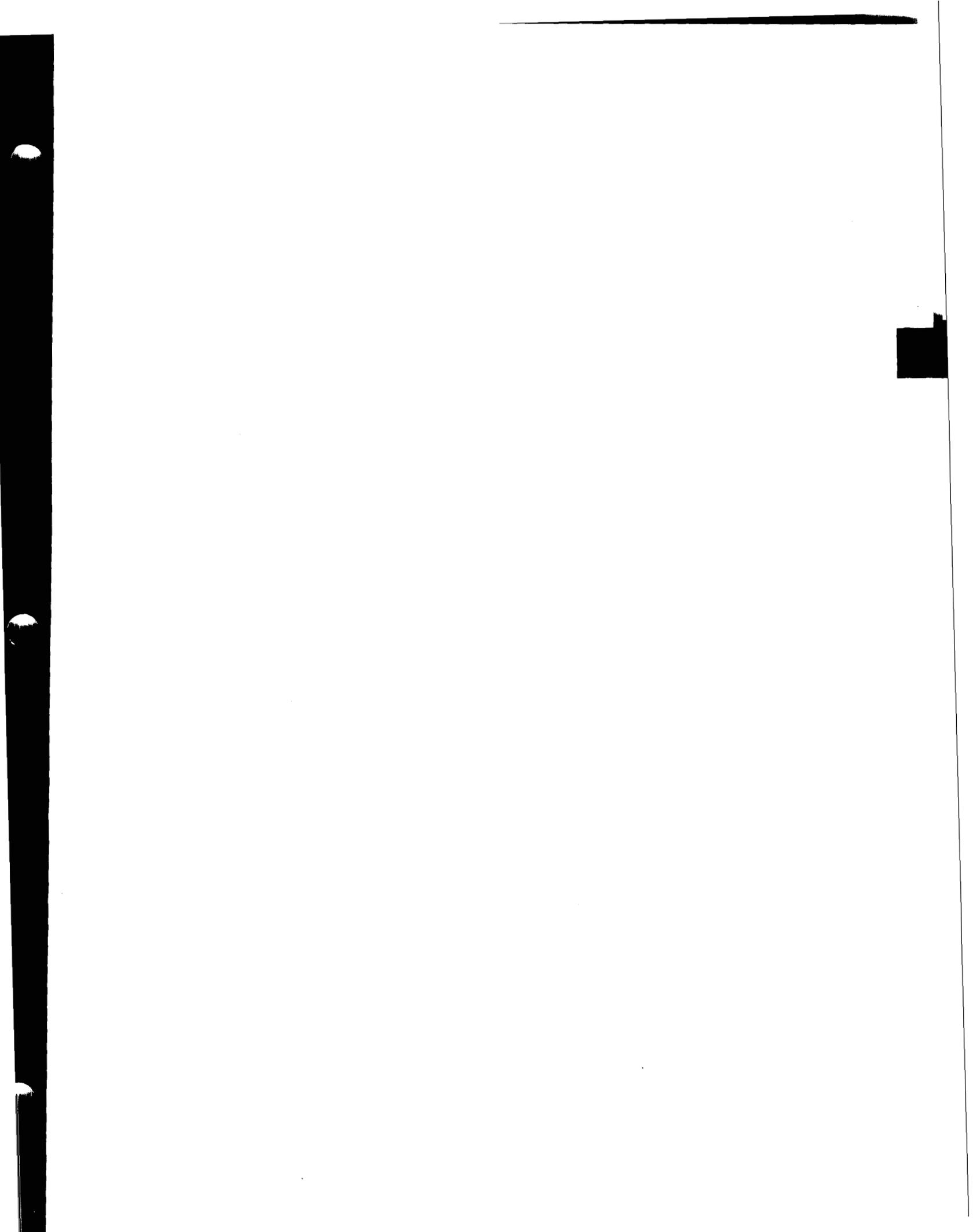
- Since the Air Force configures each of its UPT bases nearly the same, the Joint Cross-Service Group on UPT analysis could be suspect, since it showed the functional value of Reese AFB substantially inferior to the other bases.

Mark A. Pross/Air Force Team/June 1, 1995

CLOSURE HISTORY - INSTALLATIONS IN MISSISSIPPI

31-May-95

SVC	INSTALLATION NAME	ACTION YEAR	ACTION SOURCE	ACTION STATUS	ACTION SUMMARY	ACTION DETAIL
A	MISSISSIPPI ARMY AMMUNITION PLANT	90	PRESS	COMPLETE	LAYAWAY	1990 PRESS: Layaway; completed FY 92.
AF	ALLEN C THOMPSON FIELD AGS COLUMBUS AFB GULFPORT/BILOXI MAP AGS KEESLER AFB	88/91	REFBRAC/DBCRC	ONGOING	REALGNUP	1988 DEFBRAC: Directed realigning 22 courses (including avionics and weather equipment maintenance, weather-satellite system , and photo-interpretation training) from Closing Chanute AFB, IL to Keesler AFB. Other courses to Sheppard (52), Goodfellow (25), and Lowry (45) AFBs. (See 1991 DBCRC). 1991 DBCRC: Directed all technical training from Closing Lowry AFB, CO be redistributed to the remaining technical training centers or relocated to other locations.
	KEY FIELD AGS					
N	NAS MERIDIAN NAV CONSTRUCTION BN CENTER, GULFPORT NAVAL OCEANOGRAPHIC OFFICE NAVAL STATION PASCAGOULA NAVAL TECHNICAL TRAINING CENTER MERIDIA	93	DBCRC	CANCELLED	CLOSE	1993 DBCRC: Rejected OSD's recommendation to close NAS Meridian and relocate the advanced strike training to NAS Kingsville, TX.



FLORIDA

25 minutes

ATLANTA, GA REGIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE OF WITNESSES

1:50PM - 2:15PM

25 minutes

**Congresswoman Carrie Meek
17th District**

**Major General James E. Sherrard
Air Force Reserve
Vice Commander**

**Senator Daryl Jones
Florida State Senator**

**Mr. David Weaver
Chairman, Team Miami**

**Commissioner Dennis Moss
Dade County**

**Mayor Tad DeMilly
City of Homestead**

**Mr. Don Slesnick
Team Miami**

Governor Lawton Chiles

FLORIDA

Homestead Air Reserve Station Homestead, FL

1. If the 482nd Fighter Wing (AFRES) is deactivated, what impact would that action have on the retention of the air-to-ground gunnery range at Avon Park and the overwater airspace?
2. What effect would the deactivation of the 482nd Fighter Wing (AFRES), the primary tenant at Homestead Air Reserve Base, have on other units planning to move to Homestead such as the Florida Air National Guard and commercial interests?
3. What effect would the deactivation of the 482nd Fighter Wing (AFRES) have on the economic recovery of the South Dade County area.

FLORIDA

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**ATLANTA, GA REGIONAL HEARING
FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 1995**

FLORIDA STATE MAP

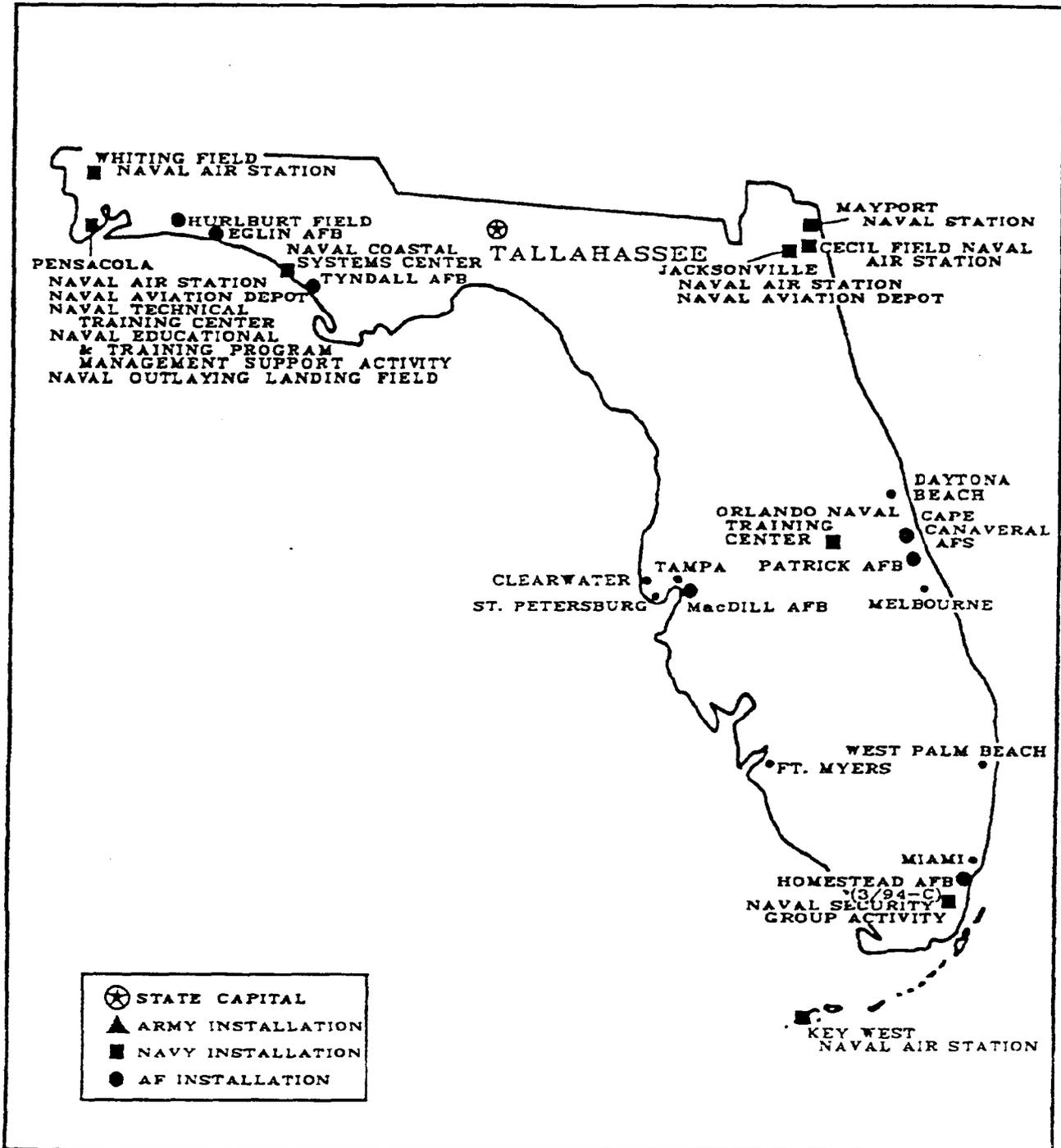
HOMESTEAD AIR RESERVE BASE

- Facility Summary Sheet
- Press Articles

STATE CLOSURE HISTORY

MAP NO. 10

FLORIDA



Prepared By: Washington Headquarters Services
Directorate for Information
Operations and Reports

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DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

SUMMARY SHEET

482nd Fighter Wing (AFRES) HOMESTEAD AIR RESERVE BASE, FLORIDA

INSTALLATION MISSION

Air Force Reserves (AFRES) Base. 482nd Fighter Wing (AFRES), F-16A/B operations; 301st Rescue Squadron (AFRES), HC-130N and HH-60G operations (temporarily relocated to Patrick AFB, FL); and Det. 1, 125th Fighter Group (FL ANG. NORAD), F-16 air defense operations. Devastated by Hurricane Andrew in Aug 92 and is still under reconstruction. AFRES unit facilities in cantonment area only--BX available with "BX-Mart" instead of commissary.

DOD RECOMMENDATION: None

COMMISSION ALTERNATIVE

- Consider Homestead ARB for closure in addition to or as a substitute for Bergstrom ARB.
- Deactivate the 482nd Fighter Wing (AFRES).

JUSTIFICATION

- Commission analysis revealed that the Air Force used misleading base operating cost data in their "level playing field" COBRA model in evaluating Bergstrom ARB. This data included excess costs to operate facilities outside the cantonment area. These excess costs may have lead to false conclusions in selecting Bergstrom ARB for closure.

STAFF COMMENTS

- Air Force used operating cost data as a primary factor in determining the Air Force Reserve closure recommendation.
- The Air Force Reserve has more F-16 operating locations than necessary to support the Reserve F-16 aircraft in the DoD Force Structure Plan.
- To execute this alternative, the DoD recommendation to Redirect the 301st Rescue Squadron (AFRES) to Patrick AFB must be approved first. This redirect is a change to the 1993 Commission recommendation to relocate the unit back to Homestead from Patrick AFB, its current temporary location.
- Due to the destruction of Homestead by Hurricane Andrew in Aug 92, the 301st Rescue Squadron (AFRES) moved temporarily to Patrick and the 482nd moved temporarily to MacDill. Subsequently, the 93 Commission non-concurred with the Secretary of Defense recommendation to close Homestead and leave the two units at their temporary locations, and instead recommended the realignment of Homestead as an Air Reserve Base.
- Rebuilding and construction of unit facilities is underway at Homestead. Cost of MILCON is covered under the FY 92 Supplemental.
 - The 482nd FW returned in Mar 94, their facilities are virtually complete.

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- The 301st RQS will return once their facilities are rebuilt (approx. FY 97/1). Planning is underway, MILCON has yet to commence.
- Construction of 482/301 consolidated facilities awaits the outcome of this round.

COST CONSIDERATIONS

- One-Time Costs: \$12.6 million
- Net Costs (Savings) During Implementation: (\$64.7 million)
- Annual Recurring Savings: \$17.3 million
- Return on Investment Year: 1998 (1 Year)
- Net Present Value Over 20 Years: \$228.6 million

MANPOWER IMPLICATIONS OF THIS RECOMMENDATION (EXCLUDES CONTRACTORS)

	<u>Military</u>	<u>Civilian</u>	<u>Students</u>
Baseline	0	374	0
Reductions	0	247	0
Realignments	0	127	0
Total:	0	374	0

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

<u>Recommendation</u>	<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>
Homestead	0	374	0	0	0	(374)

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Environmental impact from this action is minimal at Homestead ARB.
- Non-attainment area for Ozone (moderate).

REPRESENTATION

Senators: Bob Graham
Connie Mack

Representative: Carrie Meek (17), Homestead

Governor: Lawton Chiles

ECONOMIC IMPACT

- Potential Employment Loss (1996-2001): 970 jobs (595 direct/375 indirect)
- Miami, FL MSA Job Base: 1,064,241
- Job Change: 0.1 percent decrease
- Cumulative Economic Impact (1994-2001): 0.1 percent decrease

DRAFT

MILITARY ISSUES

- Review of demographic data projects no negative impact on recruiting.
- \$4.5 million MILCON at Patrick listed in COBRA for unit facilities is an Air Force expense.
- Hurricane Andrew supplemental appropriations for rebuilding Homestead cover the cost of building a reserve cantonment area. The nature of this appropriation, however, does not permit the Air Force to receive a "Cost Avoidance" for not building facilities specifically for the 301st Rescue Squadron (AFRES) at Homestead.
- Homestead remains the host of the 482nd Fighter Wing (AFRES).
- Military usefulness of Homestead as an Air Reserve Base:
 - ACC uses Homestead as the site for a series (normally two each month) of Weapons Training Deployments: week-long deployments of typically 6-24 F-15s or F-16s. These deployments are used by ACC to take advantage of the abundant and congestion-free South Florida supersonic over-water airspace and the Avon Park air-to-ground gunnery range.
 - Homestead occupies an important geographic location as a well-positioned staging point for operations throughout the Caribbean and Latin America.
 - Numerous other DoD and Federal Agency activities are lining-up to move into the base, including the Navy/USMC for frequent training exercises, US Customs, and DEA.
- Det. 1, 125th Fighter Group (FL ANG, NORAD), is currently conducting F-16 air defense operations from a temporary location at Naval Air Station Key West, FL. The unit will return to Homestead upon restoration of its NORAD alert facility by the end of the year.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS/ISSUES

- The redirect of the 301st will lead to the closure of the base.
- The economic impact on the small Homestead community is much greater than what is shown by using the Miami MSA. The Redirect represents the loss of hundreds of returning full-time Air Reserve Technicians (ARTs) residents now, and the loss of part-time Reservists in the long-term.
- Military value of the base: it has frequently served as the key facility in support of operations in the Caribbean and Latin America. Also, there exists in South Florida an abundance of airspace, training routes and ranges that will likely be lost if the base closes.
- The community is committed to converting the base into its municipal airport.

ITEMS OF SPECIAL EMPHASIS

- The 93 Commission also found that it would be more economical for Dade County to operate Homestead as a civil airport with AFRES units as tenants on the base.
- DoD announced on March 30, 1995 that Miami will be the new home of the Southern Command (SOUTHCOM), currently located at Quarry Heights, Panama. The actual site has not been selected.

Merrill Beyer/Air Force Team/May 23, 1995

13TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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The Tampa Tribune

May 11, 1995, Thursday, FLORIDA EDITION

SECTION: FLORIDA/METRO, Pg. 1

LENGTH: 649 words

LEADLINE: MacDill clears final closing list;
Tampa celebrates, Homestead suffers another "kick in the shins."

BYLINE: MICHAEL SZNAJDERMAN; Tribune Staff Writer

KEYWORD:
(BeginText)

WASHINGTON - The future of Tampa's MacDill Air Force Base was virtually sealed Wednesday when the government's independent base-closing panel raised no objections about the military's plan to move in refueling planes from a base in Panama.

But the fate of Homestead Air Force Base is once again in question after the panel decided to add the hurricane-ravaged facility to its list of possible closures.

The decision by the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission to put Homestead on its pending list took state and South Florida officials by surprise.

"It seems every time you step forward, another agency kicks you in the shins and a little higher," said Homestead Mayor Tad DeMilly.

"It's a big blow," said U.S. Sen. Connie Mack, R-Fort Myers, who along with other Florida lawmakers is expected to lobby on Homestead's behalf.

Back in Tampa, however, officials were breathing another sigh of relief in their years-long effort to save MacDill from the budget ax. Under the Defense Department plan, MacDill will become the new home for a dozen KC-135 tanker planes now located at Malmstrom Air Force Base in Great Falls, Mont. The move would bring more than 700 new jobs.

"It appears that we have passed the final hurdle," said Tampa City Council member Bob Buckhorn, who is among a group of city business leaders and politicians who have worked to keep MacDill open. MacDill has been without a permanent military tenant for its runway since 1991, when that year's base-closure panel ordered the base's squadron of F-16 fighters moved to Panama.

Wednesday was the last day the 1995 panel could add facilities to the roster of bases it is considering for closure or consolidation. A final list of recommendations must be sent to President Clinton by July 1.

The Tampa Tribune, May 11, 1995

In February the panel recommended closing or realigning 146 military bases - list that called for no major reductions at Florida facilities and actually expanded operations at several of the state's bases, including MacDill.

Wednesday the panel voted to add 35 facilities to the list, with bases in California, Texas and Pennsylvania the hardest hit. Homestead was the only Florida facility among the 35.

Former U.S. Sen. Alan Dixon, chairman of the panel, tried to soften the blow to cities that suddenly found their bases scrutinized again.

"Just because a base was added to the list today doesn't mean it will close or be realigned," Dixon said. "It means the commission believes a fuller evaluation of the base is a reasonable thing to undertake at this time."

But Florida officials were clearly exasperated with the panel's decision to add Homestead, which they fought to have rebuilt after Hurricane Andrew destroyed it in 1992. The base also became an issue in the 1992 presidential campaign, with both incumbent George Bush and challenger Clinton pledging to help keep the base alive.

In 1993 the Defense Department recommended shutting Homestead as part of that year's base-closing process. But after emotional appeals from local officials and area lawmakers, that year's panel agreed to renovate part of the damaged facility as an Air Force reserve base.

Buckhorn, who serves on the state's Defense Conversion and Transition Commission, said military officials have in the past questioned the importance of Homestead. "Historically the military argued that its value is not as important as other bases," he said.

Gov. Lawton Chiles, who is in Washington today, called the panel's decision a severe disappointment for Florida. He said the base's location was also important in government efforts to curb drug smuggling and illegal immigration. The partially rebuilt base also is slated to become the home for a small fleet of U.S. Customs Service planes.

Chiles said he plans to work with lawmakers and local officials "to reverse this unfortunate decision."

D-DATE-MDC: May 15, 1995

32ND STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 1995 Sun-Sentinel Company
Sun-Sentinel (Fort Lauderdale)

May 11, 1995, Thursday, FINAL EDITION

SECTION: LOCAL, Pg. 3B

LENGTH: 446 words

HEADLINE: MILITARY BASE MAY SHUT DOWN;
CITY PANEL TO DECIDE HOMESTEAD'S FATE

BYLINE: WILLIAM E. GIBSON; Washington Bureau Chief

TELETYPE: WASHINGTON

LEAD:

Homestead's military base, still rebuilding from the devastation of Hurricane Andrew, once again is on the firing line for possible closure.

A federal base-closing commission on Wednesday added Homestead Air Reserve Station and 34 other bases to a target list for possible elimination.

A final decision on whether to actually close the base is not expected until next month.

The announcement that the commission was even considering closing Homestead surprised Florida members of Congress. They had lobbied hard two years ago to keep the skeletal remains of the base alive as a cornerstone for restoring Homestead's economy.

The announcement was doubly surprising because the Pentagon had decided last month that Homestead was one of four sites under consideration for the new headquarters of its Southern Command, which is being moved from Panama.

"It's a tragedy that the city of Homestead must now spend valuable time and resources to defend the base's national security and economic value to this country's commission," said Sen. Connie Mack, R-Fla.

The military base, destroyed except for its long runway, had been a rallying point for South Florida's slow hurricane recovery. Homestead became a symbol to the nation as a kind of Phoenix rising from the ashes.

Swayed by loads of economic data and emotional appeals by local officials, the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission recommended two years ago that the base be rebuilt as a secondary center, housing an F-16 fighter wing. Other federal agencies rushed in, including the Customs Service, to build offices nearby.

The commission offered no rationale for including Homestead on its list on Wednesday.

It had recommended in March shifting the 301st Rescue Squadron to Patrick Air Force Base. The 301st, which provides support for the space shuttle, could operate more efficiently and save the Air Force \$ 15.4 million over 20 years

Sun-Sentinel (Fort Lauderdale), May 11, 1995

moving to Patrick, which is near Cape Canaveral, the commission had decided.

The commission had further recommended moving the 726th Air Control Squadron Homestead to Shaw Air Force Base in South Carolina for a savings of \$ 4.6 million over 20 years.

Sen. Bob Graham, D-Fla., who had also lobbied to bring South Com to South Florida, said he would argue once again that Homestead should remain open because of its proximity to Cuba and Latin America.

"This is the same battle we fought and won two years ago," Graham said. "I am optimistic that we will fare well again this year because of the strategic importance of the Homestead Air Reserve Station as a forward deployment facility for the U.S. military in the Caribbean region."

DAD-DATE-MDC: May 12, 1995

CLOSURE HISTORY - INSTALLATIONS IN FLORIDA

31-May-95

SVC INSTALLATION NAME ACTION YEAR ACTION SOURCE ACTION STATUS ACTION SUMMARY ACTION DETAIL

A

CAPE ST. GEORGE

88

DEFBRAC

CLOSE

1988 DEFBRAC:
Close; completed FY 93

AF

AVON PARK AFS

CAPE CANAVERAL AFS

EGLIN AAF 3 (DUKE FIELD)

EGLIN AAF 9 (HURLBURT FIELD)

EGLIN AFB

90/91

PRESS/DBCRC

REALGNUP

1990 Press Release indicated realignment. No specifics given.

HOMESTEAD AFB

93

DBCRC

REALGNDWN

1991 DBCRC:

Directs the transfer of one squadron each of A/OA-10s from Closing England AFB, LA to McCord AFB, WA and Eglin AFB.

1993 DBCRC:

Directed realignment to Reserve status (Completed March 31, 1994).

The 31st Fighter Wing will inactivate. F-16s will remain temporarily assigned to Moody AFB, GA and Shaw AFB, SC. The Inter-American Air Forces Academy will move to Lackland AFB, TX. The AF Water Survival School will be temporarily located at Tyndall AFB, FL. The 301st Rescue Squadron, AFRES and the 482nd FW (AFRES) will remain at Homestead AFB in Reserve cantonment area(s). The NORAD alert activity will also remain. The 726th Air Control Squadron will relocate to Shaw AFB. The Naval Security Group will consolidate with other U.S. Navy units.

NOTE: The DoD recommendation was to Close. The Commission voted to retain the reserve forces at Homestead.

3860 Military and 136 Civilian positions will move.

JACKSONVILLE IAP AGS

CLOSURE HISTORY - INSTALLATIONS IN FLORIDA

31-May-95

SVC	INSTALLATION NAME	ACTION YEAR	ACTION SOURCE	ACTION STATUS	ACTION SUMMARY	ACTION DETAIL
	MACDILL AFB	90/91/93	PR/DBCRC/DBCRC	ONGOING	REALIGN	<p>1990 Press Release indicated realignment. No specifics given.</p> <p>1991 DBCRC: Directed realignment and partial Closure. Close the airfield. Transfer the aircraft to Luke AFB, AZ. Move the Joint Communications Support Element (JCSE) to Charleston AFB, SC. The remainder of MacDill becomes an administrative base.</p> <p>1993 DBCRC: Cancels move of JCSE from MacDill to Charleston AFB, SC and retain at MacDill as long as the airfield is non-DoD operated. Operation of the airfield will be taken over by the Department of Commerce or another Federal agency. NOTE: DoD recommended relocating the reserve units from Homestead AFB, FL to MacDill. This was not supported by DBCRC. 253 Military and 37 Civilians will be retained at MacDill rather than move.</p>
	PATRICK AFB					<p>1993 OSD Recommendation: The 301st Rescue Squadron, AFRES, will move from Homestead AFB, FL to Patrick.</p>
	TYNDALL AFB	93	DBCRC	ONGOING	REALIGNUP	<p>1993 DBCRC: The AF Water Survival School will be temporarily moved from Homestead AFB, FL to Tyndall.</p>
D	DEFENSE DISTRIBUTION DEPOT PENSACOLA	93	DBCRC	COMPLETE	CLOSE	<p>1993 DBCRC: Accept DoD recommendation. Close DDPF and relocate its mission to DD Jacksonville, FL.</p>
N	NAS CECIL FIELD	93	DBCRC	ONGOING	CLOSE	<p>1993 DBCRC: Directed the closure of NAS Cecil Field and relocation of its aircraft along with personnel, equipment, and support to MCAS Cherry Point, NC; NAS Oceana, VA; and MCAS Beaufort, SC.</p>
	NAS JACKSONVILLE					

CLOSURE HISTORY - INSTALLATIONS IN FLORIDA

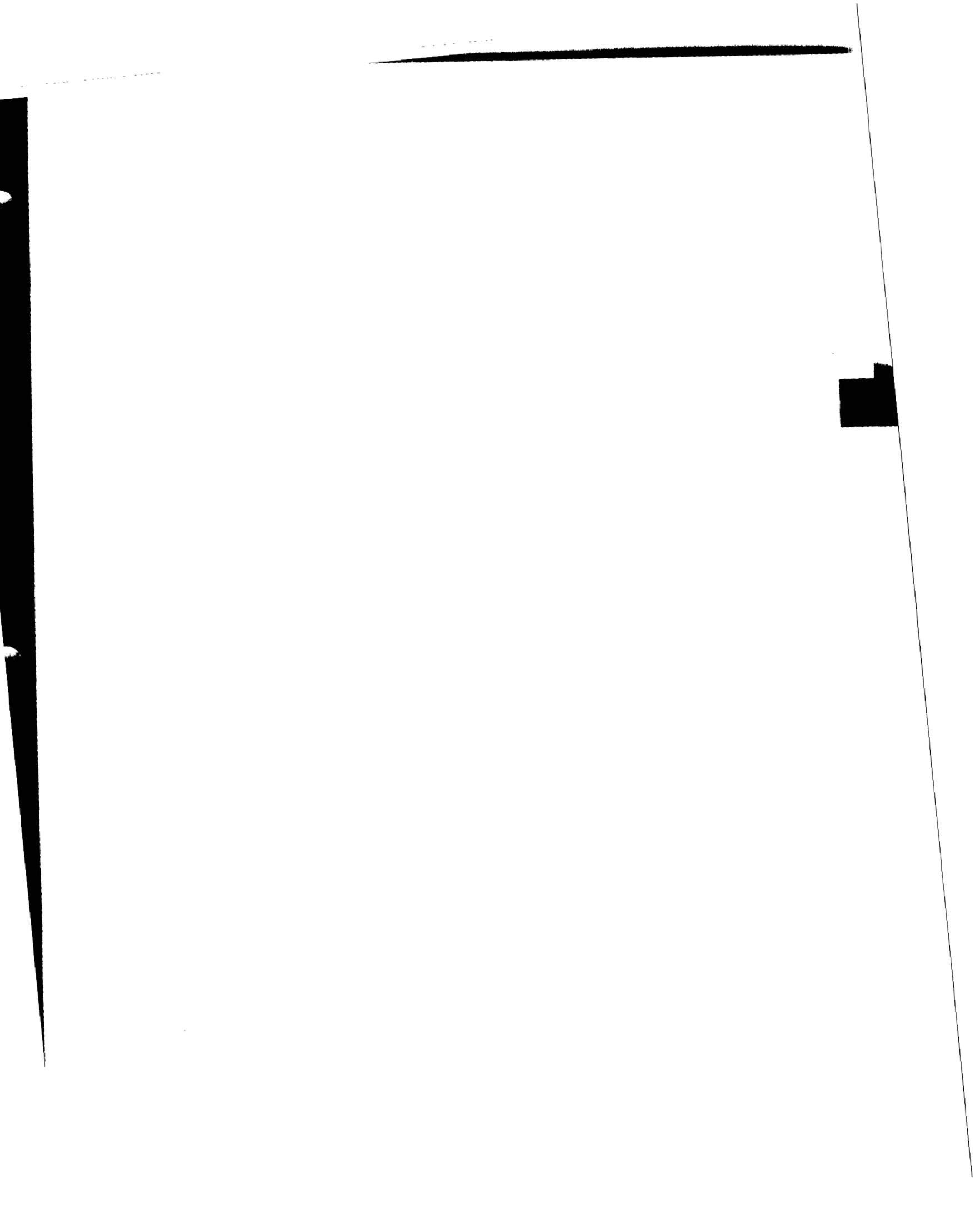
31-May-95

SVC	INSTALLATION NAME	ACTION YEAR	ACTION SOURCE	ACTION STATUS	ACTION SUMMARY	ACTION DETAIL
	NAS KEY WEST					
	NAS PENSACOLA					
	NAS WHITING FIELD					
	NAV COASTAL SYSTEMS CENTER, PANAMA CITY	91	DBCRC	ONGOING	REALIGNDN	1991 DBCRC: Recommended realignment as part of the Naval Surface Warfare Center, Combat Weapons Systems R&D Directorate.
	NAV EDITING PRO MGMT SUP ACT					
	NAVAL AVIATION DEPOT JACKSONVILLE					
	NAVAL AVIATION DEPOT PENSACOLA	93	DBCRC	ONGOING	CLOSE	1993 DBCRC: Directed the closure of NADEP Pensacola and relocation of repair and maintenance for H-1 and H-60 helicopters to Corpus Christi Army Depot, and the remaining repair/maintenance activities to Cherry Point. Whirl tower and dynamic facility to relocate to Corpus Christi, Cherry Point or private sector in lieu of the Navy's plan to retain these facilities at NADEP Pensacola.
	NAVAL HOSPITAL JACKSONVILLE					
	NAVAL HOSPITAL ORLANDO	91/93	DBCRC	ONGOING	CLOSE	1991 DBCRC: Rejected proposal to close. 1993 DBCRC: Directed the closure of Naval Hospital Orlando, FL and relocation of certain military and civilian personnel to other Naval Hospitals.
	NAVAL HOSPITAL PENSACOLA					
	NAVAL OLF SAUPELEY					
	NAVAL SECURITY GROUP ACTIVITY					
	NAVAL STATION MAYPORT					
	NAVAL SUPPLY CENTER PENSACOLA	93	DBCRC	ONGOING	DISESTAB	1993 DBCRC: Directed the disestablishment of the NSC Pensacola.
	NAVAL TECH TRAINING CTR, CORRY STA					

CLOSURE HISTORY - INSTALLATIONS IN FLORIDA

31-May-95

SVC	INSTALLATION NAME	ACTION YEAR	ACTION SOURCE	ACTION STATUS	ACTION SUMMARY	ACTION DETAIL
	NAVAL TRAINING CENTER ORLANDO	91/93	DBCRC	ONGOING	CLOSE	1991 DBCRC: Cancelled the Navy's recommended closure of NTC Orlando. 1993 DBCRC: Directed the closure of NTC Orlando and relocation of certain personnel, equipment, and support to NTC Great Lakes and other locations consistent with DOD training requirements. Nuclear Power School to be relocated to Naval Sub Base, New London, CT.
	NAVY PUBLIC WORKS CENTER PENSACOLA					





**THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION
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703-696-0504**

ALAN J. DIXON, CHAIRMAN

**COMMISSIONERS:
AL CORNELLA
REBECCA COX
GEN J. B. DAVIS, USAF (RET)
S. LEE KLING
RADM BENJAMIN F. MONTOYA, USN (RET)
MG JOSUE ROBLES, JR., USA (RET)
WENDI LOUISE STEELE**

**REMARKS BY CHAIR AT BEGINNING OF
MISSISSIPPI AND FLORIDA PUBLIC COMMENT
PORTION OF ATLANTA REGIONAL HEARING**

**WE ARE NOW READY TO BEGIN A PERIOD SET ASIDE FOR PUBLIC
COMMENT. OUR INTENTION IS TO TRY TO INSURE THAT ALL OPINIONS ON
THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECRETARY OR THE ADDITIONS OF THE
COMMISSION AFFECTING MISSISSIPPI AND FLORIDA ARE HEARD. WE HAVE
ASSIGNED 26 MINUTES FOR THIS PERIOD.**

**WE ASKED PERSONS WISHING TO SPEAK TO SIGN UP BEFORE THE
HEARING BEGAN, AND THEY HAVE DONE SO BY NOW. WE HAVE ALSO ASKED
THEM TO LIMIT THEIR COMMENTS TO TWO MINUTES, AND WE WILL RING A
BELL AT THE END OF THAT TIME. PLEASE STOP AFTER YOUR TWO
MINUTES ARE UP. WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF ANY LENGTH IS WELCOMED BY
THE COMMISSION AT ANY TIME IN THIS PROCESS. IF ALL THOSE SIGNED UP
TO SPEAK WOULD RAISE YOUR RIGHT HANDS, I WILL ADMINISTER THE
OATH.**



THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

1700 NORTH MOORE STREET SUITE 1425

ARLINGTON, VA 22209

703-696-0504

ALAN J. DIXON, CHAIRMAN

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GEN J. B. DAVIS, USAF (RET)

S. LEE KLING

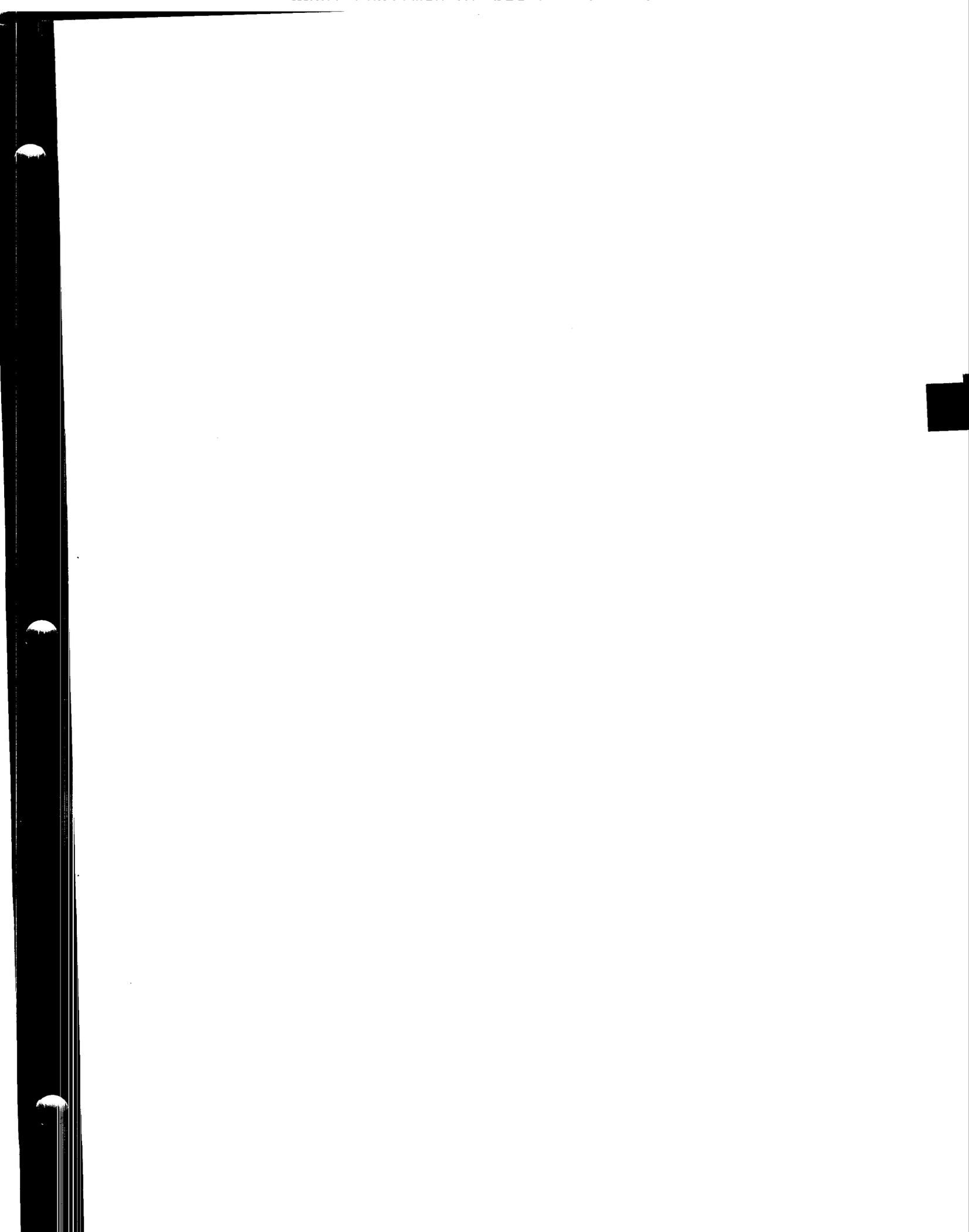
RADM BENJAMIN F. MONTOYA, USN (RET)

MG JOSUE ROBLES, JR., USA (RET)

WENDI LOUISE STEELE

WITNESSES' OATH

**DO YOU SOLEMNLY SWEAR OR AFFIRM THAT THE TESTIMONY YOU
ARE ABOUT TO GIVE TO THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND
REALIGNMENT COMMISSION SHALL BE THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE
TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH?**





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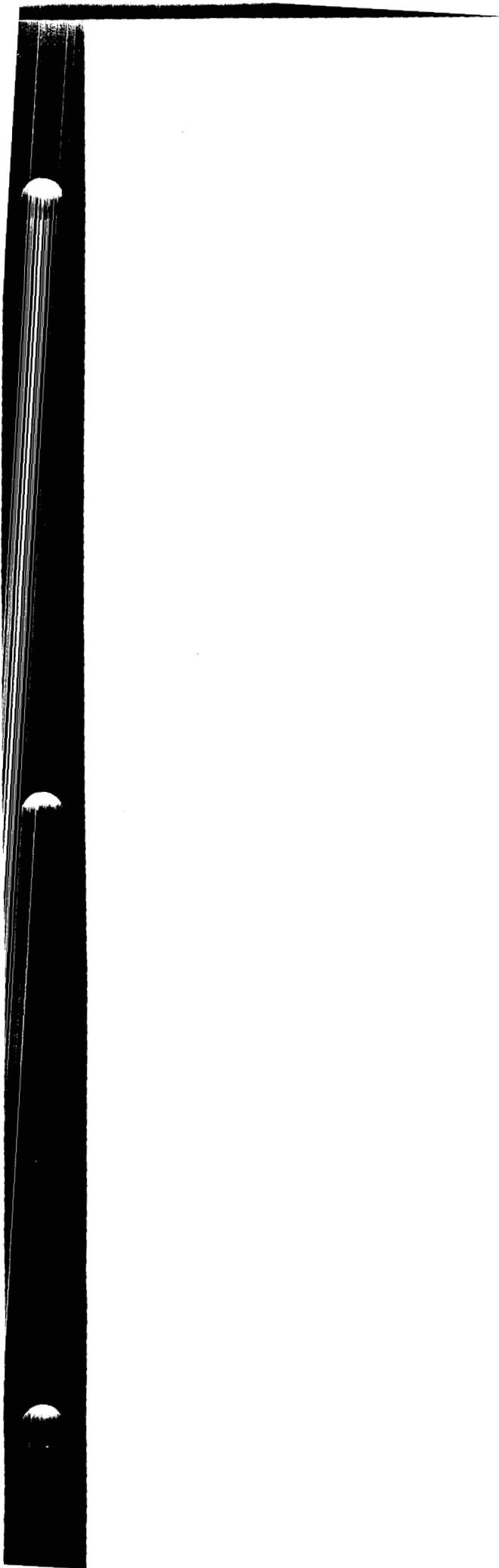
CLOSING REMARKS OF COMMISSIONER LEE KLING
ATLANTA REGIONAL HEARING

WE HAVE NOW CONCLUDED THIS HEARING OF THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION. I WANT TO THANK ALL THE WITNESSES WHO TESTIFIED. YOU HAVE BROUGHT US SOME VERY VALUABLE INFORMATION WHICH I ASSURE YOU WILL BE GIVEN CAREFUL CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMISSION MEMBERS AS WE REACH OUR DECISIONS.

I ALSO WANT TO THANK AGAIN ALL THE ELECTED OFFICIALS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO HAVE ASSISTED US DURING OUR BASE VISITS AND IN PREPARATION FOR THIS HEARING. IN PARTICULAR, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK SENATOR NUNN AND HIS STAFF AND THE GEORGIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE IN HELPING TO OBTAIN THIS BEAUTIFUL SITE FOR THE HEARING.

**FINALLY, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE CITIZENS OF THE
COMMUNITIES REPRESENTED HERE TODAY THAT HAVE SUPPORTED THE
MEMBERS OF OUR ARMED SERVICES FOR SO MANY YEARS, MAKING THEM
FEEL WELCOME AND VALUED IN YOUR TOWNS. YOU ARE TRUE PATRIOTS.**

THIS HEARING IS CLOSED.



**1995 List of Military Installations
Inside the United States for Closure or Realignment**

Part I: Major Base Closures

Army

Fort McClellan, Alabama
Fort Chaffee, Arkansas
Fitzsimons Army Medical Center, Colorado
Price Support Center, Illinois
Savanna Army Depot Activity, Illinois
Fort Ritchie, Maryland
Selfridge Army Garrison, Michigan
Bayonne Military Ocean Terminal, New Jersey
Seneca Army Depot, New York
Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania
Red River Army Depot, Texas
Fort Pickett, Virginia

Navy

Naval Air Facility, Adak, Alaska
Naval Shipyard, Long Beach, California
Ship Repair Facility, Guam
Naval Air Warfare Center, Aircraft Division, Indianapolis, Indiana
Naval Surface Warfare Center, Crane Division Detachment, Louisville, Kentucky
Naval Surface Warfare Center, Dahlgren Division Detachment, White Oak, Maryland
Naval Air Station, South Weymouth, Massachusetts
Naval Air Station, Meridian, Mississippi
Naval Air Warfare Center, Aircraft Division, Lakehurst, New Jersey
Naval Air Warfare Center, Aircraft Division, Warminster, Pennsylvania

Air Force

North Highlands Air Guard Station, California
Ontario IAP Air Guard Station, California
Rome Laboratory, Rome, New York
Roslyn Air Guard Station, New York

Springfield-Beckley MAP, Air Guard Station, Ohio
Greater Pittsburgh IAP Air Reserve Station, Pennsylvania
Bergstrom Air Reserve Base, Texas
Brooks Air Force Base, Texas
Reese Air Force Base, Texas

Defense Logistics Agency

Defense Distribution Depot Memphis, Tennessee
Defense Distribution Depot Ogden, Utah

Part II: Major Base Realignments

Army

Fort Greely, Alaska
Fort Hunter Liggett, California
Sierra Army Depot, California
Fort Meade, Maryland
Detroit Arsenal, Michigan
Fort Dix, New Jersey
Fort Hamilton, New York
Charles E. Kelly Support Center, Pennsylvania
Letterkenny Army Depot, Pennsylvania
Fort Buchanan, Puerto Rico
Dugway Proving Ground, Utah
Fort Lee, Virginia

Navy

Naval Air Station, Key West, Florida
Naval Activities, Guam
Naval Air Station, Corpus Christi, Texas
Naval Undersea Warfare Center, Keyport, Washington

Air Force

McClellan Air Force Base, California
Tonizuka Air Station, California

Eglin Air Force Base, Florida
Robins Air Force Base, Georgia
Malmstrom Air Force Base, Montana
Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico
Grand Forks Air Force Base, North Dakota
Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma
Kelly Air Force Base, Texas
Hill Air Force Base, Utah

***Part III: Smaller Base or Activity Closures, Realignments,
Disestablishments or Relocations***

Army

Branch U.S. Disciplinary Barracks, California
East Fort Baker, California
Rio Vista Army Reserve Center, California
Stratford Army Engine Plant, Connecticut
Big Coppett Key, Florida
Concepts Analysis Agency, Maryland
Publications Distribution Center Baltimore, Maryland
Hingham Cohasset, Massachusetts
Sudbury Training Annex, Massachusetts
Aviation-Troop Command (ATCOM), Missouri
Fort Missoula, Montana
Camp Kilmer, New Jersey
Caven Point Reserve Center, New Jersey
Camp Pedricktown, New Jersey
Bellmore Logistics Activity, New York
Fort Totten, New York
Recreation Center #2, Fayetteville, North Carolina
Information Systems Software Command (ISSC), Virginia
Camp Bonneville, Washington
Valley Grove Area Maintenance Support Activity (AMSA), West Virginia

Navy

Naval Command, Control and Ocean Surveillance Center, In-Service Engineering West
Coast Division, San Diego, California
Naval Health Research Center, San Diego, California

Naval Personnel Research and Development Center, San Diego, California
Supervisor of Shipbuilding, Conversion and Repair, USN, Long Beach, California
Naval Undersea Warfare Center-Newport Division, New London Detachment, New London,
Connecticut
Naval Research Laboratory, Underwater Sound Reference Detachment, Orlando, Florida
Fleet and Industrial Supply Center, Guam
Naval Biodynamics Laboratory, New Orleans, Louisiana
Naval Medical Research Institute, Bethesda, Maryland
Naval Surface Warfare Center, Carderock Division Detachment, Annapolis, Maryland
Naval Technical Training Center, Meridian, Mississippi
Naval Aviation Engineering Support Unit, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Naval Air Technical Services Facility, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Naval Air Warfare Center, Aircraft Division, Open Water Test Facility, Oreland,
Pennsylvania
Naval Command, Control and Ocean Surveillance Center, RDT&E Division Detachment,
Warminster, Pennsylvania
Fleet and Industrial Supply Center, Charleston, South Carolina
Naval Command, Control and Ocean Surveillance Center, In-Service Engineering East Coast
Detachment, Norfolk, Virginia
Naval Information Systems Management Center, Arlington, Virginia
Naval Management Systems Support Office, Chesapeake, Virginia

Navy/Marine Reserve Activities

Naval Reserve Centers at:

Huntsville, Alabama
Stockton, California
Santa Ana, Irvine, California
Pomona, California
Cadillac, Michigan
Staten Island, New York
Laredo, Texas
Sheboygan, Wisconsin

Naval Air Reserve Center at:

Olathe, Kansas

Naval Reserve Readiness Commands at:

New Orleans, Louisiana (Region 10)
Charleston, South Carolina (Region 7)

Air Force

Moffett Federal Airfield AGS, California
Real-Time Digitally Controlled Analyzer Processor Activity, Buffalo, New York
Air Force Electronic Warfare Evaluation Simulator Activity, Fort Worth, Texas

Defense Logistics Agency

Defense Contract Management District South, Marietta, Georgia
Defense Contract Management Command International, Dayton, Ohio
Defense Distribution Depot Columbus, Ohio
Defense Distribution Depot Letterkenny, Pennsylvania
Defense Industrial Supply Center Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Defense Distribution Depot Red River, Texas

Defense Investigative Service

Investigations Control and Automation Directorate, Fort Holabird, Maryland

Part IV: Changes to Previously Approved BRAC Recommendations

Army

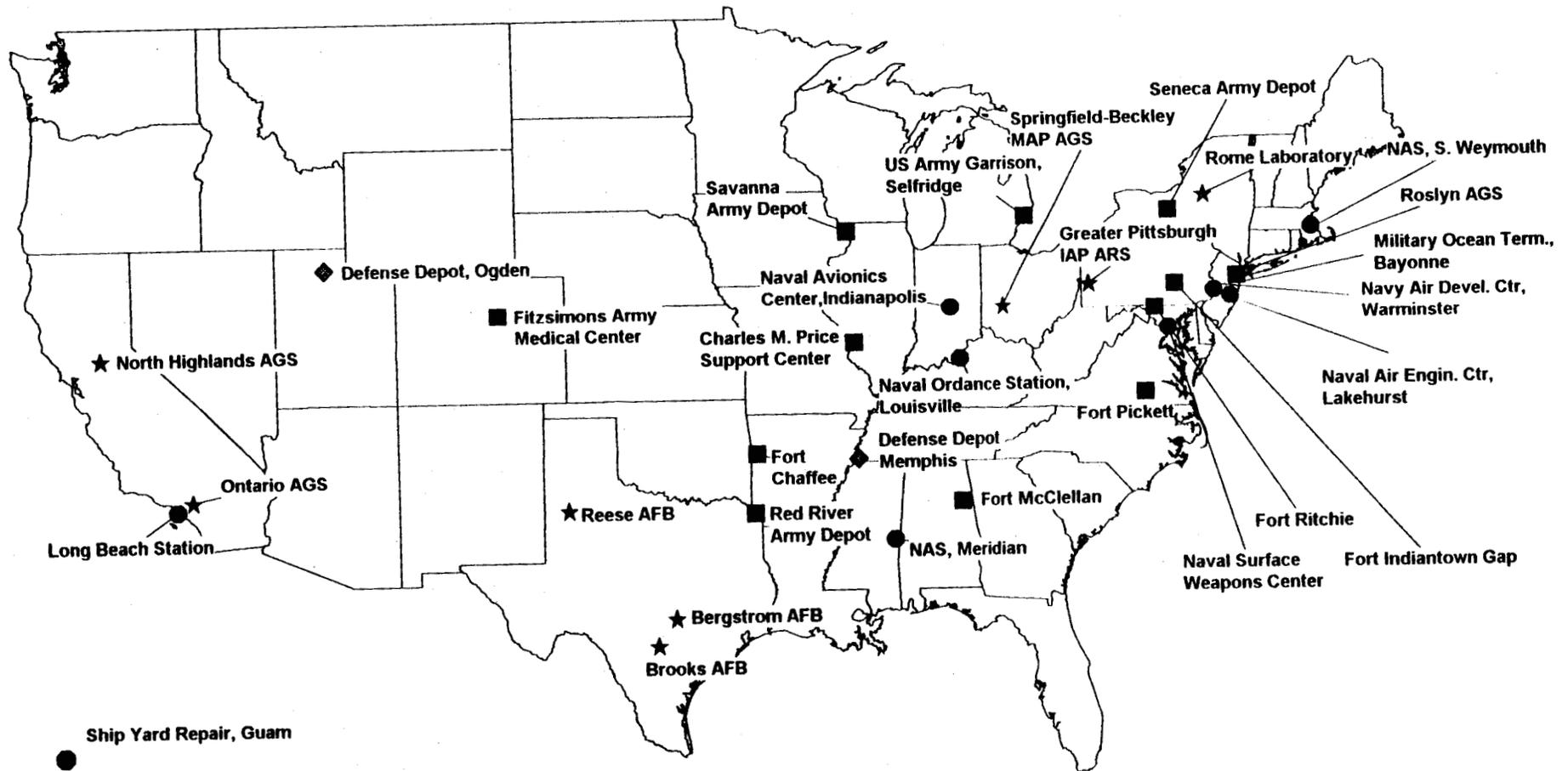
Army Bio-Medical Research Laboratory, Fort Detrick, Maryland

Navy

Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, California
Marine Corps Air Station, Tustin, California
Naval Air Station Alameda, California
Naval Recruiting District, San Diego, California
Naval Training Center, San Diego, California
Naval Air Station, Cecil Field, Florida
Naval Aviation Depot, Pensacola, Florida

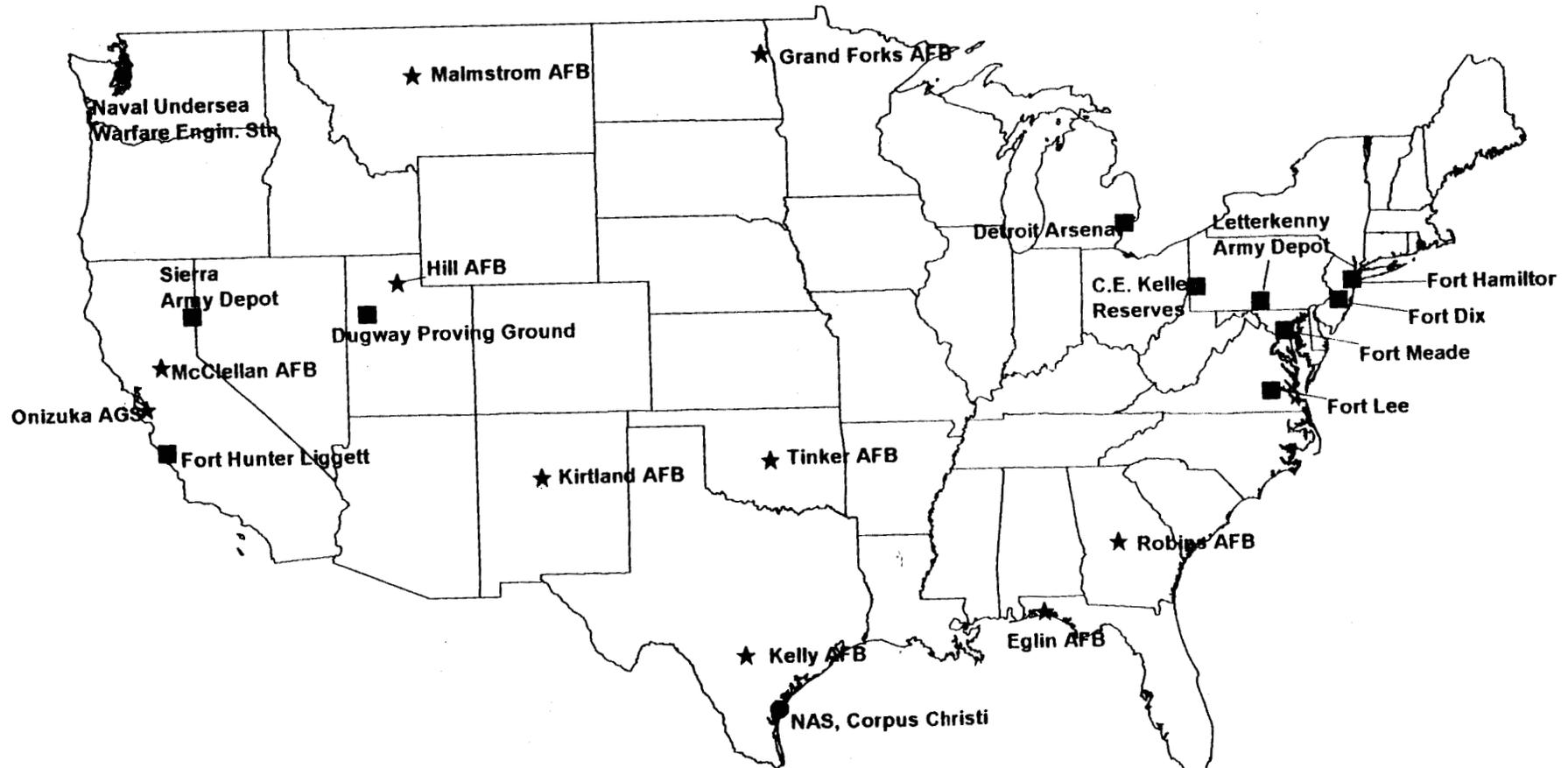
1995 DoD Recommendations Major Base Closures

● NAS, Adak



1995 DoD Recommendations Major Base Realignment

■ Fort Greely



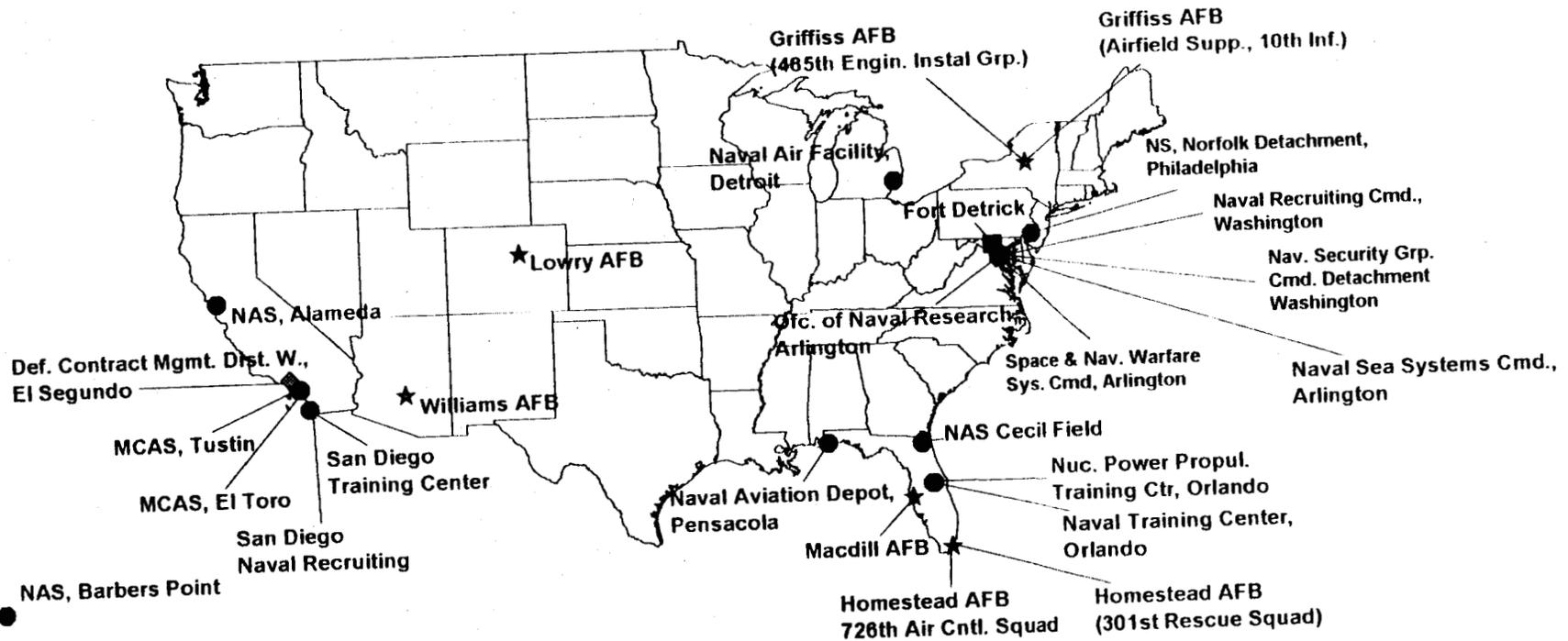
● Naval Activities, Guam

Fort Buchanan,
Puerto Rico

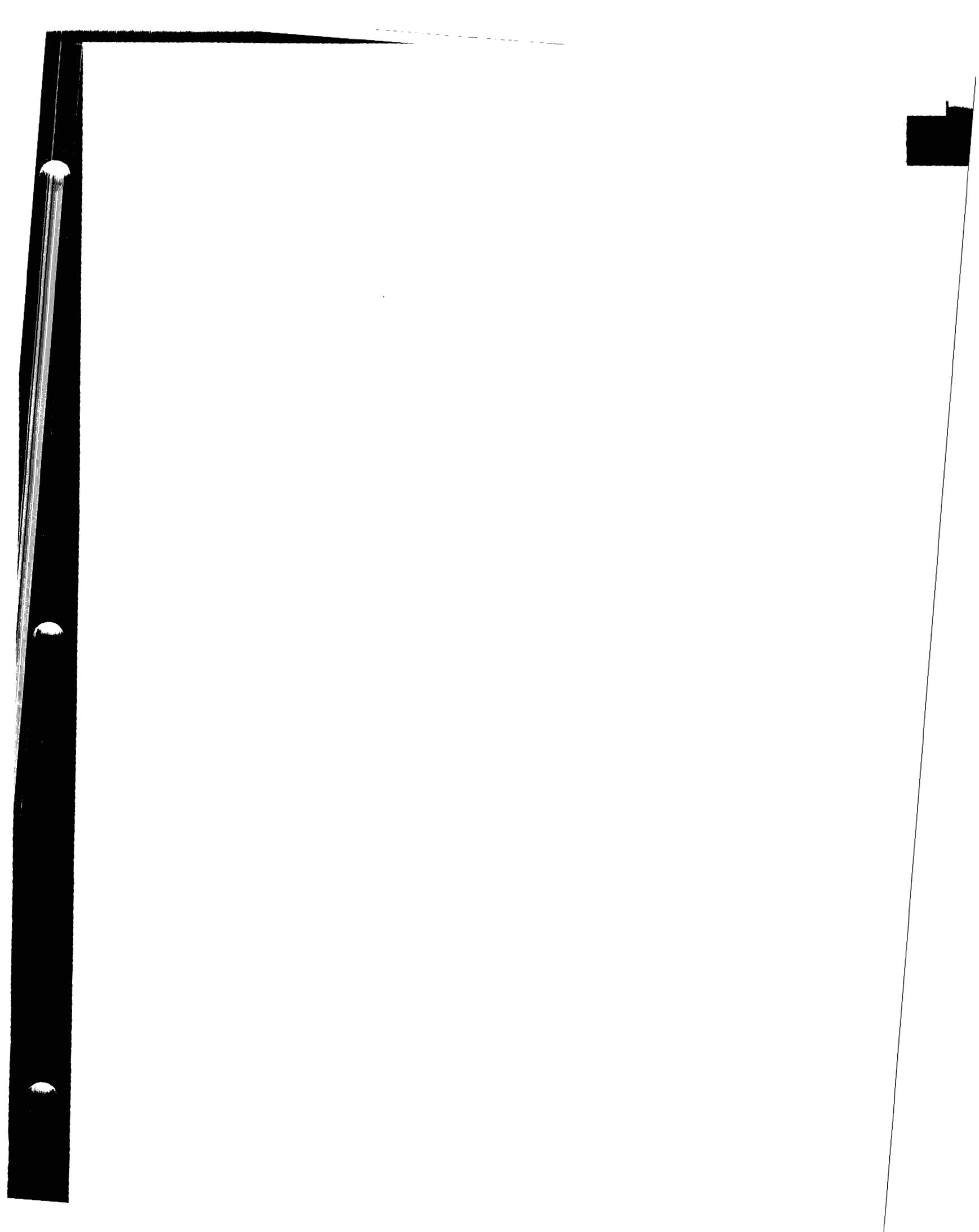
● NS, Key West

Legend	
■	Army (12)
★	Air Force (10)
●	Navy (4)

1995 DoD Recommendations Redirects



Redirects	
● Navy	(18)
★ Air Force	(7)
◆ DoD	(1)
■ Army	(1)





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WENDI LOUISE STEELE

SCHEDULE FOR REGIONAL HEARING

FORT WORTH, TX

June 10, 1995

9:00-9:10 a.m.	Opening remarks	
9:10-11:35 a.m.	Texas	145 minutes
11:35-11:40 a.m.	break	
11:40-12:04 p.m.	Public comment: Texas	
12:04-1:00 p.m.	break	
1:00-3:00 p.m.	Oklahoma	120 minutes
3:00-3:05 p.m.	break	
3:05-3:25 p.m.	Public comment: Oklahoma	

(AS OF 5/15/95)

**COMMISSION REGIONAL HEARING
FORT WORTH, TEXAS
Saturday, June 10, 1995**

COMMISSIONERS ATTENDING:

Alan Dixon
Al Cornella
Rebecca Cox
Lee Kling
Ben Montoya
Joe Robles
Wendi Steele

STAFF ATTENDING:

Merrill Beyer
Jeff Campbell
Bob Cook
Madelyn Creedon
John Earnhardt
Chris Goode
Paul Hegarty
Rob Kress
David Lyles
Wade Nelson
Jim Owsley
James Phillips
Mark Pross
Charlie Smith
Joe Varallo
Chip Walgren

COMMISSIONER ITINERARY

Friday, June 9

4:30PM CT Commissioners depart Atlanta, GA en route Dallas/Ft. Worth:
American flight 2093.
Al Cornella
Lee Kling
Wendi Steele

5:52PM CT Commissioners arrive Dallas/Ft. Worth from Atlanta, GA:
American flight 2093.

Al Cornella
Lee Kling
Wendi Steele

* Will be met by Paul Hegarty and transported to RON.

7:00PM to Reception hosted by the City of Ft. Worth at The Worthington Hotel.

8:30PM CT The Van Clyburn Room, 11th floor, Room 1149.

**FT. WORTH RON: THE WORTHINGTON HOTEL
200 MAIN STREET
817/882-1650
Al Cornella
Lee Kling
Wendi Steele**

Saturday, June 10

6:00AM MT Ben Montoya departs Albuquerque, NM en route Dallas/Ft. Worth:
American flight 1284.

6:25AM CT Rebecca Cox departs DC National en route Dallas/Ft. Worth:
American flight 1215.

7:00AM CT Alan Dixon departs St. Louis, MO en route Dallas/Ft. Worth:
American flight 1591.

7:26AM CT Joe Robles departs San Antonio, TX en route Dallas/Ft. Worth:
American flight 710.

8:34AM CT Joe Robles arrives Dallas/Ft. Worth from San Antonio, TX:
American flight 710.
* Will be met by Joe Varallo and transported to Ft. Worth Regional Hearing.

8:34AM CT Rebecca Cox arrives Dallas/Ft. Worth from DC National:
American flight 1215.
* Will be met by Jeff Campbell and transported to Ft. Worth Regional Hearing.

8:38AM CT Ben Montoya arrives Dallas/Ft. Worth from Albuquerque, NM:
American flight 1284.
* Will be met by Jeff Campbell and transported to Ft. Worth Regional Hearing.

8:48AM CT Alan Dixon arrives Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX from St. Louis, MO:
American flight 1591.
* Will be met by Charlie Smith and transported to Ft. Worth Regional Hearing.

**9:00AM to 3:25PM CT DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT FT. WORTH
REGIONAL HEARING.**

2:40PM CT Alan Dixon departs Dallas/Ft. Worth en route St. Louis, MO:
TWA flight 220.

3:41PM CT Al Cornella departs Dallas/Ft. Worth en route DC National:
American flight 892.

4:23PM CT Alan Dixon arrives St. Louis, MO from Dallas, Ft. Worth.

4:30PM CT Wendi Steele departs Dallas/Ft. Worth en route Houston, TX:
Southwest flight 649.

5:08PM CT Rebecca Cox departs Dallas/Ft. Worth en route DC National:
Delta flight 994.

5:15PM CT Joe Robles departs Dallas/Ft. Worth en route San Antonio, TX;
American flight 1545.

5:15PM CT Wendi Steele arrives Houston, TX from Dallas/Ft. Worth.

5:38PM CT Lee Kling departs Dallas/Ft. Worth en route St. Louis, MO:
TWA flight 282.

6:25PM CT Joe Robles arrives San Antonio, TX from Dallas/Ft. Worth.

7:28PM CT Lee Kling arrives St. Louis, MO from Dallas/Ft. Worth.

7:31PM ET Al Cornella arrives DC National from Dallas/Ft. Worth.

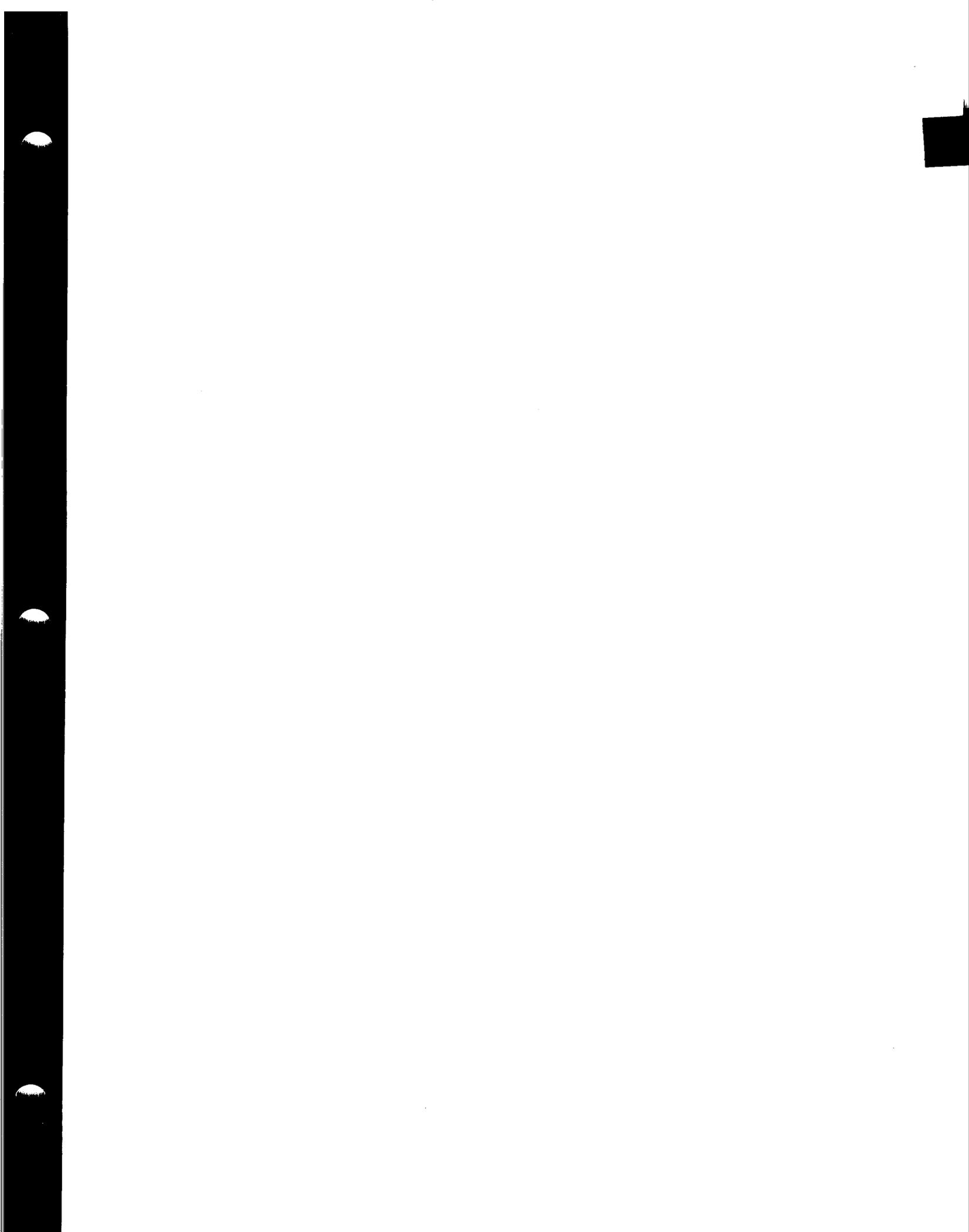
9:00PM ET Rebecca Cox arrives DC National from Dallas/Ft. Worth.

**FT. WORTH RON: THE WORTHINGTON HOTEL
200 MAIN STREET
817/882-1650
Ben Montoya**

Sunday, June 11

11:04AM CT Ben Montoya departs Dallas/Ft. Worth en route Albuquerque, NM:
American flight 1925.

11:51AM MT Ben Montoya arrives Albuquerque, NM from Dallas/Ft. Worth.





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MG JOSUE ROBLES, JR., USA (RET)

WENDI LOUISE STEELE

OPENING STATEMENT

CHAIRMAN ALAN J. DIXON

REGIONAL HEARING

Fort Worth, Texas

June 10, 1995

GOOD MORNING, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, AND WELCOME TO THIS REGIONAL HEARING OF THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION.

MY NAME IS ALAN J. DIXON AND I AM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMISSION CHARGED WITH THE TASK OF EVALUATING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE REGARDING THE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT OF MILITARY INSTALLATIONS IN THE UNITED STATES.

ALSO HERE WITH US TODAY ARE MY COLLEAGUES, COMMISSIONERS WENDI STEELE, AL CORNELLA, JOE ROBLES, REBECCA COX, LEE KLING AND BEN MONTOYA.

THE COMMISSION IS ALSO AUTHORIZED BY LAW TO ADD BASES TO THE SECRETARY'S LIST FOR REVIEW AND POSSIBLE REALIGNMENT OR CLOSURE. ON MAY 10, AS ALL OF YOU KNOW, WE VOTED TO ADD 35 BASES TO THE LIST. TODAY WE WILL HEAR FROM SOME OF THOSE NEWLY-AFFECTED COMMUNITIES.

FIRST LET ME THANK ALL THE MILITARY AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL WHO HAVE ASSISTED US SO CAPABLY DURING OUR VISITS TO THE MANY BASES REPRESENTED AT THIS HEARING.

WE HAVE SPENT SEVERAL DAYS LOOKING AT THE INSTALLATIONS THAT WE ADDED TO THE LIST ON MAY 10 FOR REVIEW AND ASKING QUESTIONS THAT WILL HELP US MAKE OUR DECISIONS. THE COOPERATION WE'VE RECEIVED HAS BEEN EXEMPLARY. THANKS VERY MUCH.

THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THE BASE VISITS WE HAVE CONDUCTED IS TO ALLOW US TO SEE THE INSTALLATION FIRST-HAND AND TO ADDRESS WITH MILITARY PERSONNEL THE ALL-IMPORTANT QUESTION OF THE MILITARY VALUE OF THE BASE.

IN ADDITION TO THE BASE VISITS, THE COMMISSION IS CONDUCTING A TOTAL OF FIVE REGIONAL HEARINGS REGARDING ADDED INSTALLATIONS, OF WHICH TODAY'S IS THE FIFTH. THE MAIN PURPOSE OF THE REGIONAL HEARINGS IS TO GIVE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY THESE CLOSURE RECOMMENDATIONS A CHANCE TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS.

WE CONSIDER THIS INTERACTION WITH THE COMMUNITY TO BE ONE OF THE MOST IMPORTANT AND VALUABLE PARTS OF OUR REVIEW OF THE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT LIST.

LET ME ASSURE YOU THAT ALL OF OUR COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF ARE WELL AWARE OF THE HUGE IMPLICATIONS OF BASE CLOSURE ON LOCAL COMMUNITIES. WE ARE COMMITTED TO OPENNESS IN THIS PROCESS, AND WE ARE COMMITTED TO FAIRNESS. ALL THE MATERIAL WE GATHER, ALL THE INFORMATION WE GET FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, ALL OF OUR CORRESPONDENCE IS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

WE ARE FACED WITH AN UNPLEASANT AND PAINFUL TASK, WHICH WE INTEND TO CARRY OUT AS SENSITIVELY AS WE CAN. AGAIN, THE KIND OF ASSISTANCE WE'VE RECEIVED HERE IS GREATLY APPRECIATED.

NOW LET ME TELL YOU HOW WE WILL PROCEED HERE TODAY. IT IS THE SAME FORMAT AS AT OUR FIFTEEN PREVIOUS REGIONAL HEARINGS.

THE COMMISSION HAS ASSIGNED A BLOCK OF TIME TO EACH STATE AFFECTED BY THE BASE CLOSURE LIST. THE OVERALL AMOUNT OF TIME WAS DETERMINED BY THE NUMBER OF INSTALLATIONS ON THE LIST AND THE AMOUNT OF JOB LOSS. THE TIME LIMITS WILL BE ENFORCED STRICTLY.

WE NOTIFIED THE APPROPRIATE ELECTED OFFICIALS OF THIS PROCEDURE AND LEFT IT UP TO THEM, WORKING WITH THE LOCAL COMMUNITIES, TO DETERMINE HOW TO FILL THE BLOCK OF TIME.

TODAY, WE WILL BEGIN WITH TESTIMONY FROM THE STATE OF TEXAS FOR 145 MINUTES, FOLLOWED BY A 24-MINUTE PERIOD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING THE TEXAS INSTALLATIONS ON OUR LIST.

WE WILL BREAK FOR LUNCH FOR ONE HOUR AT ABOUT NOON, AND AT 1 P.M. WE WILL HEAR FROM OKLAHOMA FOR 120 MINUTES, FOLLOWED BY PUBLIC COMMENT OF 20 MINUTES FOR OKLAHOMA. THE RULES FOR THE PUBLIC COMMENT PART OF THE HEARING HAVE BEEN CLEARLY OUTLINED AND ALL PERSONS WISHING TO SPEAK REGARDING TEXAS SHOULD HAVE SIGNED UP BY NOW. SIGN-UP FOR OKLAHOMA PUBLIC COMMENT WILL BEGIN AT NOON.

THE HEARING SHOULD CONCLUDE AT ABOUT 3:25 P.M.

LET ME ALSO SAY THAT THE BASE CLOSURE LAW HAS BEEN AMENDED SINCE 1993 TO REQUIRE THAT ANYONE GIVING TESTIMONY BEFORE THE COMMISSION DO SO UNDER OATH, AND SO I WILL BE SWEARING IN WITNESSES, AND THAT WILL INCLUDE INDIVIDUALS WHO SPEAK IN THE PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION OF THE HEARING.

WITH THAT, I BELIEVE WE ARE READY TO BEGIN.

(FIRST WITNESS...ADMINISTER OATH)



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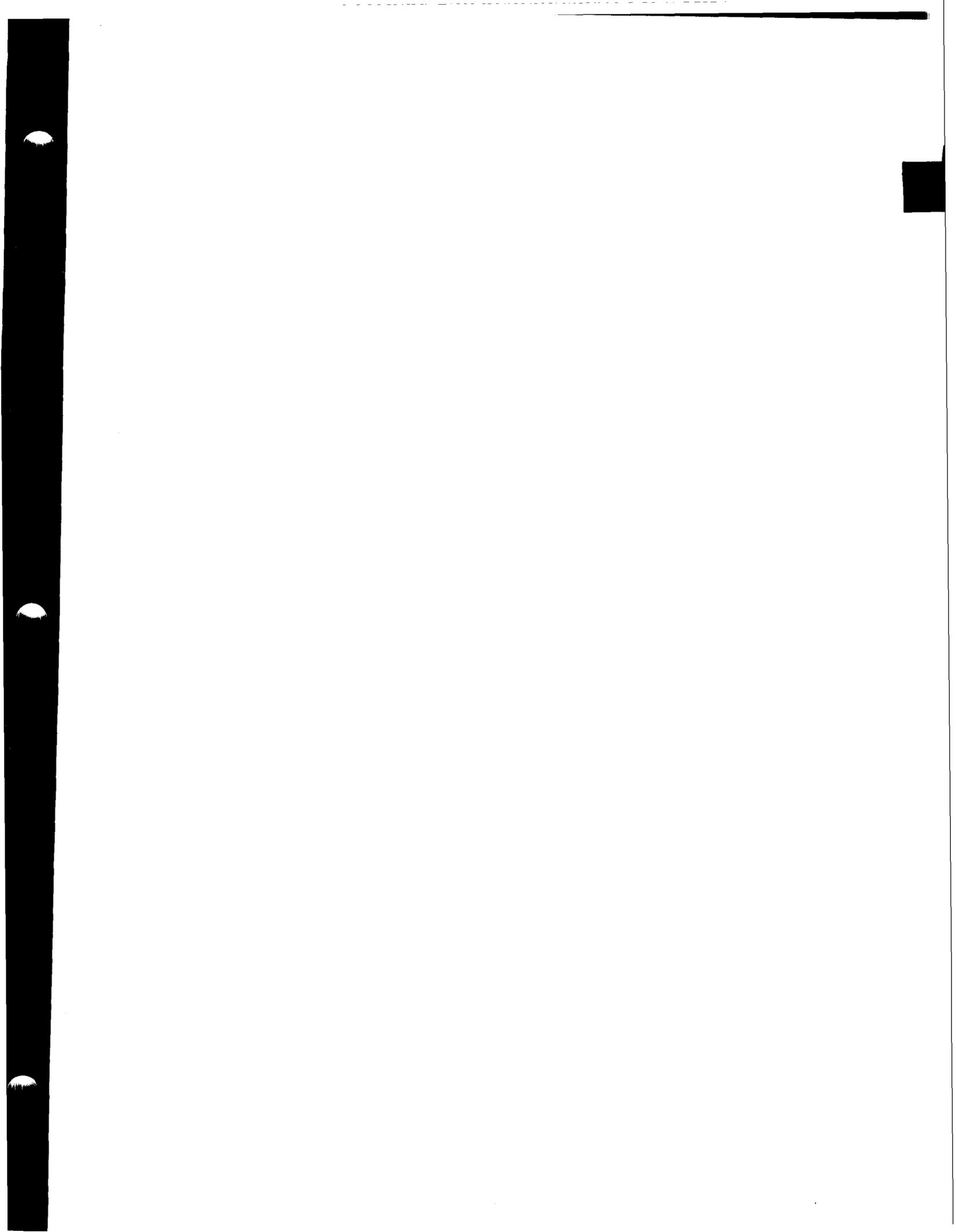
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WITNESSES' OATH

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TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH?**



TEXAS

145 minutes

FORT WORTH, TEXAS REGIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE OF WITNESSES

9:10AM - 9:15AM	5 minutes	Governor George W. Bush
9:15AM - 9:20AM	5 minutes	Senator Phil Gramm
9:20AM - 9:25AM	5 minutes	Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison
9:25AM - 10:00AM	35 minutes	<u>Carswell Air Force Base</u> Congressman Pete Geren, 12th District Congressman Martin Frost, 24th District Maj Gen Sherrard Vice Commander, Air Force Reserve RADM Olson Commander, Naval Air Reserve Force Lt Gen Minter Alexander (Ret) Former DASD for Military Personnel & Cmdr, 19th Air Division , Carswell AFB Mayor Kay Granger, City of Ft. Worth Congressman Pete Geren, 12th District Gen J.T. Chain, Jr. Former CINC, Strategic Air Command

10:00AM - 10:38AM 38 minutes

Laughlin Air Force Base

Mayor Alfredo Gutierrez, City of Del Rio

Judge Ray Kirkpatrick

Congressman Henry Bonilla, 23rd District

Brig Gen Al Gagliardi, (Ret.)

**Mr. Jerry Horne
President, Military Affairs
Del Rio Chamber of Commerce**

10:38AM - 11:35AM 57 minutes

Kelly Air Force Base

Mayor William E. Thornton, City of San Antonio

**Dr. William Cunningham
Chancellor, University of Texas System**

**Mr. Jose Villarreal
Mayor's 1995 BRAC Task Force**

Judge Cyndi Taylor Krier

**Mr. Tullos Wells
Chairman, Greater San Antonio
Chamber of Commerce**

alternate/additional witnesses:

Congressman Frank Tejeda, 28th District

Mr. Paul Roberson

Mr. Charlie Cheever

Mr. Juan Solis

Mr. Richard Smith

Ms. Mary Kelly

**Mr. Joe Aceves
Mayor's 1995 BRAC Task Force**

TEXAS

Carswell Air Reserve Station Fort Worth, TX

1. If the 301st Fighter Wing (AFRES) is deactivated, what would the impact be on Naval Air Station Fort Worth Joint Reserve Base in terms of joint service training, readiness, and the already demonstrated cost savings of this arrangement?
2. What effect would realignment or closure of the 301st Fighter Wing (AFRES) have on other units stationed at Naval Air Station Fort Worth Joint Reserve Base, such as the Naval Reserve, Marine Reserve Air Group 41, and elements of the Texas Air National Guard and Texas Army National Guard?
3. DoD recommended to the Commission that Headquarters, 10th Air Force, relocate from Bergstrom AFB, Texas, to Naval Air Station Fort Worth Joint Reserve Base. What effect, if any, would deactivation of the 301st Fighter Wing (AFRES) have on that recommendation?

Kelly Air Force Base San Antonio, TX

1. What is your opinion of the Air Force tiering system that assigned Kelly Air Force Base to the lowest installation tier and lowest depot tier?
2. The Air Force has proposed the downsizing of all its depots rather than closing one to reduce excess capacity. What are your recommendations to reduce overhead and excess capacity -- downsize or close facilities?
3. Do you believe the depot assets at Kelly Air Force Base are being utilized to the extent appropriate?

**San Antonio Defense Distribution Depot
San Antonio, TX**

1. What percentage of the San Antonio Distribution Depot's mission supports the collocated Air Force's maintenance mission as opposed to off base, or regional, or worldwide support?
2. What is the utilization, in percentage terms, of the facilities you currently have? Has the San Antonio Air Logistics Center offered any additional space which would allow for additional storage capacity?

**Laughlin Air Force Base
Del Rio, TX**

1. Since all undergraduate flying training bases are ranked so closely, what characteristics distinguish Laughlin Air Force Base from the other bases?
2. If Laughlin Air Force Base is closed, the potential employment loss in the Val Verde County, Texas, region could total over 3,000 jobs between 1996 and 2001. This represents a 19 percent decrease in the employment base. What impact would closure of Laughlin Air Force Base have on the community of Del Rio, Texas?

TEXAS

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FORT WORTH, TEXAS REGIONAL HEARING SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1995

TEXAS STATE MAP

CARSWELL AIR RESERVE STATION

-Facility Summary Sheet

LAUGHLIN AIR FORCE BASE

-Facility Summary Sheet

KELLY AIR FORCE BASE, SAN ANTONIO

-Facility Summary Sheet

-DoD Recommendation

-Staff Base Visit Report

-Press Articles

DEFENSE DISTRIBUTION DEPOT SAN ANTONIO (DDST)

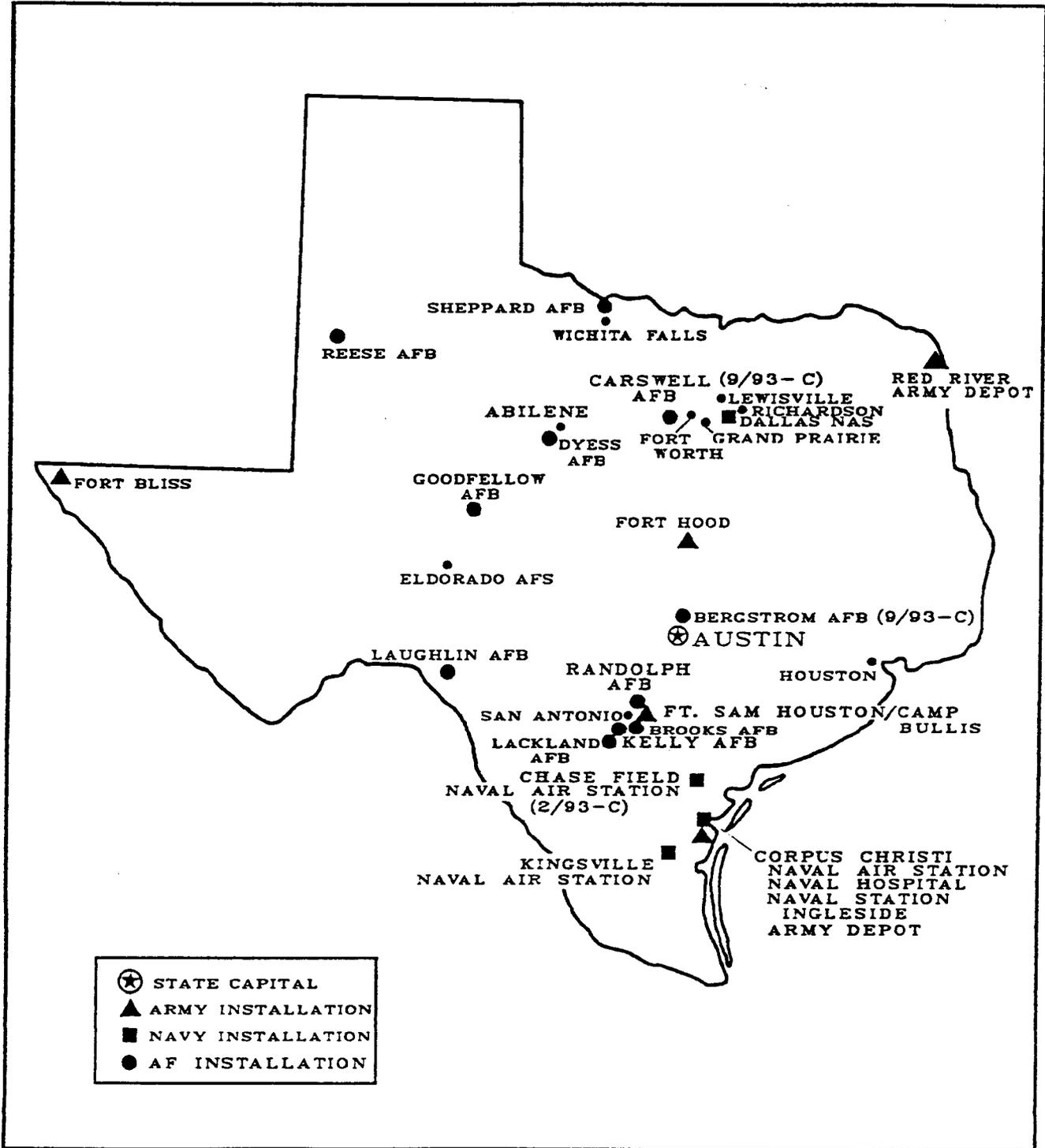
-Facility Summary Sheet

-Staff Base Visit Report

STATE CLOSURE HISTORY

MAP NO. 44

TEXAS



Prepared By: Washington Headquarters Services
Directorate for Information
Operations and Reports

DRAFT

DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

SUMMARY SHEET

CARSWELL AIR RESERVE BASE, TEXAS

301st Fighter Wing (AFRES)

INSTALLATION MISSION

An Air Force Reserve (AFRES) base. The major unit is the 301st Fighter Wing (AFRES), which consists of F-16C/D aircraft. The base was activated in August 1942 and was named in 1948 for Major Horace S. Carswell, Jr., a World War II B-24 pilot and posthumous Congressional Medal of Honor recipient. AFRES unit facilities are located in a cantonment area. Carswell ARB has no base exchange or commissary.

The 1991 Commission recommended closing Carswell Air Force Base (AFB), transferring B-52 bomber and KC-135 tanker aircraft, and retaining Air Force Reserve units in a cantonment area. The 1993 Commission recommended redirecting the fabrication function of the 436th Training Squadron from Dyess AFB, Texas, to Luke AFB, Arizona, and the maintenance training function from Dyess AFB to Hill AFB, Utah. Remaining functions would still relocate to Dyess AFB. It also directed the closure of Naval Air Station (NAS) Dallas and relocation to Carswell AFB of its associated aircraft, personnel, equipment, and support. Carswell AFB converted to a U.S. Naval Reserve Base on September 30, 1993, with movement of Navy Reserve units from NAS Dallas, Detroit, Memphis, and Cecil Field, Florida. In November 1994, it became NAS Fort Worth Joint Reserve Base (JRB).

DoD recommended to the 1995 Commission that Headquarters, 10th Air Force, relocate from Bergstrom ARB, Texas, to NAS Fort Worth, JRB, Texas.

DOD RECOMMENDATION

None.

COMMISSION ALTERNATIVE

- Consider Carswell Air Reserve Base (ARB) for closure in addition to or as a substitute for Bergstrom ARB, Texas.
- Deactivate the 301st Fighter Wing (AFRES).

JUSTIFICATION

- Commission analysis revealed that the Air Force used misleading base operating cost data in its "level playing field" COBRA model in evaluating Bergstrom ARB. This data included

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excess costs to operate facilities outside the cantonment area. These excess costs may have lead to false conclusions in selecting Bergstrom ARB for closure.

STAFF COMMENTS

- The Air Force used operating cost data as a primary factor in determining the Air Force Reserve closure recommendation.
- The Air Force Reserve has more F-16 operating locations than necessary to support the Reserve F-16 aircraft in the DoD Force Structure Plan.
- Relocation cost to move Headquarters, 10th Air Force (AFRES), from Bergstrom ARB to Carswell ARB at NAS Fort Worth, JRB, Texas, with approximately \$2.7 million in associated military construction, is avoided.

COST CONSIDERATIONS

- One-Time Costs: \$ 7.9 million
- Net Costs (Savings) During Implementation: \$ 52.7 million savings
- Annual Recurring Savings: \$ 13.2 million
- Return on Investment Year: (In Years) 1998 (1 year)
- Net Present Value Over 20 Years: \$177.9 million

MANPOWER IMPLICATIONS OF THIS RECOMMENDATION (EXCLUDES CONTRACTORS)

	<u>Military</u>	<u>Civilian</u>	<u>Students</u>
Baseline	0	219	0
Reductions	0	219	0
Realignments	0	0	0
Total:	0	219	0

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

<u>Recommendation</u>	<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>
Close Carswell ARB	0	451	0	0	0	(451)

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Carswell ARB completed the design of cleanup actions at several sites and investigation is on-going at remaining sites.
- Environmental impact from this action is minimal.
- Carswell ARB is a non-attainment area for ozone (moderate).

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REPRESENTATION

Governor: George W. Bush, Jr.
Senators: Phil Gramm
Kay Bailey Hutchison
Representative: Peter Geren (12)

ECONOMIC IMPACT

- Potential Employment Loss (1996-2001): 735 jobs (451 direct/284 indirect)
- Fort Worth-Arlington, TX, PMSA Job Base: 769,553 jobs
- Percentage: 0.1 percent decrease
- Cumulative Economic Impact (1994-2001): 0.1 percent decrease

MILITARY ISSUES

- Review of demographic data projects no negative impact on recruiting.
- The 301st Fighter Wing has a direct impact on NAS Fort Worth JRB in terms of joint service training, readiness, and the demonstrated cost savings of this arrangement. Other units that would be affected by a realignment or closure of the 301st Fighter Wing include the Naval Reserve, Marine Reserve Air Group 41, and elements of the Texas Air National Guard and Texas Army National Guard.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS/ISSUES

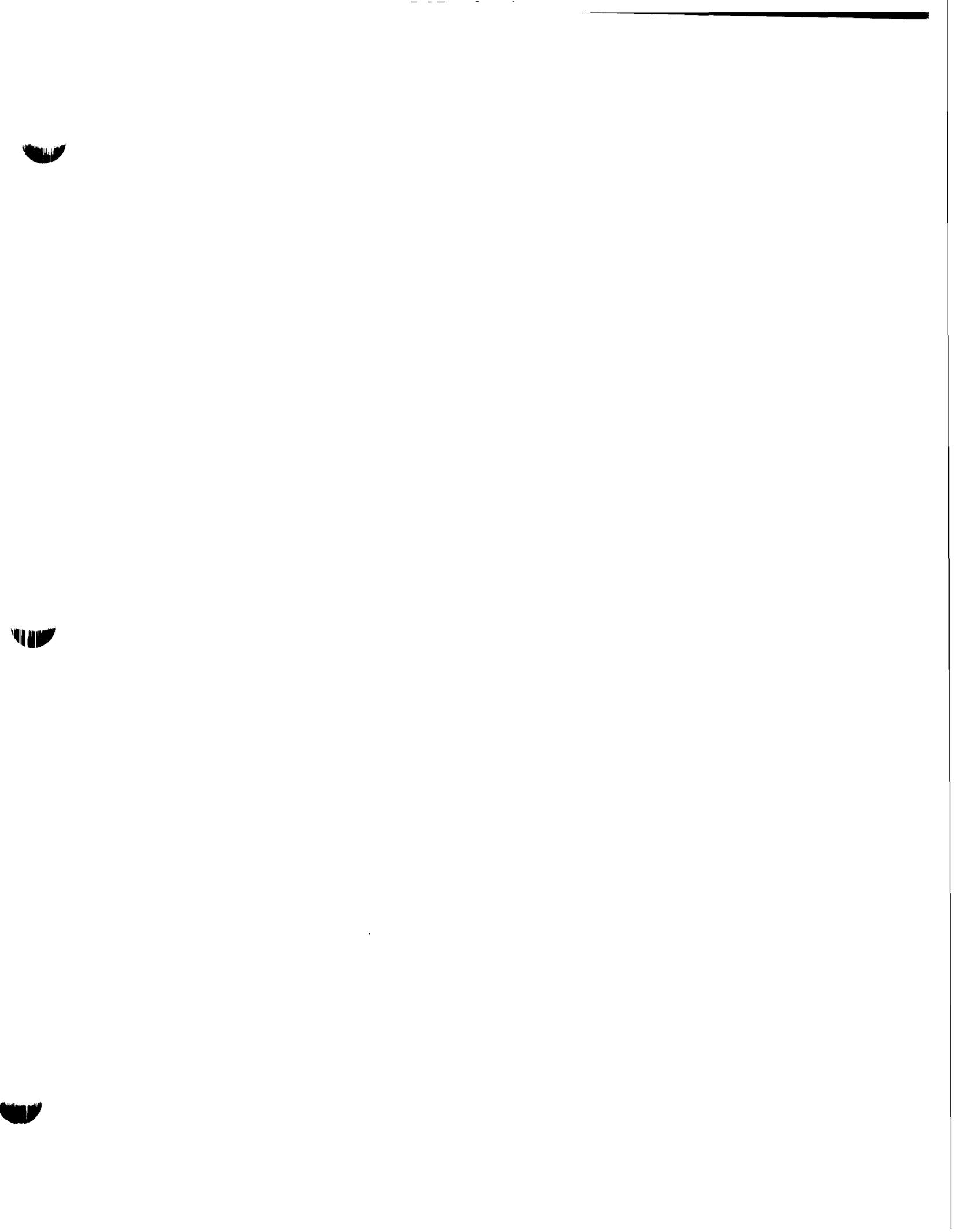
- The Texas congressional delegation believes the decision of the 1993 Commission regarding Carswell AFB was sound and need not be reviewed by the 1995 Commission.
- The delegation believes the adds motion is limited to reviewing the possible move of the Air Force Reserve F-16 unit and that the Commission will not review other units at NAS Fort Worth JRB.
- The delegation does not want clarification of the limits of the adds motion to prevent the Commission from deciding to move additional reserve units to NAS Fort Worth JRB. They argue it is a premier Master Reserve Base located in one of the best recruiting regions in the United States and is a superb candidate to accommodate additional missions.
- The community agrees with Deborah R. Lee, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, that one of the more successful products of BRAC 91 and BRAC 93 is JRB Fort Worth and it is imperative that the Air Force Reserve's 301st Fighter Wing, a major tenant and leader in the experiment, remain assigned to NAS Fort Worth JRB.

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ITEMS OF SPECIAL EMPHASIS

- NAS Fort Worth JRB is the first joint reserve base. It conforms to the requirements of Title 10 USC 18231(2) that facilities for Reserve components be shared by two or more components while providing a true experiment in jointness and the economies and efficiencies associated with it.

Mark A. Pross/Air Force Team/June 1, 1995



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DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

SUMMARY SHEET

LAUGHLIN AIR FORCE BASE, TEXAS

INSTALLATION MISSION

An Air Education and Training Command (AETC) base. The base is included in the Undergraduate Flying Training category. The major unit is the 47th Flying Training Wing, which provides specialized undergraduate pilot training (UPT) in 21 T-1A, 48 T-37B, and 51 T-38A aircraft. The base was activated in October 1942 and named for 1st Lieutenant Jack T. Laughlin, a B-17 pilot killed over Java in 1942.

DOD RECOMMENDATION

None.

COMMISSION ALTERNATIVE

The Commission added Laughlin AFB for consideration for closure or realignment.

STAFF COMMENTS

- The Air Force has one more Undergraduate Flying Training (UFT)--Pilot and Navigator--base than necessary to support Air Force pilot training requirements consistent with the DoD Force Structure Plan.
- Laughlin AFB ranked number one overall when compared with other UFT bases (Reese AFB, Columbus AFB, Randolph AFB, and Vance AFB) when evaluated on various measures of merit using staff-revised weighting.
 - Laughlin AFB ranked highest in such factors as weather (crosswinds and density altitude), airspace availability (volume and distance to training areas), and encroachment. It ranked low in airfields. It ranked last in such factors as maintenance facilities and ground training facilities.
- Laughlin AFB also ranked number one when compared with other UFT bases (Reese AFB, Columbus AFB, Randolph AFB, and Vance AFB) when evaluated on various measures of merit using corrected Air Force data.
 - Laughlin AFB ranked highest in such factors as weather (crosswinds and density altitude), airspace availability (volume and distance to training areas), and encroachment. It ranked low in airfields. It ranked last in such factors as maintenance facilities and ground training facilities.
- Laughlin AFB is characterized as the best UPT base for primary training.
 - It has the best flying weather.
 - It has unencroached airfields.

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- It has unlimited airspace potential.
- It has mission flexibility as a former Strategic Air Command base.

COST CONSIDERATIONS (Level)

- One-Time Costs: \$ 25.9 million
- Net Costs (Savings) During Implementation: \$ 59.9 million savings
- Annual Recurring Savings: \$ 21.7 million
- Return on Investment Year: 1999 (2 Years)
- Net Present Value Over 20 Years: \$266.5 million

MANPOWER IMPLICATIONS OF THIS RECOMMENDATION (EXCLUDES CONTRACTORS)

	<u>Military</u>	<u>Civilian</u>	<u>Students</u>
Baseline	869	745	162
Reductions	282	101	0
Realignments	587	644	162
Total:	869	745	162

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

<u>Recommendation</u>	<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>
Close Laughlin AFB	(1,031)	(1,218)	0	0	(1,031)	(1,218)

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Investigation of environmental contamination is under way.

REPRESENTATION

Governor: George W. Bush, Jr.
Senators: Phil Gramm
Kay Bailey Hutchison
Representative: Henry Bonilla (23)

ECONOMIC IMPACT

- Potential Employment Loss (1996-2001): 3,046 jobs (2,249 direct/797 indirect)
- Val Verde County, TX, MSA Job Base: 16,109 jobs
- Percentage: 18.9 percent decrease
- Cumulative Economic Impact (1994-2001): 18.9 percent decrease

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MILITARY ISSUES

- \$1.4 million in Military Construction Cost Avoidance at Laughlin AFB listed in COBRA.
- Air Force Air Education and Training Command Capacity Analysis assumes four UPT bases only:
 - Excludes Randolph AFB: performs no UPT, only Undergraduate Navigator Training (UNT) and Pilot Instructor Training (PIT).
 - Excludes Sheppard AFB: performs some UPT, mainly Euro-NATO Jet Pilot Training (ENJJPT).
 - Excludes Hondo Municipal Airport and USAF Academy Airfields: perform Flight Screening only.
 - Assumes Specialized UPT at each base, i.e., all three training aircraft types present (T-1, T-37/JPATS, and T-38) to train pilots for Primary, Bomber/Fighter, and Airlift/Tanker.
- Air Force UPT Capacity Analysis:
 - Based analysis on meeting Air Force Pilot Training Requirements (PTR) only.
 - Assumes 5-day work week to allow recovery capacity for unforeseen impacts.
 - Capacity expressed in "UPT graduate equivalents."

CAPACITY	
COLUMBUS	408
LAUGHLIN	424
REESE	392
VANCE	396
SUBTOTAL	1,620
CLOSE LOWEST	- 392
TOTAL	1,228

REQUIREMENT	
BOMBER/FIGHTER	394
AIRLIFT/TANKER	592
FIXED-WING UPGRADE	4
FMS	31
SUBTOTAL	1,021
INTRO, FTR FUND	57
TOTAL	1,078

CAPACITY	1,228	
PTR	<u>-1,078</u>	
	150	(12 percent EXCESS)

- Need for Excess
 - JPATS Transition 100
 - Instructor Crossflow (T-37 to T-38): 39
 - Operations beyond 95 percent capacity will be compromised

COMMUNITY CONCERNS/ISSUES

- The community stresses that the military value of a pilot training base is driven predominantly by two factors: good weather and unencumbered airspace.
 - Laughlin AFB loses fewer sorties to weather than any other Air Force pilot training base.

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- This factor accounts for improved student training, fewer review flights, and higher pilot training productivity at reduced cost to the taxpayer.
- The airspace around Laughlin AFB is devoid of airways and airlines.
 - No current or foreseeable encroachment exists within the airspace structure.
 - Laughlin AFB provides a safe flying environment for students and does not conflict with commercial or general aviation.
- Laughlin AFB has the capacity to absorb additional military or civilian missions, such as drug interdiction.
- The community is concerned about the economic impact on Del Rio, Texas, a small border community, if Laughlin AFB is closed.
- The community raised some specific questions about the Joint Cross-Service Group on UPT analysis regarding hangar space, airspace, quality of life and family housing units, weather attrition, the number of military training routes available, encroachment, and flight safety.

ITEMS OF SPECIAL EMPHASIS

- Since the Air Force configures each of its UPT bases nearly the same, the Joint Cross-Service Group on UPT analysis could be suspect, since it showed the functional value of Reese AFB substantially inferior to the other bases.

Mark A. Pross/Air Force Team/June 1, 1995



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DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

SUMMARY SHEET

KELLY AIR FORCE BASE, SAN ANTONIO, TX

INSTALLATION MISSION

The San Antonio Air Logistics Center is the primary employer on Kelly Air Force Base. The center manages aircraft, engines, stock items, weapons (nuclear ordnance), and depot maintenance programs. The center's depot activity also repairs a variety of aircraft, aircraft engines and weapon system components. Supported aircraft include the F-5, F-16, C-5 and C-17. Previously the San Antonio center supported the B-52, however the workload has been transferred to the Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center. Kelly Air Force Base is also home to the 433rd Airlift Wing (AF Reserve) which flies C-5 aircraft, the 149th Fighter Group and a DLA Distribution Depot.

DOD RECOMMENDATION:

- Downsize San Antonio Air Logistics Center. The 1 March BRAC recommendation to the Commission would have resulted in the consolidation of the following workload to San Antonio: (1) foundry operations, (2) industrial plant equipment software, and (3) plating. Correspondence from the Air Force Headquarters, in response to Commission questions, indicates that San Antonio will be transferring part of its work to other centers for the following: (1) automatic test equipment software, (2) sheet metal repair and manufacturing, (3) Composites and plastics, (4) tubing, (5) machine manufacturing, (6) and hydraulics/pneumatics.
- Relocate the following activities to Kelly Air Force Base: (1) the Air Force Inspection Agency and Air Force Safety Office from Kirtland Air Force Base, (2) the Defense Nuclear Agency (field Command) from Kirtland Air Force Base, and the 68th Intelligence Squadron from Brooks Air Force Base.

DOD JUSTIFICATION

Reductions in force structure have resulted in excess depot capacity across Air Force depots. The recommended Air Logistic Center realignments will consolidate production lines and move workload to a minimum number of locations, allowing the reduction of personnel, infrastructure and other costs. The net effect of the realignments is to transfer approximately 3.5 million direct labor hours and to eliminate 37 production lines across the five depots. These actions will allow the Air Force to demolish or mothball facilities, or make them available for use by other agencies. These consolidations will reduce excess capacity, enhance efficiencies, and produce

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cost savings without the one-time costs associated with closing a depot. Air Force action is intended to reduce depot capacity by 1.5- 2 depot equivalents. However, no infrastructure will be eliminated; the Air Force action eliminates capacity by laying away workstations and mothballing space.

Kirtland and Brooks Air Force Bases rated low relative to other bases in the Laboratory Product Center category.

COST CONSIDERATIONS DEVELOPED BY DOD

Cost Savings for ALC

The downsize in place strategy requires every ALC to be realigned. requires that the entire strategy be executed to achieve Air Force-wide savings.

Air Force-wide ALC savings for the downsize in place strategy are:

- One-Time Cost: \$ 183.0 million
- Net (Costs) and Savings During Implementation: \$ 138.7 million
- Annual Recurring Savings: \$ 89.0 million
- Break-Even Year: 2000 (2 years)
- Net Present Value Over 20 Years: \$ 991.2 million

The Air Force has provided two revisions to its BRAC recommendations since the 1 March submission. the following displays the original and most current version of the BRAC recommendations:

Kelly portion of the ALC cost savings (1 March version) are:

- One-Time Cost: \$ 29.7 million
- Net Savings During Implementation: \$ 52.4 million
- Annual Recurring Savings: \$ 22.3 million
- Break-Even Year: 1999 (1 year)
- 1. Net Present Value Over 20 Years \$ 265.2 million

Kelly portion of the ALC cost savings (11 April version) are:

- One-Time Cost: \$ 31.1 million
- Net Savings During Implementation: \$ 42.0 million
- Annual Recurring Savings: \$ 20.9 million
- Break-Even Year: 2000 (2 years)
- Net Present Value Over 20 Years \$ 242.5 million

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MANPOWER IMPLICATIONS

The Air Force has provided two revisions to its BRAC recommendations since the 1 March submission. The following displays the personnel impacts of the original and most current version of the BRAC recommendations:

	<u>Military</u>	<u>Civilian</u>
Baseline (AFB)	4,220	12,678
1 March recommendation		
Reductions(ALC)	10	458
Realignments	0	0
11 April update		
Reductions(ALC)	9	437
Realignments	0	0
<u>Gains</u>		
from Kirtland and Brooks	408	368

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

San Antonio is the only Air Logistics Center Installation that is not on National Priorities List. Kelly was ranked low by the Air Force in the environmental area because of asbestos and water availability problems. The water problem is likely to be resolved. A letter of intent signed by the Chief of the Environmental Law Division of the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate (signed 20 April 1995) indicates that there will be "a ready supply of surface water that can be supplied against future missions.... and (there will be) no impact on the endangered species which rely on (this water supply).

REPRESENTATION

Senators: Phil Gramm
Kay Bailey Hutchinson
Representative: Henry B. Gonzalez
Governor: George W. Bush

ECONOMIC IMPACT

- Potential Employment Loss: 1,194 jobs (446 direct and 748 indirect)
- San Antonio, Texas MSA Job Base: 730,857 jobs
- Percentage: 0.2 percent decrease
- Cumulative Economic Impact (year-year): 1.0 percent decrease

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MILITARY ISSUES

- None at this time

COMMUNITY CONCERNS/ISSUES

- None at this time

ITEMS OF SPECIAL EMPHASIS

The cost benefit of the Air Force recommendation to downsize in place all five air logistics centers versus the joint cross service group proposal to close 2 air logistics centers. The joint cross service group proposed an alternative which suggested that the San Antonio center was one of the recommended closures.

Reese/Cross Service Team/06/01/95 1:42 PM

1995 DoD Recommendations and Justifications

Air Logistics Centers

Recommendation: Realign the Air Logistics Centers (ALC) at Hill AFB, Utah; Kelly AFB, Texas; McClellan AFB, California; Robins AFB, Georgia; and Tinker AFB, Oklahoma. Consolidate the followings workloads at the designated receiver locations:

<u>Commodity/Workload</u>	<u>Receiving Locations</u>
Composites and plastics	SM-ALC, McClellan AFB
Hydraulics	SM-ALC, McClellan AFB
Tubing manufacturing	WR-ALC, Robins AFB
Airborne electronic automatic equipment software	WR-ALC, Robins AFB, OC-ALC, Tinker AFB, OO-ALC, Hill AFB
Sheet metal repair and manufacturing	OO-ALC, Hill AFB, WR-ALC, Robins AFB
Machining manufacturing	OC-ALC, Tinker AFB, WR-ALC, Robins AFB
Foundry operations	SA-ALC, Kelly AFB, OO-ALC, Hill AFB
Instruments/displays	SM-ALC, McClellan AFB (some unique work remains at OO-ALC, Hill AFB and WR-ALC, Robins AFB)
Airborne electronics	WR-ALC, Robins AFB, OC-ALC, Tinker AFB, OO-ALC, Hill AFB
Electronic manufacturing (printed wire boards)	WR-ALC, Robins AFB
Electrical/mechanical support equipment	SM-ALC, McClellan AFB
Injection molding	SM-ALC, McClellan AFB
Industrial plant equipment software	SA-ALC, Kelly AFB
Plating	OC-ALC, Tinker AFB, OO-ALC, Hill AFB, SA-ALC, Kelly AFB, WR-ALC, Robins AFB

Move the required equipment and any required personnel to the receiving location. These actions will create or strengthen Technical Repair Centers at the receiving locations in the respective commodities. Minimal workload in each of the commodities may continue to be performed at the other ALCs as required.

Justification: Reductions in force structure have resulted in excess depot maintenance capacity across Air Force depots. The recommended realignments will consolidate production lines and

1995 DoD Recommendations and Justifications

move workload to a minimum number of locations, allowing the reduction of personnel, infrastructure, and other costs. The net effect of the realignments is to transfer approximately 3.5 million direct labor hours and to eliminate 37 product lines across the five depots. These actions will allow the Air Force to demolish or mothball facilities, or to make them available for use by other agencies. These consolidations will reduce excess capacity, enhance efficiencies, and produce substantial cost savings without the extraordinary one-time costs associated with closing a single depot.

This action is part of a broader Air Force effort to downsize, reduce depot capacity and infrastructure, and achieve cost savings in a financially prudent manner consistent with mission requirements. Programmed work reductions, downsizing through contracting or transfer to other Service depots, and the consolidation of workloads recommended above result in the reduction of real property infrastructure equal to 1.5 depots, and a reduction in manhour capacity equivalent to about two depots. The proposed moves also make available over 25 million cubic feet of space to the Defense Logistics Agency for storage and other purposes, plus space to accept part of the Defense Nuclear Agency and other displaced Air Force missions. This approach enhances the cost effectiveness of the overall Department of Defense's closure and realignment recommendations. The downsizing of all depots is consistent with DoD efforts to reduce excess maintenance capacity, reduce cost, improve efficiency of depot management, and increase contractor support for DoD requirements.

Return on Investment: The total estimated one-time cost to implement this recommendation is \$183 million. The net of all costs and savings during the implementation period is a savings of \$138.7 million. Annual recurring savings after implementation are \$89 million with a return on investment expected in two years. The net present value of the costs and savings over 20 years is a savings of \$991.2 million.

TINKER

Impacts: Assuming no economic recovery, this recommendation could result in a maximum potential reduction of 3,040 jobs (1,180 direct jobs and 1,860 indirect jobs) over the 1996-to-2001 period in the Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Metropolitan Statistical Area, which is 0.5 percent of the economic area's employment. The cumulative economic impact of all BRAC 95 recommendations and all prior-round BRAC actions in the economic area over the 1994-to-2001 period could result in a maximum potential decrease equal to 0.3 percent of employment in the economic area. Environmental impact from this action is minimal and ongoing restoration of Tinker AFB will continue.

ROBINS

Impacts: Assuming no economic recovery, this recommendation could result in a maximum potential reduction of 1,168 jobs (534 direct jobs and 634 indirect jobs) over the 1996-to-2001 period in the Macon, Georgia Metropolitan Statistical Area, which is 0.7 percent of the economic area's employment. The cumulative economic impact of all BRAC 95 recommendations and all prior-round BRAC actions in the economic area over the 1994-to-2001 period could result in a maximum potential decrease equal to 0.7 percent of employment in the economic area.

1995 DoD Recommendations and Justifications

Environmental impact from this action is minimal and ongoing restoration of Robins AFB will continue.

KELLY

Impacts: Assuming no economic recovery, this recommendation could result in a maximum potential reduction of 1,446 jobs (555 direct jobs and 891 indirect jobs) over the 1996-to-2001 period in the San Antonio, Texas Metropolitan Statistical Area, which is 0.2 percent of the economic area's employment. The cumulative economic impact of all BRAC 95 recommendations, including the relocation of some Air Force activities into the San Antonio area, and all prior-round BRAC actions in the economic area over the 1994-to-2001 period could result in a maximum potential decrease equal to 0.9 percent of employment in the economic area. Environmental impact from this action is minimal and ongoing restoration will continue.

McCLELLAN and HILL

Impacts: The recommendations pertaining to consolidations of workloads at these two centers are not anticipated to result in employment losses or significant environmental impact.

DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

Base visit
21 April 1995

KELLY AIR FORCE BASE, SAN ANTONIO, TX

COMMISSION STAFF:

Jim Owsley
Glenn Knoepfle
Ann Reese
David Olson

LIST OF ATTENDEES:

MGen Curtis	Bgen Casciano	Mr. Riojas	Mr. Steely	Mr. May
Col Hennessey	Col Rasmussen	Col Bielowicz	Col Stutts	Mr. Troutman
Col Stutts	Col Horn	Col Bentley	Mr. Idrogo	Col Walston
Mr Bailey	Col McCleary	Mr Hundley	Mr. Brown	Mr Cheever
Mr Doneghy	LCol Marsilio	LCol Prewitt	LCol Fieler	Ms Hussey
Maj Ford	Mr Jesse Salcedo	Mr Castorena	Mr Barbosa	Ms Wilson

INSTALLATION MISSION

The San Antonio Air Logistics Center is the primary employer on Kelly Air Force Base. The center manages aircraft , engines, stock items, weapons (nuclear ordnance), and depot maintenance programs. The center's depot activity also repairs a variety of aircraft, aircraft engines and weapon system components. Supported aircraft include the F-5, F-16, C-5 and C-17. Previously the San Antonio center supported the B-52, however the workload has been transferred to the Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center. Kelly Air Force Base is also home to the 433rd Airlift Wing (AF Reserve) which flies C-5 aircraft., the 149th Fighter Group and a DLA Distribution Depot.

DOD RECOMMENDATION:

- Downsize San Antonio Air Logistics Center. The 1 March BRAC recommendation to the Commission would have resulted in the consolidation of the following workload to San Antonio: (1) foundry operations, (2) industrial plant equipment software, and (3) plating. Correspondence from the Air Force Headquarters, in response to Commission questions, indicates that San Antonio will be transferring part of its work to other centers for the following: (1) automatic test equipment software, (2) sheet metal repair and manufacturing,

(3) Composites and plastics, (4) tubing, (5) machine manufacturing, (6) and hydraulics/pneumatics.

- Relocate the following activities to Kelly Air Force Base: (1) the Air Force Inspection Agency and Air Force Safety Office from Kirtland Air Force Base, (2) the Defense Nuclear Agency (field Command) from Kirtland Air Force Base, and the 68th Intelligence Squadron from Brooks Air Force Base.

DOD JUSTIFICATION

- Reductions in force structure have resulted in excess depot capacity across Air Force depots. The recommended Air Logistic Center realignments will consolidate production lines and move workload to a minimum number of locations, allowing the reduction of personnel, infrastructure and other costs. The net effect of the realignments is to transfer approximately 3.5 million direct labor hours and to eliminate 37 production lines across the five depots. These actions will allow the Air Force to demolish or mothball facilities, or make them available for use by other agencies. These consolidations will reduce excess capacity, enhance efficiencies, and produce cost savings without the one-time costs associated with closing a depot. Air Force actions to reduce depot capacity will result in a reduction of real property infrastructure equal to 1.5 depots and a reduction in man-hour capacity equivalent to about two depots.
- Kirtland and Brooks Air Force Bases rated low relative to other bases in the Laboratory Product Center category.

MAIN FACILITIES REVIEWED:

The San Antonio ALC has considerable engine test and repair capabilities. Advanced fuel accessories test and repair facilities were toured. Facilities are capable of testing and calibrating fuel accessories for T56, TF39 and F100 engines and airframe fuel accessories. The work is performed in unique explosion-proof buildings.

The San Antonio ALC machine shop and foundry manufactures and repairs engine and aircraft parts to support critical depot maintenance workloads. Center Staff listed several examples of parts manufactured by San Antonio in a fraction of the time and cost than what could be done by the private sector.

The Staff toured the C-5 hanger, the largest free standing hanger in existence. This hanger is capable of accommodating any aircraft in the DoD inventory.

Commission staff also toured the plating shop, blade and vane rework, chemical cleaning, sheetmetal manufacturing and repair, physical science lab, two level maintenance repair facility, cryptologic repair facility, Defense information processing Megacenter, and nuclear weapons directorate.

The Center and Commission staffs conducted extensive discussions of the impact of the DoD BRAC recommendation on Kelly AFB. The most recent version (11 April) of the Air Force BRAC recommendation will result in the following losses:

function	personnel	square footage
physical science lab	20	7 K
harness cable manufacture	2	.8K
sheet metal manufacture	6	3K
composites	12	3K
machine manufacture	31	6K
Software	4	.3K
ATE software	46	6K
tubing mfg.	1	1K
plating	20	19K
paint/depaint	16	0
cleaning	10	9K
machine repair	80	35K
inspection	50	26K
engine	112	135K
hydraulic	4	3K
electro/mechanical	0	5K

The Center staff and Commander stated that the workload transfers and personnel losses are reasonable and achievable.

During discussions the Center Staff pointed out that AS-ALC has the lowest direct labor/overhead costs of all the ALC's -- \$58.44/hour and that San Antonio is the only air logistics center not on the national priorities list. The ALC Commander also provided the Commission staff with a letter of commendation from the Federal Labor Relations Authority for reducing the number of unfair labor practices by 90%.

MAJOR ISSUES IDENTIFIED:

Center Staff stated that the Kelly AFB Real Property Maintenance Account (RPMA) cost, as reported in the DoD BRAC justification material is incorrect. The BRAC justification states a Kelly RPMA cost of nearly \$17 million; substantially more than any other ALC installation. The Kelly Center staff indicate that RPMA costs are closer to \$5-7 million per year. Commission Staff recommended that Center Staff advise the AFMC and Air Staff of the cost discrepancy.

11TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

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Austin American-Statesman

May 11, 1995

CTION: City/State; Pg. B9

NGTH: 434 words

ADLINE: Three Texas Air Force facilities added to list of potential closures

LINE: From Staff and Wire Reports

BY:

WASHINGTON -- An independent base-closing commission will contemplate the shutdown of Kelly Air Force Base, which is one of San Antonio's biggest employers.

As expected, the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission on Wednesday added Kelly and the Air Force's four other aircraft maintenance depots to the list of bases being reviewed for closure.

Unexpectedly, however, the eight-member panel also placed Laughlin AFB in Del Rio on the list, as well as the Air Force reserve component at Naval Air Station at Fort Worth-Joint Reserve Base, formerly known as Carswell Air Force Base.

The Texas installations were among 32 added by the commission to the potential hit list compiled in February by the Pentagon.

Three Texas bases have been targeted for closure by the Pentagon: Brooks AFB in San Antonio, Red River Army Depot in Texarkana and Reese AFB in Lubbock. At Fort Worth, Corpus Christi Naval Air Station, faces realignment; and the Pentagon wants to end the reserve mission at Bergstrom Air Reserve Base in Austin.

The commission took no action on Bergstrom Air Reserve Base on Wednesday. However, the addition of Carswell to the list could be a sign that Bergstrom and the 924th Fighter Wing will remain intact.

One of the possible scenarios in which the unit would remain active is having the 924th Fighter Wing from Fort Worth relocating to Austin. And, after visiting Bergstrom in early April, the commission asked Austin officials to do a cost analysis of Carswell.

'We're delighted they are considering that information,' Austin Mayor Bruce Kolter said. 'I've said from the beginning, to reverse the decision to disband the unit would take a monumental effort, and we're making that effort.'

'But it's far too early to predict success.'

The 924th fighter group was on a 1993 base closure list, but the commission reversed Air Force staff recommendations after hearing that the Pentagon had decided the group would remain at Austin's new airport.

Kolter denied that Austin was seeking to retain the base at Fort Worth's

Austin American-Statesman, May 11, 1995

"In no way would we jeopardize any other Texas city," he said. "We responded to the commission's request."

Before deciding by July 1 which facilities to recommend for closure, the commission will hold an intensive round of site visits, conduct an analysis of the Pentagon numbers and hear testimony by members of Congress.

Once the commission makes its final recommendations, the base-closing plan is forwarded to Congress, which must approve or reject it without modification.

AD-DATE-MDC: May 12, 1995



DRAFT

DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

SUMMARY SHEET

DEFENSE DISTRIBUTION DEPOT SAN ANTONIO (DDST)

INSTALLATION MISSION

The San Antonio Defense Distribution Depot receives, stores, and issues wholesale and retail material in support of DLA and the Military Services. It is a collocated depot located on the same installation with an Air Force maintenance depot--Kelly Air Force Base--its largest customer. Its primary mission is to provide rapid response to this customer.

DOD RECOMMENDATION: None

COMMISSION ALTERNATIVE

Commission added Defense Distribution Depot San Antonio for consideration for closure.

JUSTIFICATION

- The requirement to study the disestablishment of the DLA distribution depot is driven by the Commission's decision to study the closure of the Kelly Air Force Base--the distribution depot's primary customer.
- The Distribution Concept of Operations states DLA's distribution system will support the size and configuration of the Defense Depot Maintenance System. Thus, if depot maintenance activities are disestablished, collocated depots will also be disestablished.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Environmental considerations do not prohibit this recommendation from being implemented.

REPRESENTATION

Senators:	Phil Gramm Kay Bailey Hutchison
Representatives:	Frank Tejada, Henry Bonilla, Henry B. Gonzalez,
Governor:	George W. Bush

DRAFT

ECONOMIC IMPACT *

- Potential Employment Loss: 42,123 jobs
(17,660 direct and 24,463 indirect)
- San Antonio, TX MSA Job Base: 730,857 jobs
- Percentage: 5.7% percent decrease
- Cumulative Economic Impact (1996-2001): 7.5% percent decrease

* These economic impact numbers include the complete closure of Kelly Air Force Base as well as the attendant San Antonio Defense Distribution Depot.

Marilyn Wasleski/Interagency IssuesTeam/05/31/95 5:02 PM

BASE VISIT REPORT

DEFENSE DISTRIBUTION DEPOT SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

5 APRIL, 1995

LEAD COMMISSIONER:

None

ACCOMPANYING COMMISSIONERS:

None

COMMISSION STAFF:

Bob Cook, Interagency Team Leader

LIST OF ATTENDEES:

Colonel George McCleary, USAF

INSTALLATION MISSION:

- The Defense Distribution Depot San Antonio receives, stores, and issues wholesale and retail material in support of DLA and the Military Services. Its primary mission is to provide rapid response to its largest customer -- the San Antonio Air Logistics Center -- with which it is collocated.

DOD RECOMMENDATION:

- None, the visit was for orientation purposes to explore expansion potential for the depot.

DOD JUSTIFICATION:

- N/A

MAIN FACILITIES REVIEWED:

- Mission briefing by commander and key staff (briefing in library).
- Windshield tour of depot facilities and buildings/grounds offered for additional storage.
- Walking tour of newer buildings including those with mechanized systems.

KEY ISSUES IDENTIFIED:

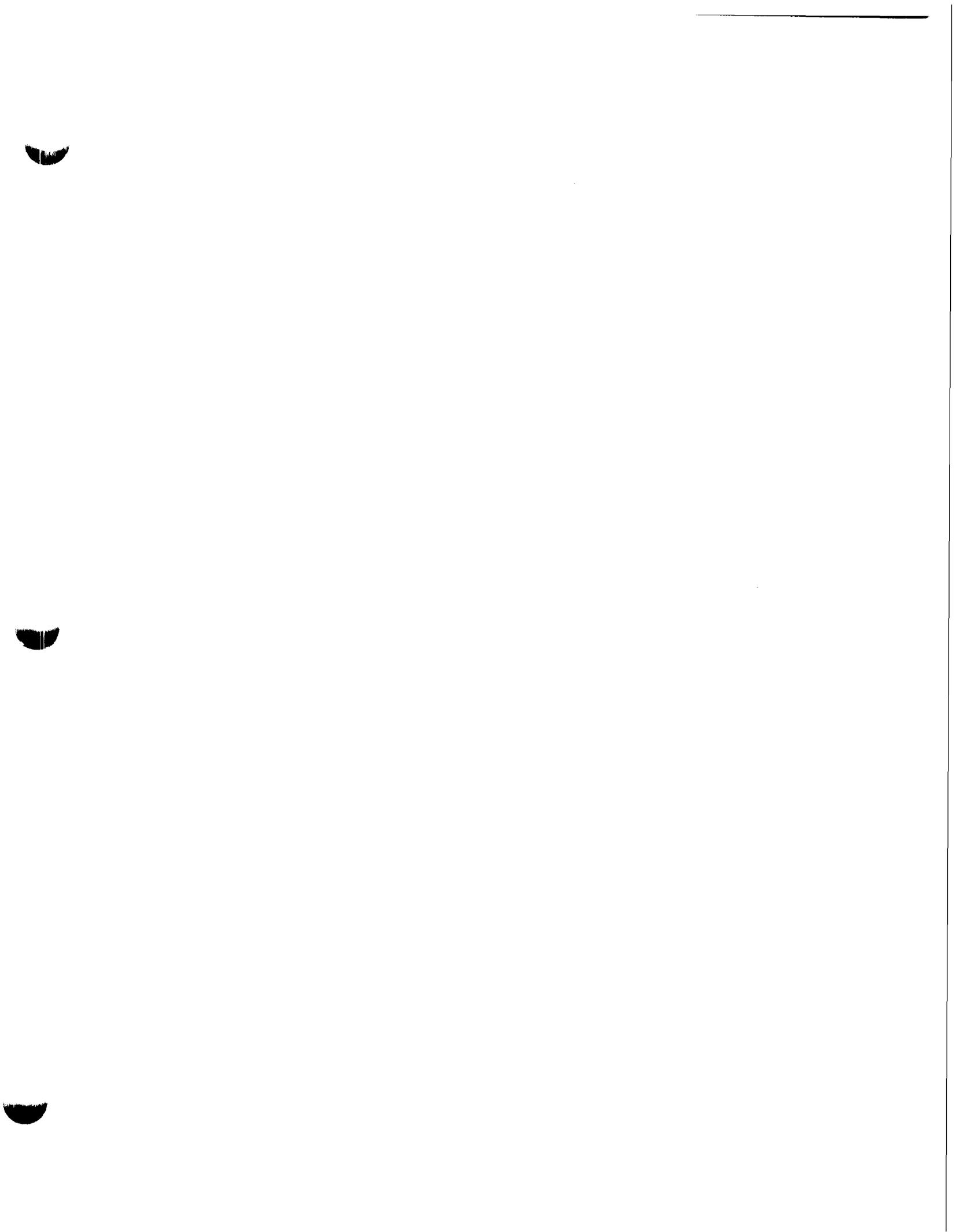
- The depot has a total of 31 buildings and 4.3 million square feet.
- The total depot capacity is approximately 67% utilized.
- 66,000 square feet of hazardous storage is currently available and is 70% utilized.
- Approximately 57% of the depot's work is for off base customers and 57% is for on-base Air Logistics Center maintenance requirements.
- The Air Logistics Center has offered a number of buildings to the depot for additional storage, some are in acceptable condition; however, others will require modification.
- Additional outside storage has also been offered by the Air Logistics Center.
- The depot currently has 929 manpower authorizations but will reduce to 696 by 30 June 95.
- The depot can accept additional mission, if required.
- UPS and Federal Express can receive shipments as late as 11:00PM daily.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS/ISSUES:

- N/A

REQUESTS FOR STAFF AS A RESULT OF VISIT: NONE

Bob Cook/Interagency Issues Team Leader/ 05/31/95 5:11 PM



CLOSURE HISTORY - INSTALLATIONS IN TEXAS

31-May-95

SVC	INSTALLATION NAME	ACTION YEAR	ACTION SOURCE	ACTION STATUS	ACTION SUMMARY	ACTION DETAIL
A	CAMP BULLIS					
	CORPUS CHRISTI ARMY DEPOT	93	DBCRC	ONGOING	REALGNUP	1993 DBCRC: Repair and maintenance capabilities for H-1 and H-60 helicopters realigned from NADEP Pensacola, FL; scheduled FY 95
	FORT BLISS	88	DEFBRAC	COMPLETE	REALGNDN	1988 DEFBRAC: Realign basic training to Fort Jackson, SC; completed FY 91
	FORT HOOD	90/91	PRESS/DBCRC	COMPLETE	REALGNUP	1990 PRESS: Inactivate 2nd Armored Division (one brigade left intact); completed FY 90
	FORT SAM HOUSTON	90/91	PRESS/DBCRC	COMPLETE	REALGNUP	1991 DBCRC: 5th Infantry Division (Mechanized) [redesignated 2nd Armored Division] realigned from Fort Polk, LA; completed FY 94 1990 PRESS: Convert Health Services Command to a Medical Command (Canceled by Army)
	LONE STAR ARMY AMMUNITION PLANT					1991 DBCRC: Trauma research realigned from Letterman Army Institute of Research, Presidio of San Francisco, CA (Change to 1988 SECDEF Commission recommendation); completed FY 93
	LONGHORN ARMY AMMUNITION PLANT	90	PRESS	ONGOING	LAYAWAY	1990 PRESS: Layaway; scheduled FY 95

CLOSURE HISTORY - INSTALLATIONS IN TEXAS

31-May-95

SVC	INSTALLATION NAME	ACTION YEAR	ACTION SOURCE	ACTION STATUS	ACTION SUMMARY	ACTION DETAIL
	RED RIVER ARMY DEPOT	88/90/93	DEFBRAC/PR/DBCRC	ONGOING	REALGNUP	1988 DEFBRAC: Ammunition mission realigned from Pueblo Army Depot, CO; scheduled FY 92-94 1990 PRESS: Realign supply function (Changed by Public Law 101-510) 1993 DBCRC: Realign tactical missile maintenance to Letterkenny Army Depot, PA; scheduled FY 94-97 Wheeled vehicle maintenance realigned from Tooele Army Depot, UT; scheduled FY 94-97 Assume command and control of Tooele Depot Activity; scheduled FY 97
	SAGINAW ARMY AIRCRAFT PLANT					

AF

CLOSURE HISTORY - INSTALLATIONS IN TEXAS

31-May-95

SVC	INSTALLATION NAME	ACTION YEAR	ACTION SOURCE	ACTION STATUS	ACTION SUMMARY	ACTION DETAIL
	BERGSTROM AFB	90/91/93	PR/DBCRC/DBCRC	COMPLETE	REALIGN	<p>1990 Press Release indicated Closure.</p> <p>1991 DBCRC: CLOSED (Realigned) - retain Reserves. (Completed September 30, 1993) Directed retiring assigned RF-4s and deactivation of the 67th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing. Regional Corrosion Control Facility to remain if economical and the Air Force Reserve units to remain in a cantonment area if the base is converted to a civilian airport. Directed the 12 AF Headquarters, 12th Tactical Intelligence Squadron and the 602nd Tactical Air Control Squadron to relocate to Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ. Directed the 712th Air Support Operations Center Squadron be relocated to Fort Hood, TX (USA).</p> <p>1993 DBCRC: Commission did not accept DoD recommendation to relocate reserve forces from the cantonment area to Carswell AFB, TX. 704th Fighter Squadron (AFRES) and 924th Fighter Group (AFRES) will remain in cantonment area until at least the end of 1996. Close or relocate the Regional Corrosion Control Facility by September 30, 1994 unless civilian airport authority assumes responsibility for operating and maintaining that facility before that date.</p>
	BROOKS AFB	91	DBCRC	ONGOING	REALGNUP	<p>1991 DBCRC: Directed several realignments to Brooks AFB from U.S. Army Laboratories as follows; Laser bioeffects research from Letterman Army Institute of Research, Persidio of San Francisco, CA. Microwave bioeffects research from Walter Reed Institute of Research, Washington, D.C. Heat Physiology research from U.S. Army Institute of Environmental Medicine, Natick, MA.</p>

CLOSURE HISTORY - INSTALLATIONS IN TEXAS

31-May-95

SVC	INSTALLATION NAME	ACTION YEAR	ACTION SOURCE	ACTION STATUS	ACTION SUMMARY	ACTION DETAIL
	CARSWELL AFB	88/91/93	BRAC/DBCRC/DBCR	COMPLETE	REALIGN	<p>1988 DEFBRAC: Directed transfer of KC-135s from Closing Pease AFB, NH to Eaker, Wurtsmith, Fairchild, Plattsburg and Carswell AFB. (See 1991 DBCRC for other bases.)</p> <p>1991 DBCRC: CLOSED (Realigned) - retain Reserves - Convert to USNR Base. (Completed Sep 30, 1993) Directed transfer of assigned B-52s to Barksdale AFB, LA. Directed transfer of assigned KC-135s to the Air Reserve Component (in a cantonment area). Directed the transfer of the 436th Strategic Training Squadron to Dyess AFB, TX. Directed existing AFRES units remain in a cantonment area.</p> <p>1993 DBCRC: Changes transfer of 436TS fabrication function from Dyess to Luke AFB, AZ and the 436TS maintenance training function to Hill AFB, UT. Rest of the 436TS continues to move to Dyess AFB, TX. Also, Carswell will revert to Navy control with movement of Navy Reserve units from NAS Dallas, Detroit, Memphis and Cecil Field. (Net Navy Personnel movement into Carswell is 1487 Mil and 1493 Civ.)</p>
	DYESS AFB	91/93	DBCRC/DBCRC	ONGOING	REALGN	<p>1991 DBCRC: Directed relocating the 436th Strategic Training Squadron from Closing Carswell AFB, TX to Dyess AFB.</p> <p>1993 DBCRC: Not all functions of 436TW move. Some now go to Hill AFB, UT and some go to Luke AFB, AZ. Net loss of 23 Mil.</p>
	ELDORADO AFS					
	ELLINGTON FIELD AGS					
	GARLAND AGS					

CLOSURE HISTORY - INSTALLATIONS IN TEXAS

31-May-95

SVC	INSTALLATION NAME	ACTION YEAR	ACTION SOURCE	ACTION STATUS	ACTION SUMMARY	ACTION DETAIL
	GOODFELLOW AFB	88/91	DEFBRAC/DBCRC	ONGOING	REALGN	<p>1988 DEFBRAC: Directed realignment of 25 courses (including fire fighting, fire truck operation and maintenance, and fuel-inspection training) from Closing Chanute AFB, IL. Other technical training courses also realigned to Sheppard (52), Keesler (22), and Lowry (45) AFBs. (See 1991 DBCRC).</p> <p>1991 DBCRC: Directed that all technical training from Closing Lowry AFB, CO be redistributed to the remaining technical training centers or relocated to other locations. Directed the realignment of the fuels training from Goodfellow AFB to Sheppard AFB, TX and the realignment of the technical training fire course to Goodfellow AFB unless a satisfactory and cost-effective contract can be arranged.</p>
	KELLY AFB	93	DBCRC	ONGOING	REALIGN	<p>1993 DBCRC: Gained 15 support equipment maintenance personnel from Closing Newark AFB, OH.</p>
	LA PORTE AGS					
	LACKLAND AFB	93	DBCRC	ONGOING	RELIGNUP	<p>1993 DBCRC: Inter-American Air Forces Academy will be relocated from Homestead AFB, FL to Lackland for a net gain of 129 Mil and 22 Civ personnel.</p>
	LAUGHILIN AFB					
	RANDOLPH AFB	91	DBCRC	ONGOING	REALGNUP	<p>1991 DBCRC: Directed movement of 323rd Flying Training Wing from Closing Mather AFB to Randolph AFB rather than to Beale AFB as directed by 90 DEFBRAC.</p>
	REESE AFB					

CLOSURE HISTORY - INSTALLATIONS IN TEXAS

31-May-95

SVC INSTALLATION NAME ACTION YEAR ACTION SOURCE ACTION STATUS ACTION SUMMARY ACTION DETAIL

SHEPPARD AFB

88/91/93 BRAC/DBCRC/DBCR RCMD REALGN

1988 DEFBRAC:
Directed relocation of 52 classes (including aircraft engine, propulsion, maintenance, and aircrew life-support training) from Closing Chanute AFB, IL to Sheppard AFB. Also relocated classes to Keesler (22), Goodfellow (25), and Lowry (45) AFBs. (See 1991 DBCRC).

1991 DBCRC:

Directed that all technical training from Closing Lowry AFB, CO be redistributed to the remaining technical training centers or relocated to other locations.

Directed the realignment of the fuels training from Goodfellow AFB, TX to Sheppard AFB and the realignment of the technical training fire course to Goodfellow AFB unless a satisfactory and cost-effective contract can be arranged.

1993 DBCRC: Redirect

1988 Chanute AFB closure directed class relocation; new recommendation moves 16 Metals Tech Non-Destructive Inspection and Aircraft Structural Maintenance training courses to Naval Air Station, Memphis, TN (rather than to Sheppard) and than move with them to NAS Pensacola, FL. Oblivates \$17.5M in MILCON at Sheppard AFB, TX but will require \$16.4 MILCON at Pensacola.

N/MRC ABILENE

93 DBCRC CLOSED CLOSE

1993 DBCRC:
Recommended closure of the Navy/Marine Corps Reserve Center at Abilene, TX because its capacity is excess to projected requirements.

NAS CHASE FIELD

90/91 PRESS/DBCRC ONGOING CLOSE

1990 PRESS:
DOD Secretary proposed NAS Chase Field as a closure in his 1990 press release.

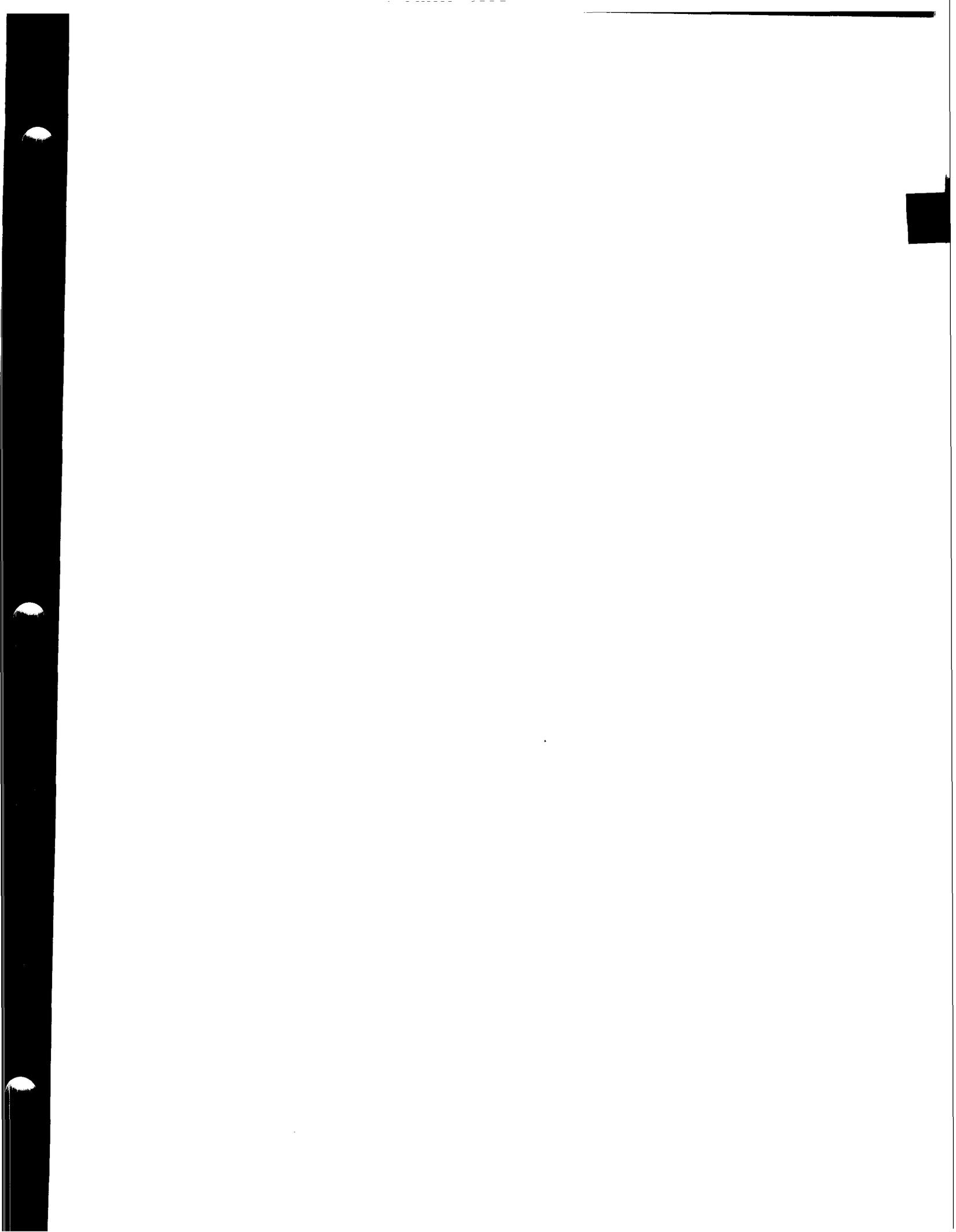
NAS CORPUS CHRISTI

1991 DBCRC:
Recommended closing the facility rather than closing and retaining it as an OLF.

CLOSURE HISTORY - INSTALLATIONS IN TEXAS

31-May-95

SVC	INSTALLATION NAME	ACTION YEAR	ACTION SOURCE	ACTION STATUS	ACTION SUMMARY	ACTION DETAIL
	NAS DALLAS	93	DBCRC	ONGOING	CLOSE	1993 DBCRC: Directed the closure of NAS Dallas and relocation of its aircraft, personnel, equipment, and support to Carswell AFB, TX.
	NAS KINGSVILLE					
	NAVAL HOSPITAL CORPUS CHRISTI					
	NAVAL STATION GALVESTON	88	DEFBRAC	CLOSED	CLOSE	1988 DEFBRAC: Recommended stopping construction of the new Naval Station and closing the facility. Ships planned to be homeported there will be relocated to the new Naval Station at Ingleside, TX.
	NAVAL STATION INGLESIDE					
	NRF MIDLAND	93	DBCRC	CLOSED	CLOSE	1993 DBCRC: Recommended closure of NRF Midland, TX because its capacity is in excess of projected requirements.





THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION
1700 NORTH MOORE STREET SUITE 1425
ARLINGTON, VA 22209
703-696-0504

ALAN J. DIXON, CHAIRMAN

COMMISSIONERS:
AL CORNELLA
REBECCA COX
GEN J. B. DAVIS, USAF (RET)
S. LEE KLING
RADM BENJAMIN F. MONTOYA, USN (RET)
MG JOSUE ROBLES, JR., USA (RET)
WENDI LOUISE STEELE

**REMARKS BY CHAIR AT BEGINNING OF
TEXAS PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION OF
FORT WORTH REGIONAL HEARING**

**WE ARE NOW READY TO BEGIN A PERIOD SET ASIDE FOR PUBLIC
COMMENT. OUR INTENTION IS TO TRY TO INSURE THAT ALL OPINIONS ON
THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECRETARY OR THE ADDITIONS OF THE
COMMISSION AFFECTING TEXAS ARE HEARD. WE HAVE ASSIGNED 24
MINUTES FOR THIS PERIOD.**

**WE ASKED PERSONS WISHING TO SPEAK TO SIGN UP BEFORE THE
HEARING BEGAN, AND THEY HAVE DONE SO BY NOW. WE HAVE ALSO ASKED
THEM TO LIMIT THEIR COMMENTS TO TWO MINUTES, AND WE WILL RING A
BELL AT THE END OF THAT TIME. PLEASE STOP AFTER YOUR TWO
MINUTES ARE UP. WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF ANY LENGTH IS WELCOMED BY
THE COMMISSION AT ANY TIME IN THIS PROCESS. IF ALL THOSE SIGNED UP
TO SPEAK WOULD RAISE YOUR RIGHT HANDS, I WILL ADMINISTER THE
OATH.**



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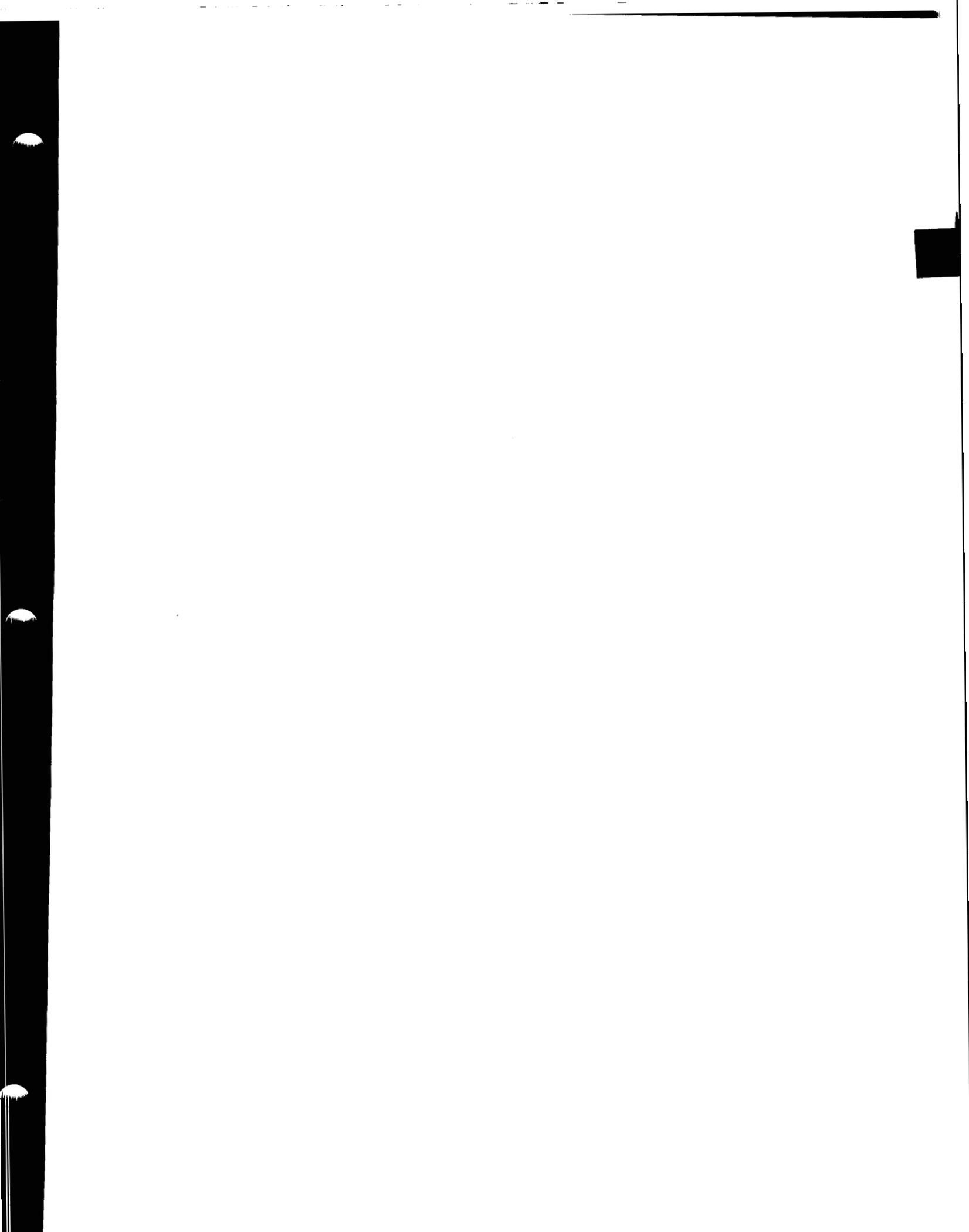
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S. LEE KLING
RADM BENJAMIN F. MONTOYA, USN (RET)
MG JOSUE ROBLES, JR., USA (RET)
WENDI LOUISE STEELE

WITNESSES' OATH

**DO YOU SOLEMNLY SWEAR OR AFFIRM THAT THE TESTIMONY YOU
ARE ABOUT TO GIVE TO THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND
REALIGNMENT COMMISSION SHALL BE THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE
TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH?**





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WENDI LOUISE STEELE

OPENING REMARKS OF CHAIRMAN DIXON FOR AFTERNOON SESSION
FORT WORTH REGIONAL HEARING

GOOD AFTERNOON, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, AND WELCOME TO OUR AFTERNOON SESSION. I AM ALAN DIXON AND WITH ME ARE MY FELLOW COMMISSIONERS AL CORNELLA, REBECCA COX, LEE KLING, BEN MONTOYA, JOE ROBLES AND WENDI STEELE.

THIS AFTERNOON WE WILL HEAR A PRESENTATION FROM THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA WHICH WILL LAST FOR 120 MINUTES. AS IS THE CASE WITH ALL OUR REGIONAL HEARINGS, THE COMMISSION HAS GIVEN A BLOCK OF TIME TO THE STATE BASED ON THE NUMBER OF INSTALLATIONS ON THE LIST AND THE JOB LOSS. WE HAVE LEFT IT TO ELECTED OFFICIALS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS TO DECIDE HOW TO FILL THE BLOCK OF TIME.

AFTER THE OKLAHOMA PRESENTATION, THERE WILL BE A PERIOD OF 20 MINUTES FOR ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENT FROM OKLAHOMA.

THE PERSONS WHO WISH TO SPEAK AT THAT TIME SHOULD HAVE SIGNED UP BY NOW OUT IN THE LOBBY. THEY ARE ASKED TO LIMIT THEMSELVES TO TWO MINUTES, AND THAT LIMIT WILL BE ENFORCED.

WE WILL BE READY TO BEGIN THE OKLAHOMA PRESENTATION AS SOON AS I HAVE SWORN IN THE WITNESSES.



**THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION
1700 NORTH MOORE STREET SUITE 1425
ARLINGTON, VA 22209
703-696-0504**

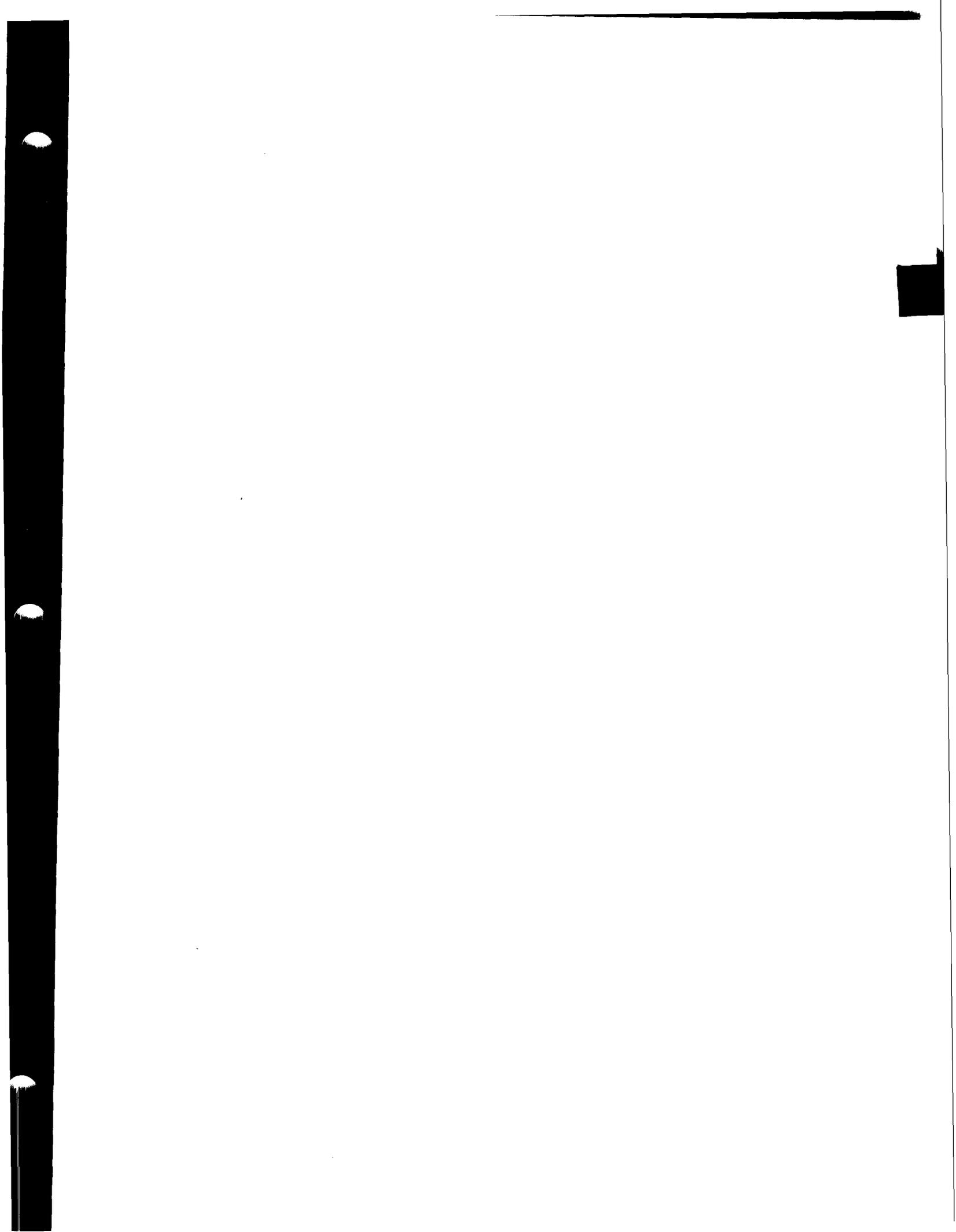
ALAN J. DIXON, CHAIRMAN

COMMISSIONERS:

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S. LEE KLING
RADM BENJAMIN F. MONTOYA, USN (RET)
MG JOSUE ROBLES, JR., USA (RET)
WENDI LOUISE STEELE**

WITNESSES' OATH

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ARE ABOUT TO GIVE TO THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND
REALIGNMENT COMMISSION SHALL BE THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE
TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH?**



OKLAHOMA

120 minutes

FORT WORTH, TEXAS REGIONAL HEARING SCHEDULE OF WITNESSES

1:00PM - 2:15PM

75 minutes

Tinker Air Force Base

Governor Frank Keating

Senator Don Nickles

Senator James Inhofe

Mayor Ron Norick, City of Oklahoma City

Lt Gen Dick Burpee, USAF (Ret.)
Tinker AFB Task Force

Congressman Ernest Istook, 5th District

Congressman J.C. Watts, 4th District

2:15PM - 3:00PM

45 minutes

Vance Air Force Base

Col Don Crusher Craigie, USAF (Ret.)

Mayor Mike Cooper, City of Enid
Military Advisor, Vance AFB Task Force

Congressman Frank Lucas, 6th District

Gen Billy Boles, USAF

OKLAHOMA

**Tinker Air Force Base
Oklahoma City, OK**

1. What is your opinion of the Air Force tiering system that assigned Tinker Air Force Base to the top installation tier and middle depot tier?
2. The Air Force has proposed the downsizing of all its depots rather than closing one to reduce excess capacity. What are your recommendations to reduce overhead and excess capacity -- downsize or close facilities?
3. Do you believe the depot assets at Tinker Air Force Base are being utilized to the extent appropriate?
4. What are Tinker's strengths as a depot and as an installation that the Commission should consider during its deliberations?

**Oklahoma City Defense Distribution Depot
Oklahoma City, OK**

1. What percentage of the Oklahoma City Distribution Depot's mission supports the collocated Air Force's maintenance mission as opposed to off base, or regional, or worldwide support?
2. What is the utilization, in percentage terms, of the facilities you currently have? Has the Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center offered any additional space which would allow for additional storage capacity?

**Vance Air Force Base
Enid, OK**

1. Since all undergraduate flying training bases are ranked so closely, what characteristics distinguish Vance Air Force Base from the other bases?

2. If Vance Air Force Base is closed, the potential employment loss in Enid, Oklahoma, could total over 1,600 jobs between 1996 and 2001. This represents a 5.1 percent decrease in the employment base. What impact would closure of Vance Air Force Base have on the community of Enid, Oklahoma?

OKLAHOMA

TABLE OF CONTENTS

**FORT WORTH, TEXAS REGIONAL HEARING
SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1995**

OKLAHOMA STATE MAP

TINKER AIR FORCE BASE

- Facility Summary Sheet
- DoD Recommendation
- Staff Base Visit Report

DEFENSE DISTRIBUTION DEPOT OKLAHOMA CITY (DDOO)

- Facility Summary Sheet

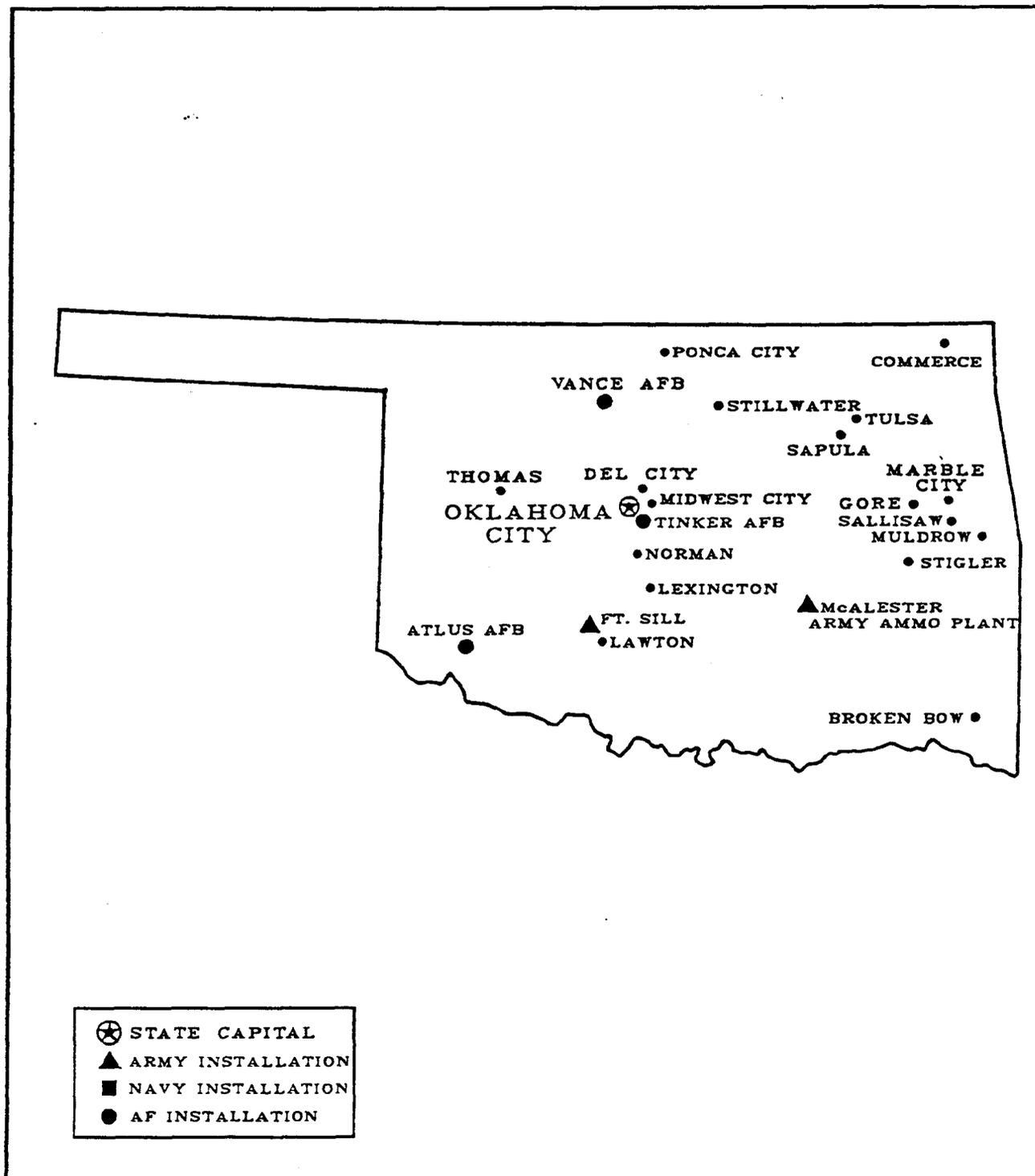
VANCE AIR FORCE BASE

- Facility Summary Sheet

STATE CLOSURE HISTORY

MAP NO. 37

OKLAHOMA



Prepared By: Washington Headquarters Services
Directorate for Information
Operations and Reports

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DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

BASE SUMMARY SHEET

Tinker Air Force Base

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

INSTALLATION MISSION

Tinker Air Force Base is part of the Air Force Material Command. The major units on the base are the 72nd Air Base Wing, 38th Engineering Installation Wing, 552nd Air Control Wing, and 507th Air Refueling Wing. There is a Navy strategic communications wing that provides the U.S. Strategic Command and National Command Authorities with an airborne command and control capability. The force structure is supported by the Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center (ALC) which supports the B-1, B-2, B-52, and KC-135 aircraft.

DOD RECOMMENDATION

- Realign the Oklahoma City ALC and consolidate part of the following workloads there:
(1) airborne electronics, (2) airborne electronic automatic equipment software, (3) machine manufacturing, and (4) plating.

DOD JUSTIFICATION

- Reductions in force structure have resulted in excess depot capacity across Air Force depots. The recommended ALC realignments will consolidate production lines and move workload to a minimum number of locations, allowing the reduction of personnel, infrastructure and other costs. The net effect of the realignments is to transfer approximately 3.5 million direct labor hours and to eliminate 37 production lines across the five depots. These actions will allow the Air Force to demolish or mothball facilities, or make them available for use by other agencies. These consolidations are an attempt to reduce excess capacity, enhance efficiencies, and produce cost savings without the one-time costs associated with closing a depot. Air Force actions to reduce depot by 1.5 -2 depot equivalents.

COST CONSIDERATIONS DEVELOPED BY DOD

- Reductions in force structure have resulted in excess depot capacity across Air Force depots. The recommended Air Logistic Center realignments will consolidate production lines and move workload to a minimum number of locations, allowing the reduction of personnel and other costs. The downsize in place strategy requires realignment of all of the ALCs to achieve the Air Force-wide savings. The net effect of the realignments is to transfer approximately 3.5

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million direct labor hours and to eliminate 37 production lines across the five depots. These actions will allow the Air Force to demolish or mothball facilities, or make them available for use by other agencies. These consolidations are intended to reduce excess capacity, enhance efficiencies, and produce cost savings without the one-time costs associated with closing a depot. Air Force has stated that these actions to reduce depot capacity will result in a reduction of real property infrastructure equal to 1.5 depots and a reduction in man-hour capacity equivalent to about two depots. However, no infrastructure will be eliminated, the Air Force action eliminates capacity by laying away workstations and mothballing space.

Air Force wide savings from the realignment are:

• One-Time Cost:	\$183.0 million
• Net (Costs) Savings During Implementation:	\$138.7 million
• Annual Recurring Savings:	\$ 89.0 million
• Break-Even Year:	2 years
• Net Present Value Over 20 Years:	\$ 991.2 million

The Tinker portion of the savings are:

• One-Time Cost:	\$ 39.7 million
• Net (Costs) Savings During Implementation:	\$ 123.2 million
• Annual Recurring Savings:	\$ 46.7 million
• Break-Even Year:	1999 (1year)
• Net Present Value Over 20 Years:	\$ 569.6 million

MANPOWER IMPLICATIONS OF THIS RECOMMENDATION (EXCLUDES CONTRACTORS)

The Air Force has provided two revisions to its BRAC recommendation since the 1 March submission. The following displays the personnel impacts the original and most current version of the BRAC recommendation:

	Military	Civilian
Baseline	7,425	11,678
1 March recommendation		
reduction	19	980
realignments	0	133
11 April update		
reduction	9	422
realignments	0	0

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ADDITIONAL OPTION FOR CONSIDERATION:

Close or further realign Tinker Air Force Base.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Tinker Air Force Base has been on the National Priorities List, since 1987. As of September 30, 1994, \$93.1 million has been funded for restoration and an additional \$249 million is estimated to be needed to restore the base by the year 2023. Environmental impact from the ALC realignment is minimal and ongoing restoration of Tinker Air Force Base will continue.

REPRESENTATION

Governor:	Frank Keating
Senators:	James Inhofe Don Nichols
Representative:	J. C. Watts

ECONOMIC IMPACT

- | | |
|---|--|
| • Potential Employment Loss: | 3,040 jobs (1,180 direct and 1,860 indirect) |
| • Oklahoma City Metropolitan Area Job Base: | 582,865 jobs |
| • Percentage: | 0.3 percent decrease |
| • Cumulative Economic Impact (1994-2001): | 0.3 percent decrease |

Note: Economic impact data is for the air logistic center only.

MILITARY ISSUES

- None

COMMUNITY CONCERNS/ISSUES

- The Air Force ranked the depot at Tinker as a tier I depot. The Community was dismayed that the 1 March BRAC recommendation to downsize all Air Force depots took the greatest

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number of depot employees from Tinker. The DoD BRAC recommendation would cut the Tinker depot employees by approximately 20 percent.

- Another community concern is that the depot will become less competitive as the workload is reduced but the overhead is not is the DoD BRAC recommendation is implemented.

ITEMS OF SPECIAL EMPHASIS

- The Oklahoma City ALC has: (1) the Air Force's only air accessories overhaul and test facility for air driven items, such as air turbine motors; (2) the Oxygen and Associated Equipment Overhaul Facility is the Air Force's single source oxygen overhaul facility used for test and calibration of critical life support systems; (3) the Avionics Integrated Support Facility is DoD's only B-1B, E-3, B-52, air launched cruise missile, and rotary launcher complete avionics test facility; and (4) the Cruise Missile Engine Facility is DoD's only self-contained single source maintenance repair and test center specializing in cradle-to-grave overhaul and production testing of air launched cruise missile engines.
- For consideration by the Commission is the further realignment and/or closure of Tinker AFB.

Reese/Cross-Service Team/May 30, 1995/9:45 AM

1995 DoD Recommendations and Justifications

Air Logistics Centers

Recommendation: Realign the Air Logistics Centers (ALC) at Hill AFB, Utah; Kelly AFB, Texas; McClellan AFB, California; Robins AFB, Georgia; and Tinker AFB, Oklahoma. Consolidate the followings workloads at the designated receiver locations:

<u>Commodity/Workload</u>	<u>Receiving Locations</u>
Composites and plastics	SM-ALC, McClellan AFB
Hydraulics	SM-ALC, McClellan AFB
Tubing manufacturing	WR-ALC, Robins AFB
Airborne electronic automatic equipment software	WR-ALC, Robins AFB, OC-ALC, Tinker AFB, OO-ALC, Hill AFB
Sheet metal repair and manufacturing	OO-ALC, Hill AFB, WR-ALC, Robins AFB
Machining manufacturing	OC-ALC, Tinker AFB, WR-ALC, Robins AFB
Foundry operations	SA-ALC, Kelly AFB, OO-ALC, Hill AFB
Instruments/displays	SM-ALC, McClellan AFB (some unique work remains at OO-ALC, Hill AFB and WR-ALC, Robins AFB)
Airborne electronics	WR-ALC, Robins AFB, OC-ALC, Tinker AFB, OO-ALC, Hill AFB
Electronic manufacturing (printed wire boards)	WR-ALC, Robins AFB
Electrical/mechanical support equipment	SM-ALC, McClellan AFB
Injection molding	SM-ALC, McClellan AFB
Industrial plant equipment software	SA-ALC, Kelly AFB
Plating	OC-ALC, Tinker AFB, OO-ALC, Hill AFB, SA-ALC, Kelly AFB, WR-ALC, Robins AFB

Move the required equipment and any required personnel to the receiving location. These actions will create or strengthen Technical Repair Centers at the receiving locations in the respective commodities. Minimal workload in each of the commodities may continue to be performed at the other ALCs as required.

Justification: Reductions in force structure have resulted in excess depot maintenance capacity across Air Force depots. The recommended realignments will consolidate production lines and

1995 DoD Recommendations and Justifications

move workload to a minimum number of locations, allowing the reduction of personnel, infrastructure, and other costs. The net effect of the realignments is to transfer approximately 3.5 million direct labor hours and to eliminate 37 product lines across the five depots. These actions will allow the Air Force to demolish or mothball facilities, or to make them available for use by other agencies. These consolidations will reduce excess capacity, enhance efficiencies, and produce substantial cost savings without the extraordinary one-time costs associated with closing a single depot.

This action is part of a broader Air Force effort to downsize, reduce depot capacity and infrastructure, and achieve cost savings in a financially prudent manner consistent with mission requirements. Programmed work reductions, downsizing through contracting or transfer to other Service depots, and the consolidation of workloads recommended above result in the reduction of real property infrastructure equal to 1.5 depots, and a reduction in manhour capacity equivalent to about two depots. The proposed moves also make available over 25 million cubic feet of space to the Defense Logistics Agency for storage and other purposes, plus space to accept part of the Defense Nuclear Agency and other displaced Air Force missions. This approach enhances the cost effectiveness of the overall Department of Defense's closure and realignment recommendations. The downsizing of all depots is consistent with DoD efforts to reduce excess maintenance capacity, reduce cost, improve efficiency of depot management, and increase contractor support for DoD requirements.

Return on Investment: The total estimated one-time cost to implement this recommendation is \$183 million. The net of all costs and savings during the implementation period is a savings of \$138.7 million. Annual recurring savings after implementation are \$89 million with a return on investment expected in two years. The net present value of the costs and savings over 20 years is a savings of \$991.2 million.

TINKER

Impacts: Assuming no economic recovery, this recommendation could result in a maximum potential reduction of 3,040 jobs (1,180 direct jobs and 1,860 indirect jobs) over the 1996-to-2001 period in the Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Metropolitan Statistical Area, which is 0.5 percent of the economic area's employment. The cumulative economic impact of all BRAC 95 recommendations and all prior-round BRAC actions in the economic area over the 1994-to-2001 period could result in a maximum potential decrease equal to 0.3 percent of employment in the economic area. Environmental impact from this action is minimal and ongoing restoration of Tinker AFB will continue.

ROBINS

Impacts: Assuming no economic recovery, this recommendation could result in a maximum potential reduction of 1,168 jobs (534 direct jobs and 634 indirect jobs) over the 1996-to-2001 period in the Macon, Georgia Metropolitan Statistical Area, which is 0.7 percent of the economic area's employment. The cumulative economic impact of all BRAC 95 recommendations and all prior-round BRAC actions in the economic area over the 1994-to-2001 period could result in a maximum potential decrease equal to 0.7 percent of employment in the economic area.

1995 DoD Recommendations and Justifications

Environmental impact from this action is minimal and ongoing restoration of Robins AFB will continue.

KELLY

Impacts: Assuming no economic recovery, this recommendation could result in a maximum potential reduction of 1,446 jobs (555 direct jobs and 891 indirect jobs) over the 1996-to-2001 period in the San Antonio, Texas Metropolitan Statistical Area, which is 0.2 percent of the economic area's employment. The cumulative economic impact of all BRAC 95 recommendations, including the relocation of some Air Force activities into the San Antonio area, and all prior-round BRAC actions in the economic area over the 1994-to-2001 period could result in a maximum potential decrease equal to 0.9 percent of employment in the economic area. Environmental impact from this action is minimal and ongoing restoration will continue.

McCLELLAN and HILL

Impacts: The recommendations pertaining to consolidations of workloads at these two centers are not anticipated to result in employment losses or significant environmental impact.

BASE VISIT REPORT

**TINKER AIR FORCE BASE
OKLAHOMA CITY AIR LOGISTICS CENTER**

3 APRIL 1995

LEAD COMMISSIONER:

Commissioner J.B. Davis

ACCOMPANYING COMMISSIONERS:

Commissioner Al Cornella
Commissioner Wendi L. Steele

COMMISSION STAFF:

Mr. Jim Owsley, Cross Service Team Leader
Mr. Dick Helmer, Cross Service Team Analyst
Mr. Glenn Knoepfle, Cross Service Team Analyst
Mr. Dave Olsen, Air Force Team Analyst

LIST OF ATTENDEES:

Elected Officials/staff

Governor Frank Keating
Senator Don Nickles
Senator Jim Inhofe
Congressman J.C. Watts
Congressman Frank Lucas
Congressman Ernest Istook
Mayor Ron Norick
Todd Lamb, Gov Keating Staff
Mark Nichols, Sen Nickles staff
Ragon Gentry, Sen Inhofe staff
Jeff Cloud, Cong Watts staff
Allen Wright, Cong Lucas staff
Randy Swanson, Cong Lucas staff
Rodney Sandburg, Cong Istook staff

Community Representatives

LtGen (ret) Dick Burpee
Mr. Gary Pence
Mr. Butch Freeman
Mr. Dave Wantland

Tinker Air Force Base Representatives

MGen Ken Eickmann, Base Commander
Mr Jerry Yanker
Mr. Bob Conner
Ms. Susan O'Neal
Mr. Jack Blair
Mr. Ron Bledsoe
Mr. Joe Simmons
Col. Ron Leonard
Col Rich McKinny
Col Tom Miller
Col Gary Davis
Capt Kermit Ayres, U.S. Navy
Col Randy Mills
Mr. Gene Pickett
Mr. Allen Lawrence
LCDR Dave Buckey, U.S. Navy
Maj Don Miller

BASE'S PRESENT MISSION:

Tinker Air Force Base is part of the Air Force Material Command. The major units on the base are the 72nd Air Base Wing, 38th Engineering Installation Wing, 552nd Air Control Wing, and 507th Air Refueling Wing. There is a Navy strategic communications wing that provides the U.S. Strategic Command and National Command Authorities with an airborne command and control capability. The force structure is supported by the Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center (ALC) which supports the B-1, B-2, B-52, and KC-135 aircraft.

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE RECOMMENDATION:

Realign the Oklahoma City ALC and consolidate part of the following workloads there:

(1) airborne electronics, (2) airborne electronic automatic equipment software, (3) machine manufacturing, and (4) plating.

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE JUSTIFICATION:

Reductions in force structure have resulted in excess depot capacity across Air Force depots. The recommended ALC realignments will consolidate production lines and move workload to a minimum number of locations, allowing the reduction of personnel, infrastructure and other costs. The net effect of the realignments is to transfer approximately 3.5 million direct labor hours and to eliminate 37 production lines across the five depots. These actions will allow the Air Force to demolish or mothball facilities, or make them available for use by other agencies. These consolidations will reduce excess capacity, enhance efficiencies, and produce cost savings without the one-time costs associated with closing a depot. Air Force actions to reduce depot capacity will result in a reduction of real property infrastructure equal to 1.5 depots and a reduction in man-hour capacity equivalent to about two depots.

MAIN FACILITIES REVIEWED:

Industrial Shop Area, Building 3001
Blade Repair Facility, Building 3221
Avionics Integrated Support Facility, Building 3220
Engine Test Facility, Building 3234
Composite Repair Facility, Building 2211
B-1 Avionics Facility, Building 3707
B-2 Avionics Facility, Building 3708
Fuel Control Facility, Building 3902

KEY ISSUES IDENTIFIED

Air Force Downsize Proposal

The Tinker base officials could not explain the manner in which the workload shifts were determined. Air Force headquarters has determined that Tinker will be receiving 20,000 hours of machine manufacturing work (14 personnel equivalents). The Secretary's recommendation, however indicates that Tinker should also be receiving work in the airborne electronic automatic equipment software, airborne electronics, and plating areas. The Tinker officials could not account for the disconnects. In addition, the Tinker officials were unable to describe how the Air Force determined the number of personnel slots that the base would be losing. The Secretary's recommendations indicate the facility will lose 1161 civilians, but the base analysis indicates they should only be losing 651 positions, based on the specific workloads Tinker will be transferring to other ALC's.

The Tinker officials had no input into the workload adjustments included in the Secretary's downsizing proposal. They showed us documentation taken from the TRC depot consolidation study which suggests that the single siting of instruments at Tinker or dual siting of instruments at Tinker and Warner Robins was cheaper and more cost effective than the alternative selected by the Air Force which consolidates Air Force instrument work at McClellan. Tinker officials also provided documentation which indicates that all of McClellan's current instrument workload could be accommodated in building 3707, with only minor renovations estimated to cost about \$2.4 million. If instrument work is transferred to McClellan, as suggested by the Secretary of Defense, Tinker would vacate building number 3707. The building was constructed in 1991, and walk through indicates that the facility is modern and had ample open space to accommodate added workload.

In accordance with the Secretary's downsize recommendation, Tinker has identified 10 different buildings totaling 424,220 square feet of space for mothballing. In comparison, the number provided by the Air Force as back-up to the COBRA would provide BRAC funding to mothball 702,000 square feet of space. The Tinker officials told us the lions share of the buildings they have available for mothball are sections or bays of larger facilities. Therefore, the officials indicated that the savings from mothballing will be minimal at best, because heat and light will still be provided regardless of whether or not the facilities are occupied with active workstations.

Tinker officials have also identified buildings totaling 499,878 square feet for demolition. In comparison, the number provided by the Air Force as back-up to the COBRA, would provide BRAC funding to demolish 304,000 square feet of space. It is interesting to note that most of these demolitions (403,722 square feet) were planned and programmed prior to the Secretary's announcement and it is questionable that BRAC funds should be substituted for demolition projects that were previously planned.

Maintenance Depot Capacity

Tinker officials provided a variety of information describing how DOD computes capacity numbers. Based on DOD methodology capacity is determined on the basis of usable workstations. The officials explained that the existing infrastructure at Tinker could produce 12.9 million hours of work. This higher level of work, was reported to the joint cross service

group depot maintenance data call. The higher number is called maximum potential capacity.

The difference between maximum potential capacity and the DOD reported capacity is the number of used workstations. They sited an analogy within the conference room. The room with chairs in it can accommodate 40 people or in terms of capacity 40 workstations. However, if all but one chair is removed the DOD methodology would only count one workstation, but still housed within the same basic infrastructure. In the 1980's Tinker performed approximately 12 million hours of work. While some buildings have since been demolished, others have been added.

The officials openly acknowledged that the infrastructure which can support significantly more work remains in place. Accordingly, they provided charts which indicate that based on the maximum potential capacity of all five ALC's, the Air Force's tier I and tier II depots can accommodate all of the Air Force's projected workload. In other words, Oklahoma City, Ogden and Warner Robins can perform all of the work, without any major new MILCON. Based on Tinker's analysis this would result in a decrease of \$10.08 to their hourly rate and produce annualized savings of about \$76 million. These savings result from fixed overhead costs being spread over a considerably larger workload base. Conversely, if the Secretary's downsize in place option is adopted the hourly rate would increase by \$6.24 adding about \$41.8 million to Tinker's annualized costs.

Tour of Depot Maintenance Facilities

Tinker's depot maintenance infrastructure includes 55 different buildings providing about 5.5 million square feet of workspace to the Oklahoma City Air Logistics Center. The buildings are valued at \$5.5 billion with equipment valued at more than \$900 million.

Building 3001 is 7/10 mile long and covers 61 acres under one roof, providing 2.7 million square feet of workspace. The building was extensively renovated in 1985, after a fire destroyed more than one third of the existing infrastructure. The building has capability to repair 12 C-135 airplanes, and includes separate engine and commodity shop areas. Our tour included a walk through of large unused space totaling about 73,000 square which at one time housed ADP offices and equipment. 210 modular cubicles were left in place and the space could easily be converted to provide additional computer and administrative work spaces.

The blade repair facility was constructed in 1988. The building totals 125,000 square feet of space. Plant and equipment are valued at about \$71 million.

The avionics integrated support facility was constructed in 1974 and provides 135,000 square feet of workspace. Plant and equipment are valued at about \$330 million.

The engine test cell was constructed in 1974. The facility could test 12 engines simultaneously.

The composite repair facility was constructed in 1989 and provides more than 80,000 square feet of work space. Plant and equipment is valued at about \$13 million. The building will be significantly under utilized if the DOD downsizing option is implemented. Most of the composite workload would be transferred to McClellan.

The B-1 avionics building was constructed in 1991 and provides about 84,000 square feet of workspace. The building and equipment are valued at more than \$75 million. Under the DOD downsize proposal, this building would be mothballed after instrument workload is transferred to McClellan.

The B-2 Avionics Facility was constructed in 1993, provides about 55,000 square feet of useable workspace. The plant and equipment value is approximately \$58 million. Our tour of the building disclosed that the building is significantly underutilized. Tinker officials explained the facility was designed to support 134 aircraft, but the current plans call for acquisition of only 20 aircraft.

Construction of the new consolidated fuel control test facility will be completed in April 1995. The building will provide about 94,000 square feet of new workspace.

Cost Estimate to Build C-5 Hanger at Tinker

Tinker officials do not think the estimate of \$52 million to construct a C-5 facility at Tinker to replace the facilities currently located on Kelly Air Force Base is overstated. Tinker officials helped develop the C-5 cost estimate. They stated that none of their existing facilities, except the corrosion control facility, can accomodate C-5 aircraft. While ccorrosion facility could provide space to work on two C-5 aircraft, personnel in the building would be unable to perform their primary corrosion control mission. They also said the aircraft can not be overhauled outside because of high winds that often come through the area. Tinker officials advised, however that new construction could be avoided if the Air Force would send the C-5 workload to the private sector.

Navy Interservice Use of Tinker Air Force Base

Strategic Communications Wing One has a collocated a wing of E-6 aircraft on Tinker. Collocation allows utilization of depot support and joint training programs. Currently about 15 percent of Tinker's engine workload results from interservice agreements with the Navy.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS RAISED:

General Burpee presented a briefing on behalf of the community. The group was concerned that the Air Force downsize alternative would relocate workload from a tier I (most valued) to a tier III depot. General Burpee also said the community has additional land available adjacent the base perimeter which could be given to the depot for expansion. He recalled how the community on previous occasions donated land to the base.

REQUESTS FOR STAFF AS A RESULT OF VISIT:

Continue to validate the Air Force numbers.

Glenn Knoepfle, Cross Service Team, 4 April 1995



DRAFT

DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

SUMMARY SHEET

DEFENSE DISTRIBUTION DEPOT OKLAHOMA CITY (DDOO)

INSTALLATION MISSION

The Oklahoma City Defense Distribution Depot receives, stores, and issues wholesale and retail material in support of DLA and the Military Services. It is a collocated depot located on the same installation with an Air Force maintenance depot--Tinker Air Force Base--its largest customer. Its primary mission is to provide rapid response to this customer.

DOD RECOMMENDATION: None

COMMISSION ALTERNATIVE

Commission added Defense Distribution Depot Oklahoma City for consideration for closure.

JUSTIFICATION

- The requirement to study the disestablishment of the DLA distribution depot is driven by the Commission's decision to study the closure of the Tinker Air Force Base--the distribution depot's primary customer.
- The Distribution Concept of Operations states DLA's distribution system will support the size and configuration of the Defense Depot Maintenance System. Thus, if depot maintenance activities are disestablished, collocated depots will also be disestablished.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Environmental considerations do not prohibit this recommendation from being implemented.

REPRESENTATION

Senators:	Don Nickles James M. Inhofe
Representative:	J.C. Watts
Governor:	Frank Keating

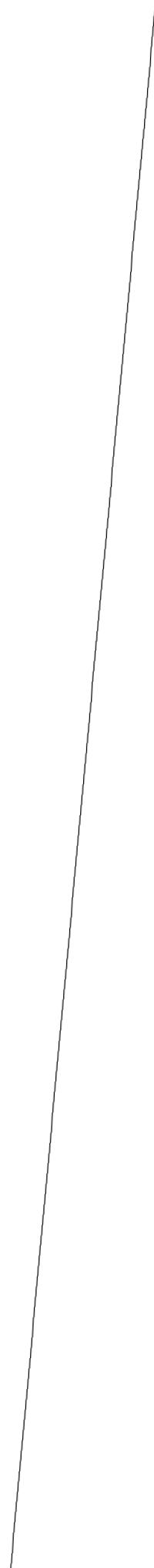
DRAFT

ECONOMIC IMPACT *

- Potential Employment Loss: 43,668 jobs
(19,967 direct and 23,701 indirect)
- Oklahoma City, OK MSA Job Base: 582,865 jobs
- Percentage: 7.5% percent decrease
- Cumulative Economic Impact (1996-2001): 7.5% percent decrease

* These economic impact numbers include the complete closure of Tinker Air Force Base as well as the attendant Oklahoma City Defense Distribution Depot.

Marilyn Wasleski/Interagency IssuesTeam/05/31/95 5:01 PM



DRAFT

DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

SUMMARY SHEET

VANCE AIR FORCE BASE, OKLAHOMA

INSTALLATION MISSION

Air Education and Training Command (AETC) base, Undergraduate Flying Training category. 71st Flying Training Wing, Undergraduate Pilot Training (UPT) in 46 T-37B, and 69 T-38A aircraft. Base activated Nov 1941; named for Lt. Col. Leon R. Vance, Jr., Medal of Honor recipient, killed when air evac plane returning to the US went down in the Atlantic.

DOD RECOMMENDATION: None

COMMISSION ALTERNATIVE

Commission added Vance AFB for consideration for closure.

STAFF COMMENTS

- The Air Force has one more Undergraduate Flying Training (UFT)--Pilot and Navigator--base than necessary to support Air Force pilot training requirements consistent with the DoD Force Structure Plan.
- UPT Joint Cross-Service Group recommended Vance for closure in one of three alternatives.
- Staff analysis of UPT Functional Value ranked Vance fourth overall--just below Reese--in comparison to the other bases (Columbus, Laughlin, Randolph, and Vance).
 - Vance ranked high in Airspace(volume and distance to training areas) and Airfields, but low in Weather (icing). It ranked in the middle in encroachment and ground training facilities, and relatively low in maintenance facilities.

COST CONSIDERATIONS (Level)

- One-Time Costs: \$14.7 million
- Net Costs (Savings) During Implementation: (\$61.4 million)
- Annual Recurring Savings: \$19.5 million
- Return on Investment Year: 1998 (1 Year)
- Net Present Value Over 20 Years: \$246.8 million

MANPOWER IMPLICATIONS OF THIS RECOMMENDATION (EXCLUDES CONTRACTORS)

	<u>Military</u>	<u>Civilian</u>	<u>Students</u>
Baseline	698	95	149
Reductions	202	0	0
Realignments	496	95	149
Total:	698	95	149

DRAFT

DRAFT

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

<u>Recommendation</u>	<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>
Close Vance	(847)	(404)	0	0	(847)	(404)

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

- Environmental impact is minimal and ongoing restoration of Vance AFB will continue.

REPRESENTATION

Governor: Keating
Senators: James M. Inhofe
Don Nickles
Representative: Frank Lucas (6)

ECONOMIC IMPACT

- Potential Employment Loss (1996-2001): 1647 jobs (1251 direct/ 396 indirect)
- Enid, OK MSA Job Base: 32,341 jobs
- Job Change: 5.1 percent decrease
- Cumulative Economic Impact (1994-2001): 5.1 percent decrease

MILITARY ISSUES

- \$14.7 million "One-Time unique Costs" at Vance listed in COBRA for Moving, Mothball, and Personnel. Does not include costs to terminate civilian labor contract (\$7 million at Reese), nor cost for the Air Force Base Closure Agency budget (\$22 million at Reese).
- There is no "MILCON Cost Avoidance" at Vance.
- Air Force Air Education and Training Command (AETC) Capacity Analysis assumes four UPT bases only:
 - Excludes Randolph: performs no UPT, only Undergraduate Navigator Training (UNT) and Pilot Instructor Training (PIT).
 - Excludes Sheppard: performs some UPT, mainly Euro-NATO Jet Pilot Training (ENJJPT).
 - Excludes Hondo and USAF Academy Airfields: perform Flight Screening only.
 - Assumes Specialized UPT at each base, i.e., all three training aircraft types present (T-1, T-37/JPATS, T-38) to train pilots for Primary, Bomber/Fighter, and Airlift/Tanker.
- Air Force UPT Capacity Analysis:
 - Based analysis on meeting AIR FORCE Pilot Training Requirements (PTR) only
 - Assumes 5-day work week to allow recovery capacity for unforeseen impacts
 - Capacity expressed in "UPT graduate equivalents."

DRAFT

CAPACITY	
COLUMBUS	408
LAUGHLIN	424
REESE	392
VANCE	396
SUBTOTAL	1,620
CLOSE LOWEST	- 392
TOTAL	1,228

REQUIREMENT	
BOMBER/FIGHTER	394
AIRLIFT/TANKER	592
FIXED-WING UPGRADE	4
FMS	31
SUBTOTAL	1,021
INTRO, FTR FUND	57
TOTAL	1,078

CAPACITY	1,228	
PTR	<u>- 1,078</u>	
	150	(12% EXCESS)

- Need for Excess
 - JPATS Transition 100
 - Instructor Crossflow (T-37 to T-38): 39
 - Operations beyond 95% capacity will be compromised

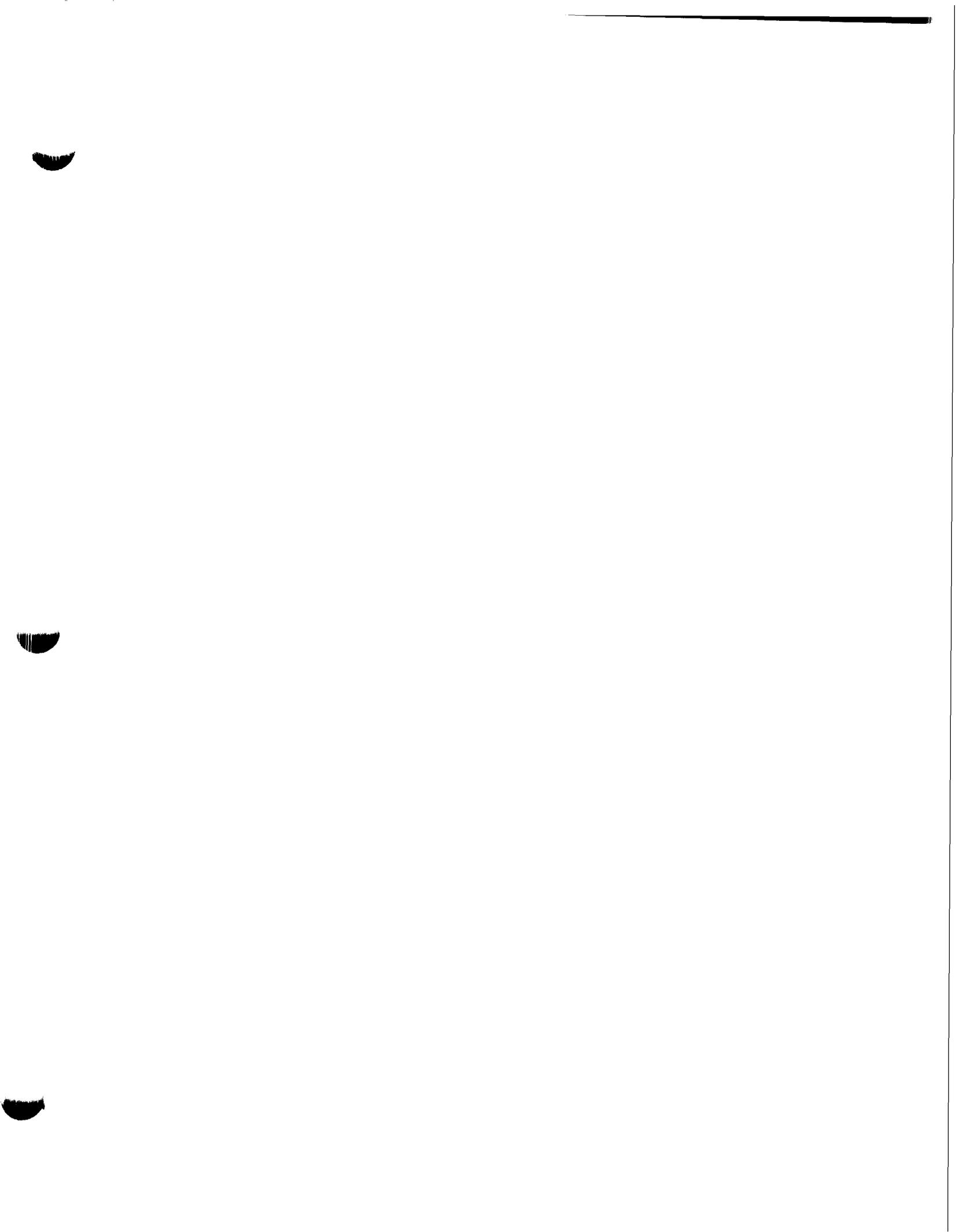
COMMUNITY CONCERNS/ISSUES

- Most accessible airspace at Vance in the UPT Category. 7 percent more training capacity than Laughlin (T-37) and Reese (T38). Large amounts of unencroached airspace, with fewest airports within 50 miles of any UPT base.
- Lowest cost per graduate in the UPT Category.
- Crosswinds do not occur at Vance with the frequency they do at Reese, and two crosswind runways prevent divers or canceled training opportunities when crosswinds do occur.
- In the event of poor weather, Vance has the most divert options within 100 miles than any other UPT base.
- Icing attrition is already accounted for in the overall weather attrition measure of merit. Vance is better than Reese in overall weather attrition.
- Air Force owned Air Traffic Control allows greater efficiency of UPT flying operations.
- Base facilities are superior needing the least investment to continue operations.
- Contractor base support and aircraft maintenance provides the Air Force with the lowest cost and highest quality UPT base.

ITEMS OF SPECIAL EMPHASIS

- Since the Air Force configures each of its UPT bases nearly the same, the UPT-JCSG analysis could be suspect since it showed the Functional Value of Reese substantially inferior

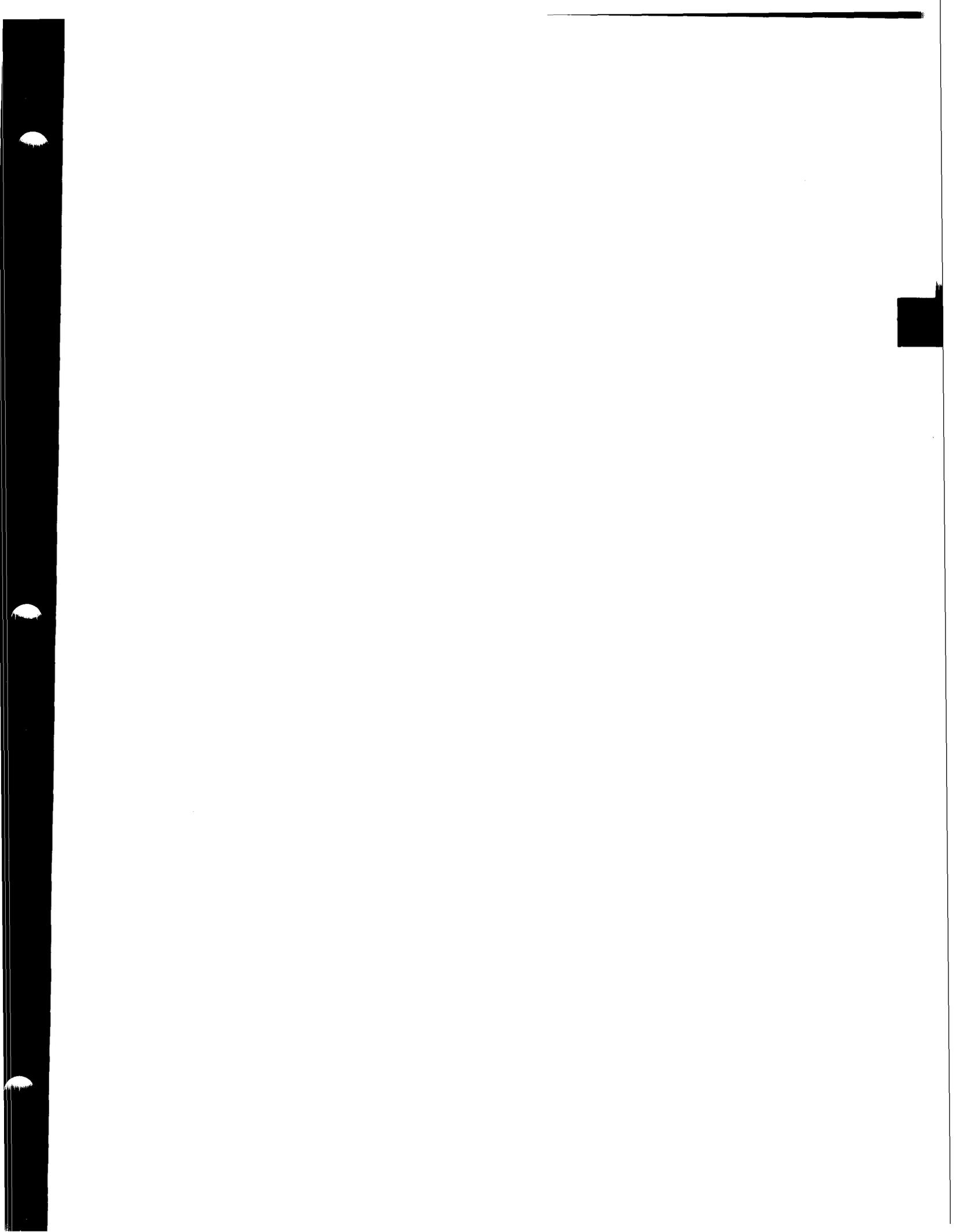
Merrill Beyer/Air Force Team/June 1, 1995



CLOSURE HISTORY - INSTALLATIONS IN OKLAHOMA

31-May-95

SVC	INSTALLATION NAME	ACTION YEAR	ACTION SOURCE	ACTION STATUS	ACTION SUMMARY	ACTION DETAIL
A	FORT SILL					
	MCALESTER ARMY AMMUNITION PLANT					
AF	ALTUS AFB	93	DBCRC	ONGOING	REALIGNUP	1993 DBCRC: Relocate the KC-135 Combat Crew Training mission from Castle AFB, CA rather than to Fairchild AFB, WA. Action is part of the Fairchild AFB Redirect. 668 Mil and 38 Civ personnel gained.
	TINKER AFB	90	DEFBRAC	ONGOING	REALGN	1990 Press Release indicated realignment. No specifics given.
	TULSA IAP AGS					
	VANCE AFB					
	WILL ROGERS WORLD AIRPORT AGS					





THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION
1700 NORTH MOORE STREET SUITE 1425
ARLINGTON, VA 22209
703-696-0504

ALAN J. DIXON, CHAIRMAN

COMMISSIONERS:

AL CORNELLA

REBECCA COX

GEN J. B. DAVIS, USAF (RET)

S. LEE KLING

RADM BENJAMIN F. MONTOYA, USN (RET)

MG JOSUE ROBLES, JR., USA (RET)

WENDI LOUISE STEELE

**REMARKS BY CHAIR AT BEGINNING OF
OKLAHOMA PUBLIC COMMENT PORTION
OF FORT WORTH REGIONAL HEARING**

**WE ARE NOW READY TO BEGIN A PERIOD SET ASIDE FOR PUBLIC
COMMENT. OUR INTENTION IS TO TRY TO INSURE THAT ALL OPINIONS ON
THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECRETARY OR THE ADDITIONS OF THE
COMMISSION AFFECTING OKLAHOMA ARE HEARD. WE HAVE ASSIGNED 20
MINUTES FOR THIS PERIOD.**

**WE ASKED PERSONS WISHING TO SPEAK TO SIGN UP BEFORE THE
HEARING BEGAN, AND THEY HAVE DONE SO BY NOW. WE HAVE ALSO ASKED
THEM TO LIMIT THEIR COMMENTS TO TWO MINUTES, AND WE WILL RING A
BELL AT THE END OF THAT TIME. PLEASE STOP AFTER YOUR TWO
MINUTES ARE UP. WRITTEN TESTIMONY OF ANY LENGTH IS WELCOMED BY
THE COMMISSION AT ANY TIME IN THIS PROCESS. IF ALL THOSE SIGNED UP
TO SPEAK WOULD RAISE YOUR RIGHT HANDS, I WILL ADMINISTER THE
OATH.**



THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION
1700 NORTH MOORE STREET SUITE 1425
ARLINGTON, VA 22209
703-696-0504

ALAN J. DIXON, CHAIRMAN

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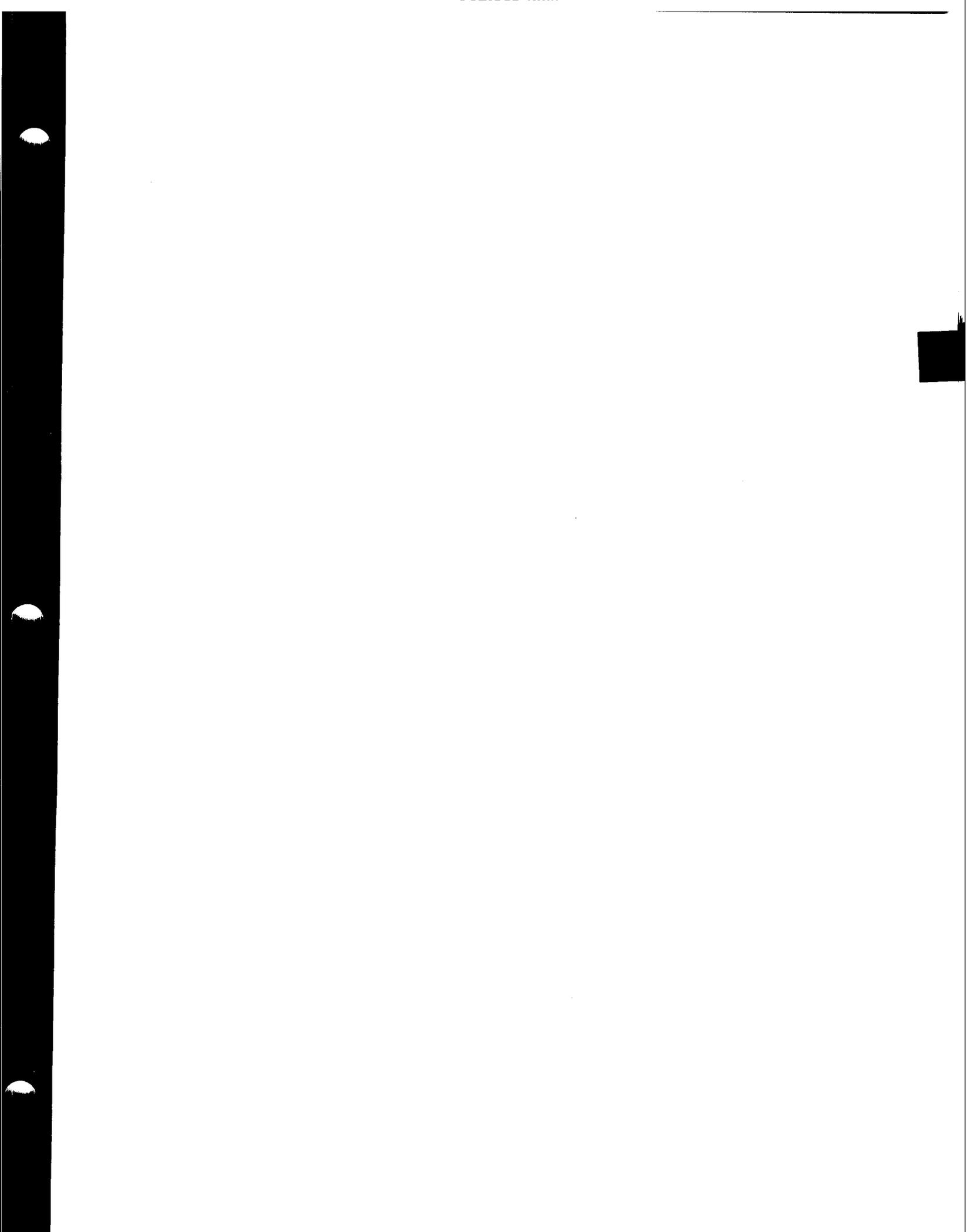
RADM BENJAMIN F. MONTOYA, USN (RET)

MG JOSUE ROBLES, JR., USA (RET)

WENDI LOUISE STEELE

WITNESSES' OATH

**DO YOU SOLEMNLY SWEAR OR AFFIRM THAT THE TESTIMONY YOU
ARE ABOUT TO GIVE TO THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND
REALIGNMENT COMMISSION SHALL BE THE TRUTH, THE WHOLE
TRUTH AND NOTHING BUT THE TRUTH?**





THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

1700 NORTH MOORE STREET SUITE 1425

ARLINGTON, VA 22209

703-696-0504

ALAN J. DIXON, CHAIRMAN

COMMISSIONERS:

AL CORNELLA

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S. LEE KLING

RADM BENJAMIN F. MONTOYA, USN (RET)

MG JOSUE ROBLES, JR., USA (RET)

WENDI LOUISE STEELE

CLOSING REMARKS OF CHAIRMAN DIXON

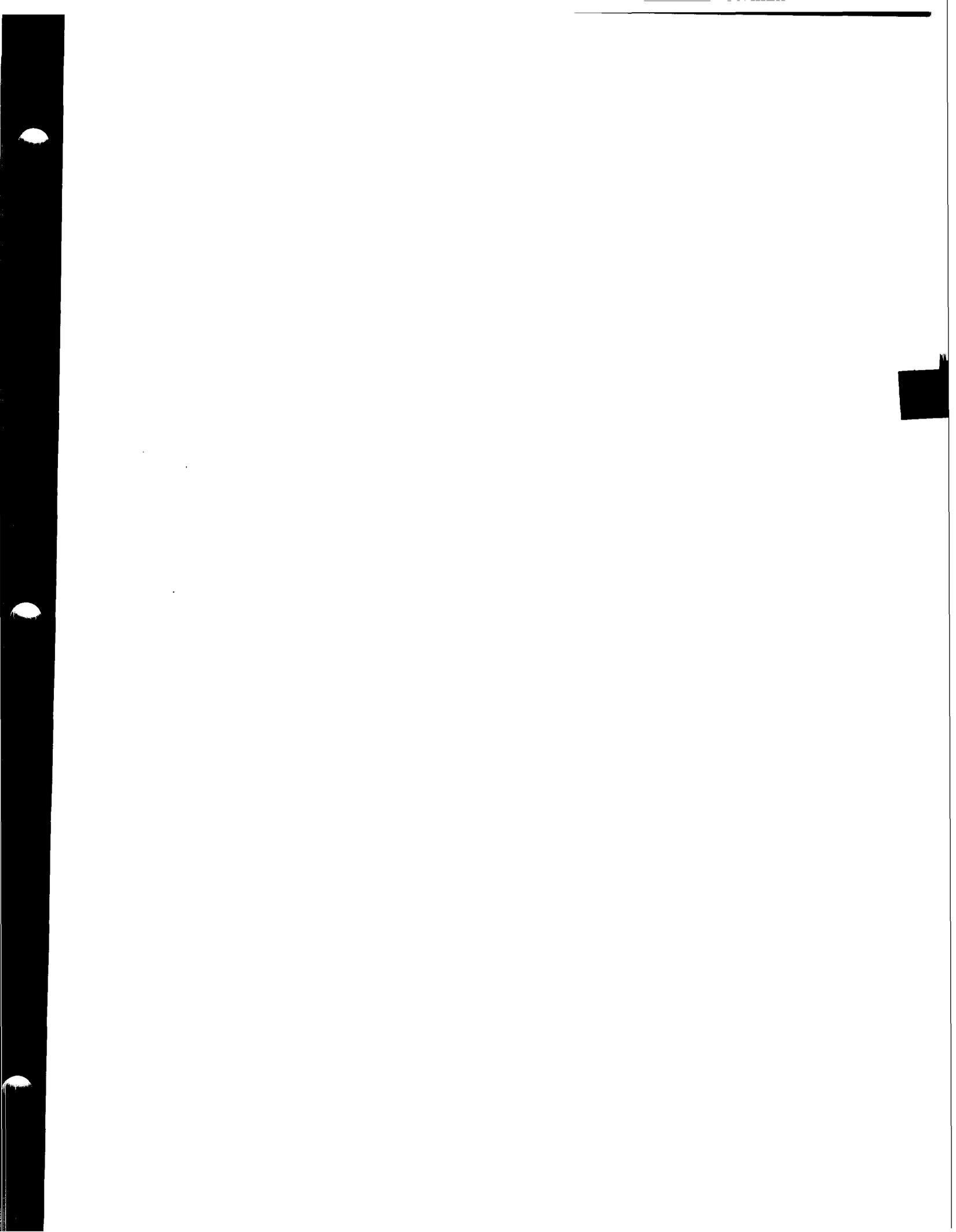
FORT WORTH REGIONAL HEARING

WE HAVE NOW CONCLUDED THIS HEARING OF THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION. I WANT TO THANK ALL THE WITNESSES WHO TESTIFIED. YOU HAVE BROUGHT US SOME VERY VALUABLE INFORMATION WHICH I ASSURE YOU WILL BE GIVEN CAREFUL CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMISSION MEMBERS AS WE REACH OUR DECISIONS.

I ALSO WANT TO THANK AGAIN ALL THE ELECTED OFFICIALS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO HAVE ASSISTED US DURING OUR BASE VISITS AND IN PREPARATION FOR THIS HEARING. IN PARTICULAR, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK SENATOR HUTCHISON AND HER STAFF AND THE FORTH WORTH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE IN HELPING TO OBTAIN THIS WONDERFUL SITE FOR THE HEARING.

**FINALLY, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE CITIZENS OF THE
COMMUNITIES REPRESENTED HERE TODAY THAT HAVE SUPPORTED THE
MEMBERS OF OUR ARMED SERVICES FOR SO MANY YEARS, MAKING THEM
FEEL WELCOME AND VALUED IN YOUR TOWNS. YOU ARE TRUE PATRIOTS.**

THIS HEARING IS CLOSED.



**1995 List of Military Installations
Inside the United States for Closure or Realignment**

Part I: Major Base Closures

Army

Fort McClellan, Alabama
Fort Chaffee, Arkansas
Fitzsimons Army Medical Center, Colorado
Price Support Center, Illinois
Savanna Army Depot Activity, Illinois
Fort Ritchie, Maryland
Selfridge Army Garrison, Michigan
Bayonne Military Ocean Terminal, New Jersey
Seneca Army Depot, New York
Fort Indiantown Gap, Pennsylvania
Red River Army Depot, Texas
Fort Pickett, Virginia

Navy

Naval Air Facility, Adak, Alaska
Naval Shipyard, Long Beach, California
Ship Repair Facility, Guam
Naval Air Warfare Center, Aircraft Division, Indianapolis, Indiana
Naval Surface Warfare Center, Crane Division Detachment, Louisville, Kentucky
Naval Surface Warfare Center, Dahlgren Division Detachment, White Oak, Maryland
Naval Air Station, South Weymouth, Massachusetts
Naval Air Station, Meridian, Mississippi
Naval Air Warfare Center, Aircraft Division, Lakehurst, New Jersey
Naval Air Warfare Center, Aircraft Division, Warminster, Pennsylvania

Air Force

North Highlands Air Guard Station, California
Ontario IAP Air Guard Station, California
Rome Laboratory, Rome, New York
Roslyn Air Guard Station, New York

Springfield-Beckley MAP, Air Guard Station, Ohio
Greater Pittsburgh LAP Air Reserve Station, Pennsylvania
Bergstrom Air Reserve Base, Texas
Brooks Air Force Base, Texas
Reese Air Force Base, Texas

Defense Logistics Agency

Defense Distribution Depot Memphis, Tennessee
Defense Distribution Depot Ogden, Utah

Part II: Major Base Realignment

Army

Fort Greely, Alaska
Fort Hunter Liggett, California
Sierra Army Depot, California
Fort Meade, Maryland
Detroit Arsenal, Michigan
Fort Dix, New Jersey
Fort Hamilton, New York
Charles E. Kelly Support Center, Pennsylvania
Letterkenny Army Depot, Pennsylvania
Fort Buchanan, Puerto Rico
Dugway Proving Ground, Utah
Fort Lee, Virginia

Navy

Naval Air Station, Key West, Florida
Naval Activities, Guam
Naval Air Station, Corpus Christi, Texas
Naval Undersea Warfare Center, Keyport, Washington

Air Force

McClellan Air Force Base, California
Onizuka Air Station, California

Eglin Air Force Base, Florida
Robins Air Force Base, Georgia
Malmstrom Air Force Base, Montana
Kirtland Air Force Base, New Mexico
Grand Forks Air Force Base, North Dakota
Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma
Kelly Air Force Base, Texas
Hill Air Force Base, Utah

***Part III: Smaller Base or Activity Closures, Realignment,
Disestablishments or Relocations***

Army

Branch U.S. Disciplinary Barracks, California
East Fort Baker, California
Rio Vista Army Reserve Center, California
Stratford Army Engine Plant, Connecticut
Big Coppett Key, Florida
Concepts Analysis Agency, Maryland
Publications Distribution Center Baltimore, Maryland
Hingham Cohasset, Massachusetts
Sudbury Training Annex, Massachusetts
Aviation-Troop Command (ATCOM), Missouri
Fort Missoula, Montana
Camp Kilmer, New Jersey
Caven Point Reserve Center, New Jersey
Camp Pedricktown, New Jersey
Bellmore Logistics Activity, New York
Fort Totten, New York
Recreation Center #2, Fayetteville, North Carolina
Information Systems Software Command (ISSC), Virginia
Camp Bonneville, Washington
Valley Grove Area Maintenance Support Activity (AMSA), West Virginia

Navy

Naval Command, Control and Ocean Surveillance Center, In-Service Engineering West
Coast Division, San Diego, California
Naval Health Research Center, San Diego, California

Naval Personnel Research and Development Center, San Diego, California
Supervisor of Shipbuilding, Conversion and Repair, USN, Long Beach, California
Naval Undersea Warfare Center-Newport Division, New London Detachment, New London,
Connecticut
Naval Research Laboratory, Underwater Sound Reference Detachment, Orlando, Florida
Fleet and Industrial Supply Center, Guam
Naval Biodynamics Laboratory, New Orleans, Louisiana
Naval Medical Research Institute, Bethesda, Maryland
Naval Surface Warfare Center, Carderock Division Detachment, Annapolis, Maryland
Naval Technical Training Center, Meridian, Mississippi
Naval Aviation Engineering Support Unit, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Naval Air Technical Services Facility, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Naval Air Warfare Center, Aircraft Division, Open Water Test Facility, Oreland,
Pennsylvania
Naval Command, Control and Ocean Surveillance Center, RDT&E Division Detachment,
Warminster, Pennsylvania
Fleet and Industrial Supply Center, Charleston, South Carolina
Naval Command, Control and Ocean Surveillance Center, In-Service Engineering East Coast
Detachment, Norfolk, Virginia
Naval Information Systems Management Center, Arlington, Virginia
Naval Management Systems Support Office, Chesapeake, Virginia

Navy/Marine Reserve Activities

Naval Reserve Centers at:

Huntsville, Alabama
Stockton, California
Santa Ana, Irvine, California
Pomona, California
Cadillac, Michigan
Staten Island, New York
Laredo, Texas
Sheboygan, Wisconsin

Naval Air Reserve Center at:

Olathe, Kansas

Naval Reserve Readiness Commands at:

New Orleans, Louisiana (Region 10)
Charleston, South Carolina (Region 7)

Air Force

Moffett Federal Airfield AGS, California
Real-Time Digitally Controlled Analyzer Processor Activity, Buffalo, New York
Air Force Electronic Warfare Evaluation Simulator Activity, Fort Worth, Texas

Defense Logistics Agency

Defense Contract Management District South, Marietta, Georgia
Defense Contract Management Command International, Dayton, Ohio
Defense Distribution Depot Columbus, Ohio
Defense Distribution Depot Letterkenny, Pennsylvania
Defense Industrial Supply Center Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Defense Distribution Depot Red River, Texas

Defense Investigative Service

Investigations Control and Automation Directorate, Fort Holabird, Maryland

Part IV: Changes to Previously Approved BRAC Recommendations

Army

Army Bio-Medical Research Laboratory, Fort Detrick, Maryland

Navy

Marine Corps Air Station, El Toro, California
Marine Corps Air Station, Tustin, California
Naval Air Station Alameda, California
Naval Recruiting District, San Diego, California
Naval Training Center, San Diego, California
Naval Air Station, Cecil Field, Florida
Naval Aviation Depot, Pensacola, Florida

Chapter 4
The 1995 Selection Process

Navy Nuclear Power Propulsion Training Center, Naval Training Center, Orlando, Florida
Naval Training Center Orlando, Florida
Naval Air Station, Agana, Guam
Naval Air Station, Barbers Point, Hawaii
Naval Air Facility, Detroit, Michigan
Naval Shipyard, Norfolk Detachment, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Naval Sea Systems Command, Arlington, Virginia
Office of Naval Research, Arlington, Virginia
Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command, Arlington, Virginia
Naval Recruiting Command, Washington, D.C.
Naval Security Group Command Detachment Potomac, Washington, D.C.

Air Force

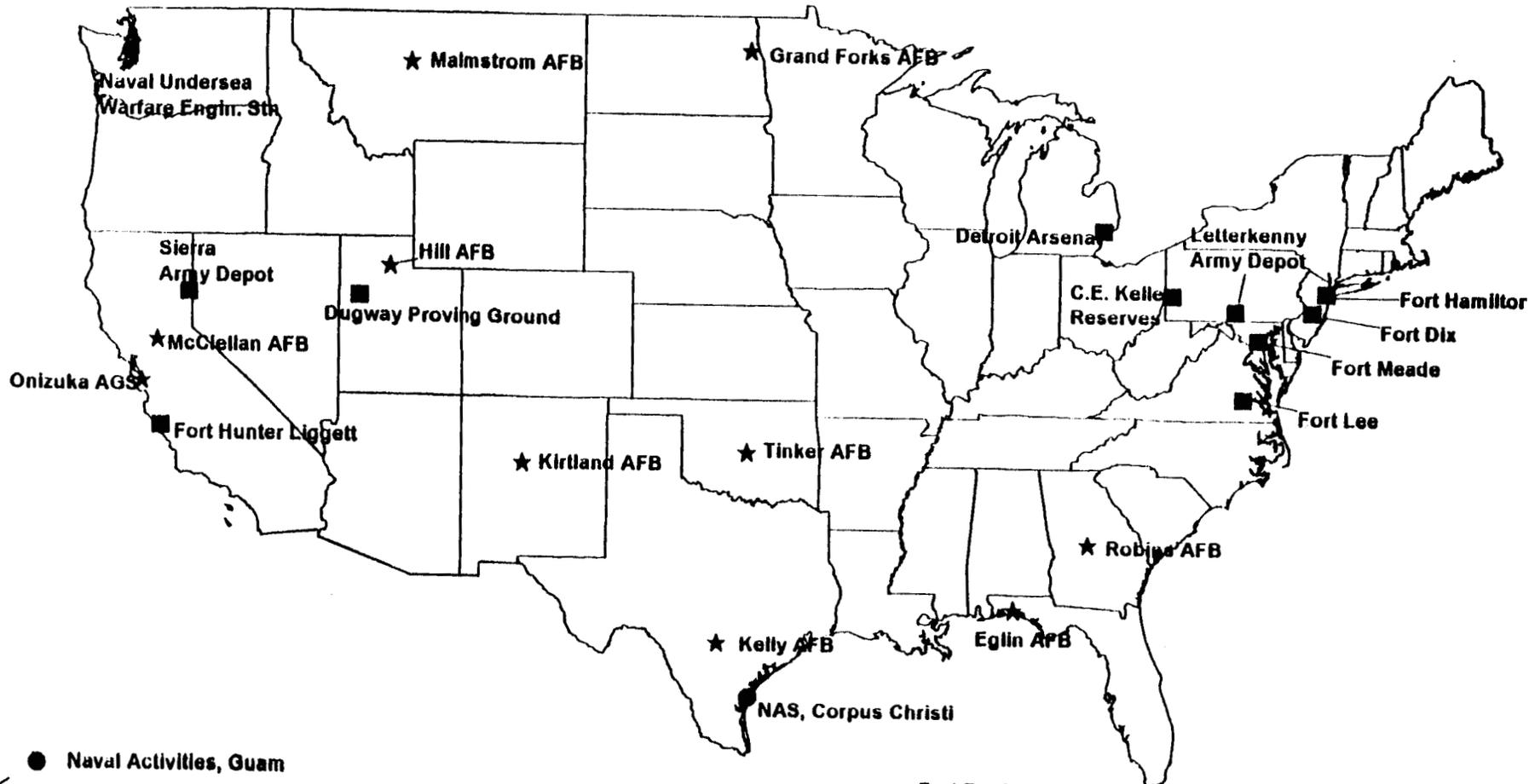
Williams AFB, Arizona
Lowry AFB, Colorado
Homestead AFB, Florida (301st Rescue Squadron)
Homestead AFB, Florida (726th Air Control Squadron)
MacDill AFB, Florida
Griffiss AFB, New York (Airfield Support for 10th Infantry (Light) Division)
Griffiss AFB, New York (485th Engineering Installation Group)

Defense Logistics Agency

Defense Contract Management District West, El Segundo, California

1995 DoD Recommendations Major Base Realignments

■ Fort Greely



● Naval Activities, Guam

Fort Buchanan,
Puerto Rico

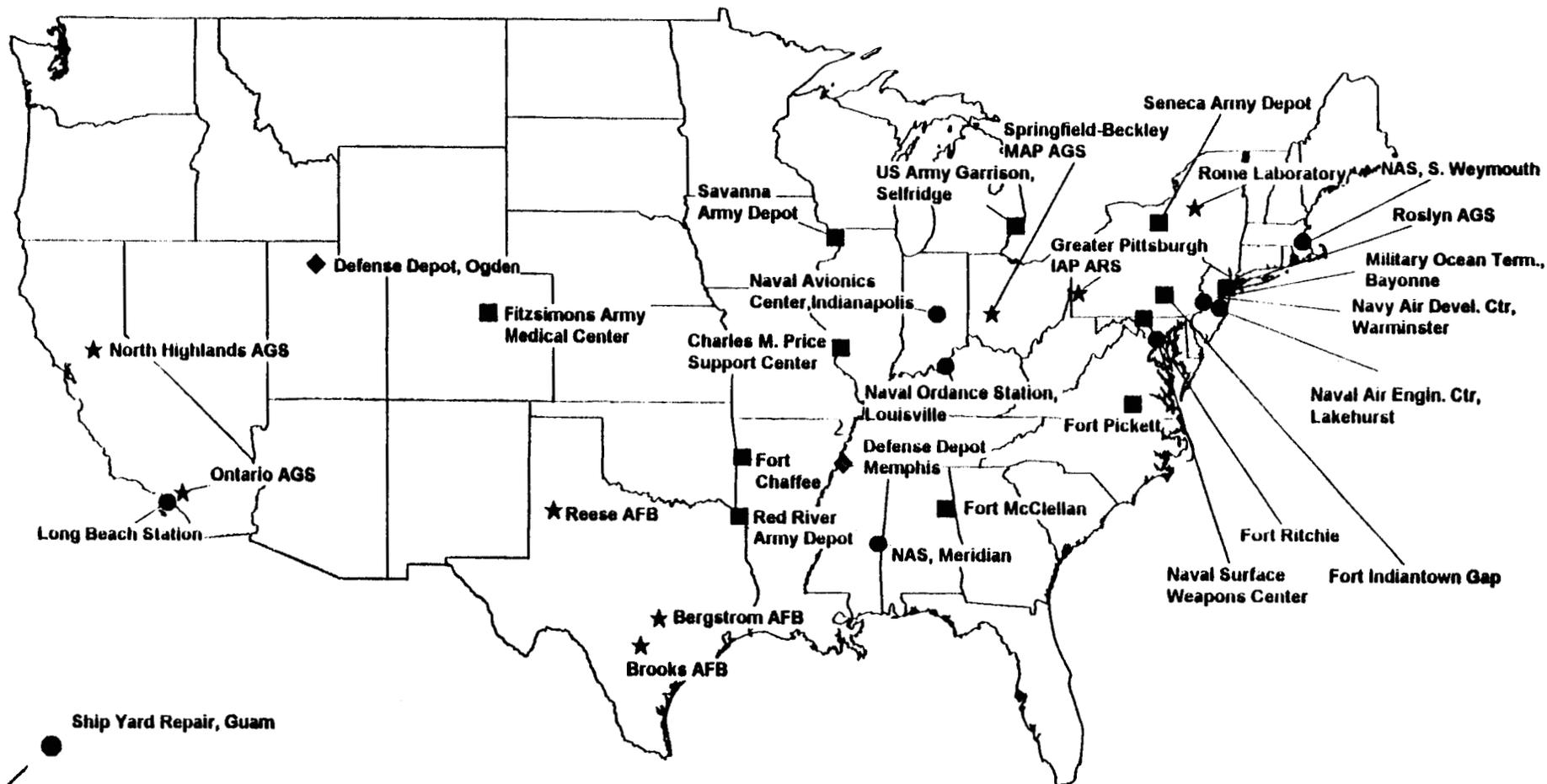
● NS, Key West

Legend

- Army (12)
- ★ Air Force (10)
- Navy (4)

1995 DoD Recommendations Major Base Closures

● NAS, Adak



In The Matter Of:

*THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT
COMMISSION*

REGIONAL HEARING

June 9, 1995

*BROWN REPORTING, INC.
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[16] June 9, 1995
[17] 9:00 a.m.
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[19] The Fox Theater
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COMMISSIONERS

[1]
[2]
[3] Mr. S. Lee Kling, Chairman
[4] Ms. Wendi Louise Steele
[5] Mr. Al Cornella
[6] Major General Josue Robles, Jr.
[7] Ms. Rebecca Cox
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[25]

[1] please do so now. We will then take one hour lunch
[2] break beginning at noon. We will resume at 1:00
[3] p.m. with a 45-minute presentation to the state of
[4] Mississippi, followed by 25 minutes from the state
[5] of Florida. Then we will hear public comments from
[6] Mississippi and Florida for 26 minutes. Sign-up for
[7] persons wishing to speak this afternoon will begin
[8] at noon outside the auditorium. The hearing should
[9] conclude at about 2:45.

[10] Let me also say that the base closure law
[11] has been amended since 1993 to require that anyone
[12] giving testimony before the commission do so under
[13] oath. And so I will be swearing in witnesses, and
[14] that will include individuals who speak in the
[15] public comment portion of the hearing.

[16] With that, I believe we are ready to
[17] begin; and if I could, would those individuals who
[18] will be testifying, would you please take the stand
[19] and take the witness' oath? Anybody in the back
[20] going to be - anybody that is going to be giving
[21] testimony whatsoever, would they please so we can do
[22] it once and kind of get done with that.

[23] Like our chairman says, he says he
[24] doesn't get too often a chance to swear in a
[25] Speaker. Do you solemnly swear or affirm that the

[1] testimony you are about to give to the Defense Base
[2] Closure and Realignment Commission shall be the
[3] truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

[4] **WITNESSES:** I do.

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STATE OF GEORGIA

[1]
[2]
[3] **COMMISSIONER KLING:** Thank you very much,
[4] gentlemen and ladies. We will now begin with the
[5] testimony from the state of Georgia, which will be
[6] 15 minutes to begin with starting off, I believe,
[7] with you, Governor Miller. The Governor is where?

[8] **GOVERNOR MILLER:** Good morning. Welcome
[9] to Atlanta. We have a line-up from Georgia today
[10] that, as an old baseball player, I can tell you is
[11] going to be hard to beat. The distinguished Senator
[12] Paul Coverdell, the Speaker of United States House
[13] of Representatives, Newt Gingrich; Congressman Bob
[14] Barr; Saxby Chambliss, Matt Collins; Sanford Bishop;
[15] and, of course, Senator Sam Nunn, perhaps the most
[16] knowledgeable man in America on military issues.

[17] We are joined by a distinguished group of
[18] community and military leaders; and as a former
[19] marine, I would like to mention one in particular.
[20] Marine Major General J.E. Livingston will speak to
[21] you shortly. He is the last active duty marine to
[22] wear a Congressional Medal of Honor. And I tell you
[23] with a great deal of pride and respect that he comes
[24] from Towns, Georgia. That should not surprise us,
[25] for Georgia and America's military history and

[1] security have been linked before the United States
[2] was the United States.

[3] Elijah Clark stood with 700 Georgians to
[4] face the British at Kettle Creek in 1779. And 80
[5] years later Georgians stood with General Joseph E.
[6] Johnston battlefields not far from where we are
[7] today. Georgians have been there with Pershing and
[8] MacArthur and Taylor and Westmoreland.

[9] And just a few years ago when the call
[10] came from the Middle East, Georgians who were born
[11] or who serve here climbed into their tanks and their
[12] fighters and attack aircraft, their helicopters,
[13] their submarines, and deployed to meet the new
[14] enemy. The ones who stayed behind made sure the
[15] ones that went had the best maintained and
[16] operational equipment in the desert. Ladies and
[17] gentlemen, if you look at the present shape of forts
[18] and airfields and marine and Navy bases in the
[19] Southeast, you are looking at America's rapid
[20] deployment force.

[21] Years ago we closed the military bases
[22] that were no longer needed in Georgia and what
[23] remains is the hub of a juggernaut that goes into
[24] battle first. Georgians are not there two months
[25] after the battle begins. Georgians are there before

[1] Let me now introduce to you my good
[2] friend and a man who has studied this from many,
[3] many angles, Senator Paul Coverdell.
[4] **SENATOR COVERDELL:** Commissioners and
[5] distinguished guests, good morning. I would like to
[6] join Governor Miller, Speaker Gingrich in welcoming
[7] you to Atlanta and the great state of Georgia.
[8] Senator Nunn will sketch the outlines of
[9] the evidence on behalf of the bases, and military
[10] presenters will fill in much of the detail. I would
[11] like to focus on the most important feature of any
[12] reserve Naval Air Station: demographics. It goes
[13] without saying that having good demographics is
[14] critical to supporting any reserve force operation.
[15] But it is even more important for the Reserve
[16] aviation squadrons.
[17] These squadrons must have highly-skilled,
[18] highly-trained, and highly-experienced people to
[19] achieve and maintain required readiness levels; and
[20] it is difficult to recruit and obtain Reservists
[21] with the necessary technical proficiency in avionics
[22] without the proper demographics.
[23] NAS Atlanta has the right demographics.
[24] The Atlanta area has some of the richest
[25] demographics for Navy and Marine Corps Reserve

[1] aviation recruiting in America. Atlanta is home to
[2] Delta, Lockheed, and many other companies employing
[3] more than 35,000 people with aviation-related
[4] skills. NAS Atlanta did receive low scores in the
[5] military value matrix for demographics, but why?
[6] And why would the Navy and Marine Corps want to put
[7] additional squadrons and Reserve units at NAS?
[8] The answer is clear: NAS Atlanta's low
[9] demographic score does not paint an accurate
[10] picture. In simple terms, the demographic score was
[11] low because the Navy was in the process of a
[12] purposeful drawdown and change in the structure at
[13] the end of 1993 when the snapshot was taken.
[14] Also NAS was required to answer in yes or
[15] no terms, something that we politicians avoid at all
[16] costs. In summary, NAS Atlanta's demographics
[17] rating in the Navy matrix may have been technically
[18] correct under the rules of the data call; but it
[19] ended up being grossly misleading. The Navy
[20] understands that, the Marine Corps understands that,
[21] and I believe you will understand that when we have
[22] completed the presentations.
[23] In regard to Warner Robins, I would like
[24] to address the issue of the Air Force's
[25] recommendations to downsize all five logistics

[1] centers rather than choosing closure. It is the Air
[2] Force argument that it costs more to close a base
[3] than it does to keep it open. That raises serious
[4] questions to me as a businessman.
[5] I believe the Commission should carefully
[6] examine the Air Force's argument that the bases can
[7] be downsized more efficiently if they all remain
[8] open. The General Accounting Office says in this
[9] approach they suspect the cost of closure was
[10] overestimated and the savings underestimated. I
[11] would urge the Commission to analyze carefully the
[12] GAO comments as well as revisit the work of the
[13] Joint Cross Service group study and BCEG
[14] recommendations.
[15] I know the Commission will consider
[16] whether closing one or perhaps two air logistics
[17] centers and the consolidation of the remaining
[18] centers would save substantially more. I know the
[19] Commission, utilizing common business sense, will
[20] look at this capacity issue and who can get the job
[21] done in the most effective and efficient manner for
[22] the Air Force and for the future defense of this
[23] Nation.
[24] At this time I would like to introduce my
[25] good colleague, Senator Sam Nunn, ranking the Armed

[1] Services Committee of the Senate.
[2] **COMMISSIONER KLING:** Thank you, Senator.
[3] **SENATOR NUNN:** Mr. Chairman, Commissioner
[4] Cornella, Commissioner Steele, Commissioner Robles,
[5] and members of the staff who worked so hard - and
[6] I'm very well aware of that - I am very pleased to
[7] be able to join the Governor, Senator Coverdell,
[8] Speaker Gingrich, my colleagues in the Congress in
[9] extending a warm welcome to you in visiting state of
[10] Georgia and our capitol, Atlanta. And I can only
[11] say when I heard the chairman describe this task as
[12] unpleasant and painful but the description of
[13] sensitive treatment that we were going to get, those
[14] words all remind me of going to a dentist's office.
[15] And I think that's kind of the way we all feel
[16] today, including the commissioners who are charged
[17] with this awesome responsibility.
[18] We have guests here from Florida,
[19] Alabama, and Mississippi; and I can say to all of
[20] you, we want you to come back for the Olympics next
[21] year where we will not be visiting a dentist's
[22] office, we will all be having a great celebration.
[23] So we know you have a tough job, and we appreciate
[24] this opportunity to help make the National security
[25] case for keeping Robins Air Logistics Center and the

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[1] important mission for our nation. We look forward
[2] to working with you as you seek what is truly in the
[3] best interest of our Country. And I know you will
[4] do that. Congressman Bob Barr will introduce the
[5] presenters for NAS Atlanta. Speaker Gingrich will
[6] wrap up on that presentation, Congressman Saxby
[7] Chambliss on behalf of himself, Congressman Sanford
[8] Bishop, and Congressman Matt Collins will do the
[9] same for the Warner Robins presentation. Thank
[10] you.

[11] **COMMISSIONER KLING:** Thank you, Senator
[12] Nunn. This will be 35 minutes for the Naval Air
[13] Station Atlanta, please. Congressman Barr.

[14] **CONGRESSMAN BARR:** Thank you,
[15] commissioners, staffs, officers, and ladies and
[16] gentlemen. We have come full circle. About five
[17] months ago I was sworn in by the Speaker, and today
[18] I've been sworn with the Speaker. In between we've
[19] probably been sworn at together by a lot of people.
[20] But it's an honor to be here with him and with so
[21] many of the distinguished colleagues and friends.

[22] We have met here today, commissioners, to
[23] continue carrying out a function that was identified
[24] by our Founding Fathers over 220 years ago as the
[25] single most important function of our Government.

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[1] And that is maintaining our national borders,
[2] maintaining our national security and projecting and
[3] protecting our national interests anywhere in the
[4] world through maintaining a strong military. And it
[5] is an honor today to be a part of that process that
[6] I know you-all take very, very seriously as do all
[7] of us here today.

[8] I have the honor of representing
[9] Georgia's Seventh Congressional District in which
[10] NAS Atlanta is located. And it is my pleasure today
[11] to represent not only the citizens of the Seventh
[12] District but also the Cobb Chamber of Commerce, the
[13] Cobb and Atlanta communities, and our friends from
[14] the Navy and the Marine Corps. We appreciate and
[15] welcome this opportunity to substantiate the Navy
[16] Department's recommendations to retain NAS Atlanta.

[17] I also enthusiastically support the BRAC
[18] 1993 redirect to bring additional squadrons to NAS
[19] Atlanta. In just a few moments you will hear in
[20] great detail about the virtues of NAS Atlanta, its
[21] exceptional demographics where, in fact, recruiters
[22] always make 100 percent of their recruiting goals.

[23] NAS Atlanta is well suited for fleet
[24] support, for training missions and, I might add
[25] parenthetically, of particular interest to me as a

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[1] former United States Attorney, for drug interdiction
[2] operations. NAS Atlanta is run at low cost. Quite
[3] simply put, it is the Navy's most economical Reserve
[4] air station. No other Naval Reserve space could
[5] support the additional squadrons scheduled to move
[6] to NAS Atlanta or to receive NAS Atlanta's current
[7] assets without military construction expenditures or
[8] without losing military readiness. Yet NAS Atlanta
[9] will, in fact, is, in fact, doing just that.

[10] NAS Atlanta is co-located with Dobbins
[11] air reserve base and is one of only a handful of
[12] facilities in the entire Country that is home to
[13] each of the six Department of Defense reserve
[14] components. It is without a doubt one of this
[15] Country's finest examples of inter-service
[16] coordination and cooperation, the jointness about
[17] which the Speaker so eloquently spoke.

[18] At the conclusion of this testimony, I
[19] believe you will fully agree that NAS Atlanta is a
[20] vital link in the total force structure of our Navy
[21] and that failure to utilize its readiness
[22] infrastructure, its available capacity, its joint
[23] use savings, and rich demographics pooled would not
[24] be in the best interests of our national security
[25] considerations or indeed of the American taxpayers.

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[1] To present our case in detail will be
[2] Rear Admiral J.D. Olson, Commander of Naval Air
[3] Reserve force; Major General James Livingston,
[4] Commanding General of the Marine Forces Reserve;
[5] Captain Hank Frazier, Commander of Navy Air Station
[6] Atlanta, and Speaker Newt Gingrich. Admiral Olson.

[7] **REAR ADMIRAL OLSON:** Thank you,
[8] Congressman. Distinguished members of the Base
[9] Reassignment and Closure Commission, as the
[10] Commander of the Naval Air Reserve force, I'm proud
[11] to be with you today to address the importance of
[12] Naval Air Station Atlanta in its key role in the
[13] Naval Air Reserve force of the future.

[14] Let me say right up front that I hope to
[15] make one thing perfectly clear. I'm here to tell
[16] you that this outstanding base is absolutely needed
[17] to ensure my force's capability to meet its mission
[18] requirements now and in the future. I will also
[19] tell you that the closing of this base would cost
[20] the taxpayer tens of billions of dollars in totally
[21] unnecessary military construction and moving
[22] expenses. More than that, the resultant loss of
[23] unit and individual combat readiness, which cannot
[24] be easily quantified but would nonetheless be a
[25] critical burden to our force of the future, would

[1] possible that NAS Atlanta's mission now and in the
[2] future is absolutely essential to the Naval Air
[3] Reserve Force in its ability to support the fleet in
[4] peace time and war. With jet transports and combat
[5] helicopters presently assigned and strike fighters
[6] and airborne early warning aircraft soon to be
[7] assigned to the air station, 51 total Navy and
[8] Marine Corps frontline aircraft, NAS Atlanta is a
[9] critical element in our capacity to operate our
[10] forces.

[11] As we examine availability of base
[12] infrastructure, I would very quickly point out that
[13] we have readily available hanger and administrative
[14] space at this base to receive the previously
[15] mentioned E2C and two F-18 squadrons and air wing
[16] staff without mil-con required. It is literally a
[17] turnkey operation with available space to house
[18] those units on arrival at NAS Atlanta. This base
[19] offers hangar and administrative space at virtually
[20] no cost to the newly arriving tenant commands, a
[21] tremendous bargain for the taxpayer.

[22] With regard to cost and manpower
[23] implications, I would point out that this air
[24] station is by far the most economical base to
[25] operate within my claimancy. In fact, it costs

[1] nearly 40 percent less to operate on an annual basis
[2] than the next cheapest major activity. Placed
[3] rather dramatic context, if you were to divide the
[4] annual base operating cost by the number of
[5] squadrons supported, the annual cost per squadron
[6] here in Atlanta would total just over \$1.7 million
[7] compared to nearly \$7 million per squadron at the
[8] other Naval Reserve base under BRAC study this
[9] year. Clearly this base represents the best bargain
[10] within my force and perhaps within the Department of
[11] Defense.

[12] As for manpower, Atlanta offers a
[13] veritable recruiting gold mine in terms of highly
[14] talented, highly educated people with aviation and
[15] high-tech backgrounds that we seek to recruit into
[16] our squadrons and fleet augmentation units.

[17] Now let's focus on cost payback. This
[18] one deserves very close scrutiny because this is
[19] where we really have a chance to do right by the
[20] American taxpayer. First, please recall that our
[21] plans to bed down three more squadrons at NAS
[22] Atlanta entails no mil-con expense here but would
[23] run sixteen to \$23 million in construction costs
[24] alone for just the Navy squadrons at alternate
[25] sites.

[1] Add in the estimated cost of closing the
[2] base, moving units to new locations, recruiting to
[3] refill the selective reserve bill that's now made
[4] empty by that move and training those reservists
[5] into their new billets, and we're now looking at
[6] upwards of \$89 million in Navy and Marine Corps
[7] expenses. That cost is totally unnecessary, and the
[8] needless repositioning of those Navy and Marine
[9] units will be very harmful to the respective
[10] readiness posture of our two forces over a span of
[11] three to five years.

[12] As an operational force commander, I
[13] could not let that happen without taking every
[14] opportunity to point out how much of a mistake that
[15] would be to spend so much of our shrinking defense
[16] budget for less capability than we have now and have
[17] carefully planned for the future.

[18] In conclusion I want to leave you with
[19] three thoughts. First, this is one of my very best
[20] Naval Air Stations in terms of continuous
[21] outstanding performance in virtually every measure.
[22] We have a winning team here, as Commissioners Kling
[23] and Cornella saw firsthand during their tour of the
[24] base earlier this week. That winning team has
[25] garnered just about every major award we have to

[1] give. My remarks for the record give a rundown of
[2] all those awards, and hardly recommend that you
[3] review those remarks to see just what I mean. I
[4] will also point out that you have a copy of the base
[5] newspaper just out. The headline of which NAS
[6] Atlanta wins unit commendation. That's just one of
[7] those major awards that I've been talking about.

[8] Secondly, I want to underscore the
[9] commitment we have to the rich demographics of the
[10] greater Atlanta area and this city's recruiting
[11] potential within the resident aviation and the
[12] high-tech industries that provide us with very
[13] skilled, highly motivated people for our squadrons
[14] and other units.

[15] The final thought is this: If the BRAC
[16] plan is presented to the commission by the Secretary
[17] of Defense dealing with Navy and Marine Corps
[18] Reserve forces is accepted, then I most strongly
[19] endorse that plan. We will position ourselves in
[20] the best possible manner for joint operation of
[21] bases, economy of operation within that joint world,
[22] and nearly seamless continuation of our high state
[23] of readiness.

[24] As a point of fact, if that plan is
[25] accepted as written, we will have joint facilities

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[1] manpower far in excess of recruiting requirements,
[2] training ranges which are close and available, and
[3] convenient low cost transportation for out of area
[4] reservists.

[5] The operational economies include low
[6] cost intermediate maintenance and engine repair
[7] facilities, superb airfield and operational support
[8] with Dobbins absorbing 5 million of annual cost,
[9] modern low-cost facility, and a major train shipment
[10] hub. Atlanta's central location also supports
[11] counter drug operations and active operations with
[12] East Coast units, including a multitude of joint
[13] rapid deployment forces in the Southeast.

[14] Let's underscore the key factor is
[15] recruiting demographics. Atlanta is rich in highly
[16] qualified aviation skills. From your perspective on
[17] the BRAC commission the most compelling argument for
[18] retaining NAS Atlanta is saving taxpayer dollars.
[19] The relocation of the 4 NAS Atlanta Marine Reserve
[20] units would cost roughly \$38 million. Relocation of
[21] EMFA 142, our F-18s there, would cost roughly \$16
[22] million in additional military construction.
[23] Closing NAS Atlanta would yield a negative benefit
[24] for the Marine Corps and fail the common sense
[25] test.

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[1] From where I sit, commanding an integral
[2] component of the Nation's force in readiness, the
[3] most compelling argument is retaining a first to
[4] fight posture for the East Coast. The Marine Corps
[5] needs trained and qualified reserve units now. When
[6] units move, recruiting and retraining requires three
[7] to five years. Incrementally BRAC moves a road to
[8] readiness. Previous BRAC moves coupled with the
[9] loss of NAS Atlanta would leave more than two-thirds
[10] of the 4th Marine Aircraft Wing and significant
[11] readiness lost. In regional conflict or other
[12] emergencies, I may not have combat-ready units
[13] available for the call. In summary, NAS Atlanta is
[14] cost-effective, jointly integrated, and
[15] operationally critical. It meets our recruiting and
[16] training needs. Its closure would result in a loss
[17] of key Marine Corps combat capability for three to
[18] five years and needless millions expended for
[19] relocation and military construction.

[20] As an operational war fighter, taxpayer,
[21] and steerer of sacred resources, I urge your
[22] retention of NAS Atlanta as an operating Naval Air
[23] Station. I will be followed by Commanding Officer
[24] of NAS Atlanta, Captain Hank Frazier.

[25] **CAPTAIN FRAZIER:** Good morning. In this

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[1] overview of Naval Air Station Atlanta, I will
[2] highlight some of the points made by Admiral Olson
[3] and General Livingston by pointing out specific
[4] examples of how NAS Atlanta excels in the area of
[5] demographics, training readiness, and low cost.
[6] People and training are readiness.

[7] This Navy headquarters data displays the
[8] readiness augmentation units assigned to all reserve
[9] Naval Air Stations which recorded the top two
[10] readiness ratings for fiscal year 1994. The
[11] historical trends are similar. Readiness ratings of
[12] reserve force squadrons are classified. However,
[13] the squadrons throughout the Naval Air Reserve force
[14] have priority landing. This chart is indicative of
[15] readiness of squadrons and we will support them.
[16] Demographics and training readiness, as Admiral
[17] Olson and General Livingston indicated, Atlanta has
[18] always been a leader in both personnel and training
[19] readiness. So many are the total additional Navy
[20] and Marine Corps selective reserve billet
[21] requirements with three new units planned for NAS
[22] Atlanta. We are prepared to man these units with
[23] the required skills now. Not included in these
[24] numbers are trained pilots and aircraft maintenance
[25] personnel from the recently established squadrons

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[1] which are now filling in our alternate units.

[2] In addition to these personnel it is very
[3] likely that many of the highly skilled pilots and
[4] maintenance technicians assigned to the units
[5] scheduled to move will move with these units to
[6] Atlanta. Historically exceptional demographics of
[7] Atlanta have supported the large requirements of not
[8] only Atlanta but the joint facilities. It stands to
[9] reason that this demographic base will grow. By
[10] national consensus, NAS Atlanta has one of the most
[11] demographically rich populations of aviation skills
[12] in the United States. The F-18 warns and happens
[13] the most complex training programming of any Naval
[14] aircraft post or present. The Navy has thoroughly
[15] reviewed these requirements and has certified that
[16] fully 90 percent of the specific training can be
[17] accomplished using the military operating areas and
[18] ranges within 20 minutes flying time of Naval Air
[19] Station.

[20] The off-station training requirements
[21] consist of carrier qualifications, anti-air missile
[22] shoots, supersonic intercepts, and combined air wing
[23] operations. All squadrons even active duty Navy and
[24] Marine Corps squadrons must use off-station sites to
[25] complete these sophisticated training events.

(1) asking to review NAS Atlanta. And I think that is
(2) exactly the right thing, exactly the reason we have
(3) a base closing commission because with all the data
(4) you had available the way the system asked for it,
(5) this clearly was a target for being closed. And in
(6) that sense I commend you for having asked to come
(7) down here.

(8) Third, I earlier did not refer to NAS
(9) Atlanta. I referred to NAS Dobbins. I did it
(10) deliberately because when you go back to the same
(11) data and you ask it about Dobbins and the Naval Air
(12) Station as a combined operation - and the hush
(13) house is the best example - if they had simply been
(14) asked is there available on your facility site the
(15) following facility, they would have checked yes.
(16) Because it was asked only about Navy-controlled
(17) facilities, they checked no, giving a misleading
(18) piece of information.

(19) This is a superb joint facility. It is
(20) remarkably cost-effective, and frankly it is a model
(21) of what I hope we will get more of in the future and
(22) not less of. And I hope the entire Defense
(23) Department would look at this facility with all six
(24) of the reserve components from all the services
(25) working together to provide the best reserve

(1) capability for the lowest cost to the American
(2) taxpayer.

(3) And in that framework, I think based on
(4) this expert's testimony, you have more than enough
(5) evidence of why all of the Dobbins facility from the
(6) Navy, the Army, the Marine Corps, the Air Force, all
(7) of it is a great national asset and we look forward
(8) to your questions.

(9) **COMMISSIONER KLING:** Mr. Speaker, thank
(10) you so much for those helpful comments and to you
(11) other gentlemen on the panel. We certainly
(12) appreciate, and I don't know if there are any
(13) questions from any of - Commissioner Cornella.

(14) **COMMISSIONER CORNELLA:** First of all, I
(15) thank you for the hospitality that you exhibited
(16) during our visit, and we appreciate that. It seems
(17) after the visit that by closing this installation
(18) all the infrastructure would still remain. I'm
(19) going to direct my questions to Admiral Olson. Is
(20) that correct, sir?

(21) **REAR ADMIRAL OLSON:** Yes. If you're
(22) asking what would happen with the facilities, it
(23) would become excess property and, quite frankly, I
(24) rack my brain to figure out how it could be put to
(25) use because of its co-location with Dobbins Air

(1) Reserve Base and the synergies and the dependence
(2) one upon another, I can't imagine how Dobbins could
(3) carry on its mission without the Naval Air Station
(4) and vice versa.

(5) **COMMISSIONER CORNELLA:** So in regard to
(6) infrastructure, nothing would be closed? And the
(7) answer is just yes on that, I assume.

(8) **REAR ADMIRAL OLSON:** Yes.

(9) **COMMISSIONER CORNELLA:** The missions that
(10) are being addressed through the redirect and the
(11) Marine missions that now exist at the installation,
(12) they would just have to find another home as
(13) addressed through the milk fund. None of those
(14) missions would really go away?

(15) **REAR ADMIRAL OLSON:** The missions do not,
(16) no, but it's an extremely complex problem for us to
(17) pick up the pieces and figure out where to put those
(18) squadrons and other units. And we lose, as we
(19) pointed out, considerable number of years of
(20) readiness and bear great expense.

(21) **COMMISSIONER CORNELLA:** So the results of
(22) the recommendation would be no closure, no
(23) infrastructure reduction, and just putting missions
(24) into chaos by moving them around the Country and
(25) additional military construction; is that correct.

(1) **REAR ADMIRAL OLSON:** We've had enough of
(2) it.

(3) **COMMISSIONER CORNELLA:** Thank you.

(4) **COMMISSIONER KLING:** General Robles.

(5) **COMMISSIONER ROBLES:** Just a quick
(6) question. I think Captain Frazier may be the guy in
(7) the hot seat on this one. Certainly the testimony
(8) of all of you collectively was overwhelmingly
(9) positive on the economics, the demographics, and the
(10) war fighting potential of this facility. But just
(11) for the record, are there any encroachment
(12) problems? Operationally do you have a problem with
(13) Atlanta airfield encroaching on your ability to run
(14) air ops out of that air station?

(15) **CAPTAIN FRAZIER:** No, sir, none come to
(16) mind. I think if you checked Dobbins NAS records
(17) against the rest of the UD components, we would come
(18) out very favorably.

(19) **COMMISSIONER ROBLES:** So from your point
(20) as the Commander of the Naval Air Station, you don't
(21) see that as a problem?

(22) **CAPTAIN FRAZIER:** No, sir. In fact, we
(23) have, as referred to in testimony, tactical aircraft
(24) have operated out of that field, tactical jets,
(25) since 1952.

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[1] represent missions critical to our ability to
[2] project force around the globe. For our air combat
[3] mission, the F-15 continues to establish an air
[4] superiority that has played a key role in recent
[5] crises around the world. And these mission support
[6] services only scratch the surface at Robins.

[7] As you take on the very difficult task of
[8] rethinking the air logistics structure for the
[9] future, I ask that you make special note of the
[10] people that will deliver those services. I am
[11] convinced that the critical key to the success story
[12] about which you are going to hear today is
[13] location. That location is middle Georgia. It's
[14] the people that work. It's the people that
[15] support. It's the people that fight, and ultimately
[16] it is the people of middle Georgia that over the
[17] years have made Robins Air Force Base the best Air
[18] Force Base in the world.

[19] It's my pleasure at this time to
[20] introduce to you Mr. George Isreal, who is chairman
[21] of the 21st Century Partnership. Thank you.

[22] **COMMISSIONER KLING:** Thank you,
[23] Congressman.

[24] **GEORGE ISREAL:** Thank you, Congressman
[25] Chambliss. Commissioners, on behalf of the 21st

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[1] Century Partnership and some 300,000 people of
[2] central Georgia, we wish to add our welcome to those
[3] of our Governor and the members of our Georgia
[4] delegation.

[5] Commissioners Kling, Cornella, and
[6] Steele, you recently visited with us. It's good to
[7] see you again. And to Commissioners Cox and Robles,
[8] we hope at some time to be able to host you at
[9] Robins ALC.

[10] As previously stated, you have faced the
[11] unenviable challenge of making the right military
[12] decision, the right business decision to downsize
[13] the military to meet threats and contingencies well
[14] into the next century. In short, what is smart
[15] business for America's defense? This is a
[16] monumental challenge to the Commission, the staff,
[17] and each of you. We applaud each of you for your
[18] untiring and dedicated and selfless service to our
[19] Nation.

[20] In my mind as a businessman, the
[21] challenge before you is quite simply put as
[22] demonstrated by this graphic on the slide. In the
[23] 1980's at the height of the Cold War defense
[24] build-up, the U.S. Air Force was capable of
[25] projecting force with approximately 40 plus wings.

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[1] During the Nineties the objective had been to reduce
[2] the full structure to between 18 - the late
[3] Secretary of Defense Aspen's objective - to the
[4] current strength of some 20 plus wings, in other
[5] words, a reduction in full structure of
[6] approximately 50 percent.

[7] During the Sixties, Seventies, and
[8] Eighties, the Air Force depot operations were
[9] consolidated into six air logistics centers, now
[10] five centers, to support the 40 plus wings. With
[11] the force reduction of one-half, the logic remains
[12] how should the excess depot capacity be reduced?
[13] Therefore, the questions: What makes good military
[14] sense? What makes good strategic sense? What makes
[15] good financial sense? And what makes good
[16] operational sense?

[17] Should the Air Force downsize in place,
[18] or should the Air Force close one or perhaps even
[19] two depots with the work being consolidated into the
[20] remaining three or four. The DOD recommendation to
[21] downsize in place, the fact that you have already
[22] made the arduous decision to place all five depots
[23] on the list of possible closure would indicate that
[24] the military decision of the Air Force should
[25] perhaps be evaluated in what makes financial and

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[1] business sense, what makes good operational sense.

[2] In other words, should the military
[3] decision for readiness be tempered and evaluated on
[4] the basis of cost? In other words, what is the best
[5] military value for the national defense, and how
[6] should that be achieved with minimal or no impact on
[7] readiness.

[8] Make sure, though, if you do close one or
[9] two depots that you darn sure don't want to close
[10] the best Air Force Base in the world. As you are
[11] tempering or trying the military decision against
[12] the business decision of what makes good sense, we
[13] must employ you to seek the opinion and inputs of
[14] General Fogelman, our Air Force CEO, before coming
[15] to any final decision. As you know, in business
[16] this makes good sense as well.

[17] We are quite confident that Robins has
[18] tremendous value now and in the future. The future
[19] holds great promise for greater efficiency and
[20] effectiveness through technology. As many of you
[21] have seen, Robins has been in the forefront of
[22] that. Secondly, the long-term community business
[23] climate is unmatched. The community support itself
[24] has become a hard and soft military asset.

[25] There are many components or facets that

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[1] all the aircraft in the Air Force and is the largest
[2] airborne avionics overhaul facility in DOD. No
[3] matter what the age of the aircraft, reliable
[4] avionics is a readiness factor in military value.
[5] And as on-board computers expand, software support
[6] related to each of these aircraft becomes a
[7] readiness issue as well.

[8] On the last chart I showed you that our
[9] primary weapons systems are frontline aircraft.
[10] Therefore, if you support the primary war fighting
[11] aircraft, most of what you do is directly related to
[12] the requirements of war and readiness or, said
[13] different, high in military value. Our organic
[14] depots were established for one purpose: rapid
[15] support to the war fighter in time of war. That's
[16] what the idea of corps is all about.

[17] Corps is nothing more than the capability
[18] we must retain in organic facilities to ensure
[19] readiness of forces deployed in the war scenarios
[20] and then sustain them while they are fighting the
[21] war. If it's not needed to fight the war, it just
[22] simply is not corps. Because of the frontline
[23] criticality of the weapons systems that are repaired
[24] at Robins that I just explained to you, they require
[25] almost seven million hours of corps capability to

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[1] support current war scenarios. As you will see
[2] later, this is the highest in the command and was a
[3] major factor in our top tier depot rating.

[4] Although we do not overhaul the systems
[5] shown here, Warner Robins does manage other key
[6] systems: helicopters, intelligence platforms,
[7] air-to-air missiles, and the Air Force's vehicle
[8] fleet, numbering over 106,000. The point being if
[9] you close this depot, the management and, more
[10] importantly, the engineering functions supporting
[11] these systems must also be relocated affecting
[12] readiness. Because of our location and facilities,
[13] the runway and the ramps, we are also home to
[14] several frontline operational missions. The 5th
[15] Combat COM Group is one of two mobile COM groups in
[16] the Air Force. They are frequently seen on CNN in
[17] Somalia, Guantanamo Bay, Bosnia, Turkey, and
[18] Kuwait.

[19] The 19th Air Refueling Wing takes
[20] advantage of our location and runway while providing
[21] refueling throughout the world. The first
[22] International Guard unit to be equipped with a B-1
[23] will be here in 1996, and at this time its
[24] construction is underway to accommodate the only
[25] J-Stars Wing in DOD. Some 28 aircraft and 3500

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[1] personnel and many unique facilities will support
[2] these important missions.

[3] Those of you who are fortunate enough to
[4] have toured the avionics facility at Robins saw
[5] firsthand the synergy of the co-use of facilities
[6] for both of these systems. Should this installation
[7] be closed, these units will also have to be
[8] relocated at a substantial cost.

[9] As with all depots, we also have a
[10] Defense Logistic Agency that provides primary
[11] support to our depot operations and our tenants.
[12] Over 50 percent of what they do is base to Robins
[13] Air Force Base. DISA is one of the 16 regional
[14] computer megacenters in DOD that has a replacement
[15] cost of \$42 million of facilities and equipment.
[16] The AFRA's headquarters must also be relocated if
[17] Robins is closed.

[18] Closing the installations where depots
[19] are located is an expensive proposition, but high
[20] costs are relative and some are much more expensive
[21] to close than others. The high cost of closing
[22] Robins is once again because of the missions that
[23] they do there. If everything you do is necessary to
[24] support the war, then everything you have must move;
[25] and that's expensive. What's really interesting,

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[1] however, on this chart is the difference between the
[2] discounted savings on a seven-year return on
[3] investment and a 22-year return on investment. By
[4] the time a Robins closure breaks even, the Air Force
[5] would have saved almost \$750 million had they closed
[6] the cheapest depot. That's the significance of this
[7] chart.

[8] Discounting the cost issue, I maintain
[9] that any decision that affects the way we do
[10] business will have a serious impact on our
[11] readiness. If you think about it, in all the
[12] postCold War contingencies - Iraq, Somalia, Haiti,
[13] and right now Bosnia - Robins has been totally
[14] engaged. Every product line they maintain, fighters
[15] airlifts, special operations C-130s, avionics,
[16] electronic warfare have been involved in one or more
[17] of these actions.

[18] And if I could return you to your books
[19] now, at this point I made reference to F-16s in
[20] Bosnia, and since I'm sworn in I would like you to
[21] discount that paragraph because before I got here I
[22] found it is incorrect. So I would like to make that
[23] for the record.

[24] If you extend what we do to the full
[25] range of systems managed by Robins, it is even more

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[1] disposal facilities, and more important, processes
[2] that do not dirty the environment. Our philosophy
[3] has been to eliminate hazardous material from the
[4] process and, if that is not possible, change the
[5] process so that the waste stream is minimized.
[6] All the above meets compliance. The key
[7] to a depot's value from an environmental perspective
[8] is its ability to comply with regulatory
[9] requirements without constraints to the operation
[10] and at a reasonable cost now and in the future.
[11] So how are we doing? We are proud of the
[12] fact that Robins has the lowest restoration cost in
[13] the command. Not only has the base been working
[14] hard to eliminate hazardous discharge into the
[15] environment, but they are ahead of schedule in
[16] cleaning up the problems of the past. As you can
[17] see, we are well down the road with 22 of 33 sites
[18] completed; and if money arrives as programmed, we
[19] will have completed all sites by the year 2000.
[20] Robins is in compliance with state and
[21] Federal requirements. Our on-base wells have more
[22] clean water than needed. We are one of two depots
[23] in the clean air containment area, which means we do
[24] not need credits to operate. And as in all
[25] industrial complexes, everything cannot be

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[1] recycled. Therefore, our 50-year community landfill
[2] capacity is significant to our operation. I might
[3] also add that the treated waste water that is
[4] discharged from Ocmulgee River is of a better
[5] quality than that found in the river upstream.
[6] Without question, Robins has a
[7] significant environmental advantage when it comes to
[8] the business of depot maintenance. Our leadership
[9] both on and off base are committed to continuing
[10] this excellent stewardship. This is not just my
[11] view. And after receiving the award for best
[12] environmental program in the Air Force in April of
[13] this year, the Secretary of Defense said we had the
[14] best environmental quality program in DOD. When
[15] evaluating Air Force depots, environmental factors
[16] are important, and Robins' environmental advantage
[17] is clear.
[18] As you visited the Air Force depots, you
[19] saw a wide range of skills and capabilities. Robins
[20] alone has over 240 skills supporting 13 commodities
[21] with 21 centers of excellence spanning a wide range
[22] of technology. But the issue is not to be able to
[23] do a lot of things, even if you do them well. The
[24] important issue is to do the things well that are
[25] valuable to the war fighter. This is what we do,

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[1] and that's why we have the highest corps capability
[2] in the command.
[3] This chart illustrates my point and shows
[4] you one of the reasons why Robins was rated by the
[5] Air Force as a top tier depot. Our corps workload
[6] is the highest in the command. When it comes to a
[7] wide range of products done in significant amounts
[8] carrying high military value, it is clear why Robins
[9] came out on top.
[10] This is what the Air Force of the future
[11] will fight with, stealthy aircraft, fly by wire
[12] strategic airlift capability which are supported by
[13] sophisticated avionics and electronic warfare
[14] capabilities. Depots are postured to deal with
[15] composite components and aircraft - and I refer to
[16] these as plastic airplanes - advanced avionics,
[17] electronic warfare capabilities and to be able to
[18] support large aircraft deployments throughout the
[19] world.
[20] Robins is already well down the road in
[21] its range of technology to support the future. Our
[22] composite manufacturing capability and our
[23] availability of work materials such as titanium, our
[24] experience with strategic airlift and our world
[25] class capabilities in avionics and electronic

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[1] warfare are examples of how we are postured for the
[2] future.
[3] The bottom line is future flexibility.
[4] The reason Robins is a tier-one depot is not just
[5] because of the broad range of things we do but the
[6] relevance of that effort to the war-time mission,
[7] military value. Not only is Robins a top tier depot
[8] as voted by DOD, it also the best base in the Air
[9] Force as validated by the President with the
[10] installation excellence award.
[11] The decisions facing you are of great
[12] importance. I've tried to show you that military
[13] value, return on investment, and the environmental
[14] considerations of Warner Robins Air Force Base leave
[15] no doubt that Robins should be a major part of the
[16] future in the Nation's defense. I'll now turn it
[17] back to Mr. Isreal. Thank you.
[18] **COMMISSIONER KLING:** Thank you, General
[19] Barrett.
[20] **GEORGE ISREAL:** Thank you, General
[21] Barrett. Now let me address the community economic
[22] impact. And I don't wish to bore you by crying in
[23] our beer, so to speak, but rather for you to
[24] understand.
[25] Number one, this community was built to

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(1) Air Force. We have infrastructure which is in place
(2) and more importantly, as I said, sized and designed
(3) for the future, for the 21st century. Well over
(4) \$800 million has been invested in the future. The
(5) local community has a demonstrated past of
(6) responding to the Air Force Base and the ALC
(7) regardless of need. We have never said no. We have
(8) never said maybe, and we have never answered with
(9) silence. Instead, if the Air Force asked for
(10) something, we have provided it. They needed more
(11) classrooms. They got it. More modern facilities,
(12) they got it. More teachers, they got it.

(13) If the ALC needed a steady, constant
(14) supply of engineers as well as continuing education
(15) for engineers or research or lab center, Mercer
(16) University in Macon provided it. In addition,
(17) another \$28 million has been invested in other
(18) postsecondary needs in the central Georgia area. In
(19) the 1950's and '60s, Robins needed mechanics and
(20) sheet metal workers. Area vocational schools
(21) responded.

(22) In the Sixties and Seventies, Robins
(23) needed avionics and electrical technicians. The
(24) Macon Area Technical Institute was founded and began
(25) to meet that need. In the 1980s Robins needed

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(1) technicians for electronic warfare, avionics,
(2) composite repair, computer science, and I could go
(3) on and on. The Middle Georgia Technical Institute
(4) was founded in the late Eighties by the State of
(5) Georgia with an investment of over \$23 million.

(6) The community and state have met Uncle
(7) Sam's needs many, many times over since we deeded
(8) that original 3,000 acres to Uncle Sam in 1940 and
(9) even most recently, the some \$2 million to clear the
(10) ATZ and noise impact zone to the north, which has
(11) been done just since BRAC '93. And as an aside, I
(12) was told this morning that the last of the 28
(13) parcels has been deeded.

(14) The road transportation projects to
(15) accommodate traffic generated by Robins personnel
(16) and supplies has been massive, from Russel Parkway
(17) to Highway 247 to the 247 Connector and the six
(18) lanes of I-75 in Houston and Bibb Counties.
(19) Hundreds and hundreds of millions of dollars have
(20) been invested to meet this need.

(21) There has been a sizeable investment in
(22) community infrastructure to meet and the serve needs
(23) of Robins Air Force Base and the Warner Robins ALC
(24) now and well into the next century. Some
(25) \$65 million has been invested by utility companies

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(1) to give Robins a relatively inexpensive constant
(2) self-contained source of energy which will meet all
(3) projected needs for decades to come. From electric
(4) power co-generation to fiber-optic capacity,
(5) substantial investments have been made in the future
(6) of Robins. This community investment translates
(7) into infrastructure which is a hard military asset
(8) for our Nation and our Air Force and will help DOD
(9) meet and accommodate total force requirements, all
(10) contingencies, and all missions.

(11) Let me turn to another real military
(12) asset and one which did not figure into the tier
(13) ratings. That's people. It's easy to figure that
(14) people are just people. But as I've already
(15) mentioned, the team Robins work force is unique.
(16) The reason you have the creme de la creme from which
(17) to pick is you're the largest industrial employer in
(18) our state. Although Robins' average labor rates is
(19) almost the lowest in the command, to us po' folks in
(20) central Georgia you pay very well. As a result, you
(21) can pick the very best without a whole lot of
(22) competition.

(23) Now there was not a rating or measuring
(24) of people from ALC to ALC and perhaps it is not
(25) politically popular to do so or proper; but

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(1) Mr. King, Mr. Cornella, Ms. Cox, Mr. Robles,
(2) Commissioner Steele, anything in business and any
(3) businessman knows that this has to go in the
(4) matrix. People are the biggest cost of doing
(5) business, but they are also the biggest asset.

(6) This slide reflects the wage base
(7) comparison from ALC to ALC. The most expensive ALC
(8) has an average wage of 22 percent above Robins'.
(9) The team Robins work force is less expensive than
(10) the other three ALCs. What a bargain. And you're
(11) getting a capable, motivated, dedicated work force,
(12) a real military asset. And this is work force is
(13) further complemented by the ready support and labor
(14) pool from the aerospace industry in Georgia and
(15) within our MSA and an annual capacity to do school
(16) and train and graduate or retrain almost 800
(17) aerospace workers in middle Georgia every year.

(18) Aerospace is a culture among the work
(19) force. While most of the 22,000 work at Robins,
(20) large numbers are employed at Boeing, McDonnell
(21) Douglas, Norfolk, and other blue chip defense
(22) contractors and aerospace companies right in central
(23) Georgia.

(24) In summary, General Barrett has capably
(25) demonstrated Robins' military value, the return on

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[1] think the Army was absolutely correct in its
[2] analysis and recommendation to move ATCOM to
[3] Redstone Arsenal. There it would be combined with
[4] MICOM and the Army missile command. This move only
[5] makes sense and it fits with the law and it fits
[6] with the BRAC process. Now, it has been suggested
[7] by supporters of ATCOM that the same savings could
[8] be resulted by moving SSDC to Redstone Arsenal. So
[9] that's how we get into the SSDC closure issue in our
[10] opinion. We think this is a smokescreen, and we
[11] think this actually may confuse you and hides the
[12] real issues here.

[13] The transfer of SSDC to Redstone is an
[14] issue that is separate and apart because SSDC is a
[15] separate command. It is not related at all to ATCOM
[16] there. There are separate Army commands. St. Louis
[17] has proposed moving SSDC as an alternative to
[18] blocking ATCOM, and I hope you will pay attention
[19] and the Commission will pay attention to the recent
[20] COBRA analysis of the savings there because there
[21] are no savings from the move of SSDC.

[22] Now, I consequently would like to
[23] concentrate right now on ATCOM and would like to
[24] outline the arguments that we will discuss today for
[25] the ATCOM move to Redstone Arsenal. First, the

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[1] Army's recommendation to close ATCOM is fully
[2] supported by the law. The Army is in full
[3] compliance with the BRAC law in its analysis and in
[4] its recommendations.

[5] Second, and in our opinion very
[6] importantly, the savings and efficiencies will
[7] result from a consolidation of ATCOM and MICOM at
[8] Redstone Arsenal, incredible savings. The Army has
[9] identified \$46 million in annual savings and
[10] \$453 million in savings over 20 years. The return
[11] on that move investment will be less than three
[12] years, 2.3 years or something around that length of
[13] time.

[14] Third, the information that has been
[15] provided to this commission by the opponents of the
[16] ATCOM closure is inaccurate. That information
[17] relates mainly to cost analysis around the least
[18] cost and the costs related to the consolidation of
[19] ATCOM there. That's where we get into the confusion
[20] caused by SSDC. And for this I have said now twice,
[21] the evaluation of SSDC and ATCOM are indeed separate
[22] issues. We strongly feel there can't be a
[23] comparison to the SSDC transfer and that this cannot
[24] be looked to as an alternative to the ATCOM transfer
[25] there to Redstone because, again, they are separate

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[1] Army commands.

[2] Finally I want to say to you that if the
[3] BRAC process is meant to accomplish what it's
[4] supposed to accomplish, that listening to the
[5] savings over moving ATCOM there to Redstone is the
[6] bottom line that the Commission should look at.
[7] Those are real cost savings and real savings to the
[8] taxpayers. And we believe that when all of the
[9] analysis is completed and the smokescreens are
[10] lifted between SSDC and ATCOM that you will see that
[11] the Army recommendation is dead accurate. The
[12] taxpayers save money by the closure of ATCOM and the
[13] transfer of its activities to Redstone Arsenal.

[14] I will now turn the presentation over to
[15] Dr. Langley.

[16] **DR. LANGLEY:** Thank you, Mr. Cramer, and
[17] thank you for hearing us today. And I speak not
[18] just for these business leaders and these civic
[19] leaders and these political leaders that are
[20] representing the whole Tennessee Valley region, but
[21] I speak for the common citizen and the taxpayer; and
[22] we represent thousands if not millions of those here
[23] from the taxpayer roll of our region. And we come
[24] to accord with this and affirm this particular
[25] change from moving ATCOM to MICOM at Redstone.

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[1] We come not because we are an authority
[2] in the field, but we are bringing the Army's
[3] recommendation and refocusing or reemphasizing that
[4] it is that important matter that the Army suggests
[5] here, not some Chamber of Commerce or not some
[6] politicians or not some public-minded citizens like
[7] ourselves. Indeed it must be a heart-wrenching, gut
[8] wrenching decision that you face and the people
[9] involved and the jobs involved, et cetera, and we
[10] are concerned with that pain and the politics but
[11] the thing we are faced with here today is to take
[12] some high roads and some high ground. It must be a
[13] difficult and challenging call that's been given to
[14] your commission to do this. Is it a no-win
[15] situation? Are in a funeral or a wedding
[16] situation?

[17] It's a challenge indeed and a real
[18] problem. We understand that, but we think that the
[19] basic issue here is to claim that high road and that
[20] high ground and the hopeful merger of ATCOM with
[21] MICOM and would result in an amazing efficiency of
[22] such a wise integration. We believe also that the
[23] reduction of - and, again, the Army's figure.
[24] Think of that number: 1,066. Let me repeat that,
[25] 1,066 positions that have been found not by us but



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[1] our community from a cotton town to a technology
[2] city. And that city built an infrastructure
[3] including universities, science centers, research
[4] parks, airports, and high-tech industry to support
[5] the aerospace culture of Redstone Arsenal.
[6] I really know of no other community that
[7] has devoted such energy, time, and money to
[8] supporting the work of a military installation like
[9] Huntsville and the Tennessee Valley have in
[10] assisting Redstone in carrying out its many
[11] missions. I have seen thousands of American
[12] taxpayers come to our community to see firsthand the
[13] work that Redstone has been doing in the Army
[14] missile field. They leave with a feeling of pride
[15] in the technological advancements and
[16] accomplishments that have been made by the Redstone
[17] team. And I think they realize that our missiles
[18] help keep peace in the world that we live.
[19] I've also watched young people of
[20] America. Over 200,000 come to Huntsville to attend
[21] our space and aviation camps to learn about careers
[22] in science and technology. They come because they
[23] want to start their own careers in science,
[24] engineering, or aviation. So Huntsville is a
[25] community that has always supported its military

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[1] partner in defense. We are prepared to do so again
[2] by supporting the Army's recommendation to expand
[3] Redstone's mission to include Army aviation. And I
[4] cannot think of a better place in the Army to
[5] consolidate such a highly technical mission than at
[6] Redstone Arsenal.
[7] In testimony before this Commission in
[8] Chicago there was a challenge to the Army's
[9] recommendation to consolidate and merge ATCOM and
[10] MICOM at Redstone Arsenal. I'd like to comment on
[11] those issues raised at that meeting and to assure
[12] you that the action conforms to BRAC law and is the
[13] result of sound and accurate analysis.
[14] In regard to treatment of the leased
[15] facilities, you were asked to ignore the precedence
[16] of the 1990 BRAC law. The law was amended in 1990
[17] and the term military installations, as you know,
[18] specifically includes any leased facility. Further,
[19] you were asked to ignore the 1993 BRAC commission's
[20] recommendation, which states the Commission suggests
[21] that DOD direct the services to include a separate
[22] category for leased facilities during the 1995
[23] process to ensure a bottom up review of all leased
[24] space. I think it's important to note that the Army
[25] fully complies with the BRAC amended law and the

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[1] Commission's recommendation on this issue.
[2] **Cost:** In regards to the one-time cost
[3] for an ATCOM move, the Army's costs are accurate and
[4] these savings can be achieved only through
[5] consolidation. GSA has acknowledged the inaccuracy
[6] of cost analysis testimony to the BRAC commission
[7] that failed to include the aviations program
[8] executive office, the systems integration management
[9] activity. St. Louis overstated the rent savings by
[10] \$34 million.
[11] St. Louis did not account for the value
[12] of the Goodfellow site in savings. They overstated
[13] the cost by not including the value of the sale by
[14] \$40 million. St. Louis failed to account for other
[15] available GSA space in St. Louis for tenants and
[16] overstated the increased lease costs for these
[17] tenants. St. Louis overstated the additional cost
[18] by \$30 million.
[19] It's a fact that substantial personnel
[20] savings only result from consolidation. I call your
[21] attention to General Shane's statement that the DOD
[22] COBRA model doesn't consider or take credit for any
[23] savings that might result from any previously
[24] planned personnel reduction or reductions that are
[25] otherwise independent of the BRAC process. The key

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[1] point here is that total savings or 95 percent of
[2] the savings occur only through the elimination of
[3] redundant positions through the consolidation of
[4] commands.
[5] The first round fired in Desert Storm was
[6] a Redstone managed Hellfire missile from a St.
[7] Louis-managed Apache helicopter. I can't think of a
[8] better example of success. The soldier was
[9] integrated with a weapons platform which enabled him
[10] to deploy his weapons and achieve success in the
[11] battlefield. Ladies and gentlemen, the Army is
[12] saying to us let's supply that successful
[13] combination to our missile and aviation programs.
[14] Let us marry the people who develop and support the
[15] weapons systems with the people who develop and
[16] support the weapons platform and give that soldier a
[17] more effective weapon on the battlefield. By doing
[18] this we can integrate research, achieve a higher
[19] degree of success. We can concentrate our efforts
[20] in a single location and we can consolidate those
[21] functions and we can reduce personnel and
[22] substantially raise costs - reduce costs.
[23] The long-term results, we believe, will
[24] be a true value added to the Army's aviation and
[25] missile capability in this nation. The United

[1] one of the finest, indeed the Army's best commodity
[2] installation.

[3] Another important point is that at
[4] Redstone they have one of the finest and most
[5] advanced telecommunications and information centers
[6] in the whole world. And then, of course, you know
[7] we have an airfield adjacent, which is not at
[8] Goodfellow Center in St. Louis.

[9] Then the Commission is faced, of course,
[10] with these two distinct decisions that affect the
[11] Tennessee Valley and, of course, the whole nation.
[12] One, the move of ATCOM to Redstone or the leaving of
[13] the aviation command in St. Louis and moving SSDC to
[14] Redstone. The first recommendation repays the U.S.
[15] taxpayer. In other words, the wiser merger, by far
[16] the wiser merger of ATCOM with MICOM will result not
[17] only in savings but we believe in efficiency. And
[18] we celebrate that and surely honor it.

[19] And then it's worth noting that the
[20] second recommendation, SSDC relocation to Redstone,
[21] does not repay the taxpayer in the move, does not
[22] improve of the efficiency of our fighting forces,
[23] would likely be a band-aid kind of response rather
[24] than surgery that seems so obviously needed. We
[25] think it would amount to bad judgment if not bad

[1] government and we deplore that.

[2] In conclusion, let me just summarize by
[3] saying the numbers, again, not ours, the numbers
[4] given us by the evaluation teams of our own very
[5] able Army evaluators make sense to us, good sense,
[6] makes dollars and cents. In fact, we would just
[7] simply have to say don't these figures, don't these
[8] numbers speak for themselves? The numbers talk.
[9] They seem to here today. They speak rather
[10] eloquently, loud and clear to us - we hope to
[11] you - do this. We think the taxpayers would say do
[12] this. We think the Congress would say do this, and
[13] we are glad we think the United States Army would
[14] say do this. What more could we say?

[15] **CONGRESSMAN CRAMER:** I might say to the
[16] Commission as well in conclusion you may have been
[17] confused by the SSDC issue in light of the fact that
[18] perhaps if you consider moving SSDC to Redstone
[19] there might not be room for ATCOM. Redstone for the
[20] reasons cited by this panel has been looked to by
[21] the Army as a place of excellence, a place that in
[22] the past they've moved personnel, they've moved
[23] commands to, they've consolidated there.

[24] We've got land, land, lots of land and an
[25] infrastructure around there that is very

[1] supportive. We could, in fact, accommodate both of
[2] these issues. We think, however, that the SSDC
[3] addition to the list was inappropriate, but we would
[4] want you to know that in conclusion and we thank you
[5] for your attention today.

[6] **COMMISSIONER KLING:** Well, Congressman
[7] Cramer, and Dr. Langley, Ms. Green, and Mr. Buckbee,
[8] we certainly appreciate your coming and we thank you
[9] for your comments and they're very helpful to all of
[10] us, I'm sure. Let me ask our commissioners if there
[11] are any questions. If not, thank you very much.

[12] Let me just say that this is normally the
[13] time that we have public comment. We do not have
[14] anybody that desires to make any public comment; so
[15] we will adjourn and we will reconvene at 1:00
[16] o'clock and we will then hear from the states of
[17] Mississippi and Florida. So, again, thank you all
[18] for participating and being with us.

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

[1]
[2]
[3] **COMMISSIONER KLING:** Good afternoon,
[4] ladies and gentlemen, and welcome to our afternoon
[5] session. I'm Lee Kling, and with me are my fellow
[6] commissioners, Al Cornella at the end, Rebecca Cox,
[7] and Wendi Steele. This afternoon we will hear a
[8] presentation from the state of Mississippi which
[9] will last for 45 minutes followed by a presentation
[10] by Florida for 25 minutes. As is the case with all
[11] our regional hearings, the Commission has given a
[12] block of time to the states based on the number of
[13] installations on the list and the jobs lost.

[14] We have left it to elected officials and
[15] community leaders to decide how to fill the block of
[16] time. After the two presentations there will be a
[17] period of 26 minutes for additional public comment
[18] from Mississippi and Florida. The persons who wish
[19] to speak at that time should have signed up by now
[20] in the lobby or, if not, if they would please do so
[21] at this time. They are asked to limit themselves to
[22] two minutes and that time limit will be strictly
[23] enforced.

[24] We will be ready to begin the Mississippi
[25] presentations as soon as I have sworn in the

[1] Columbus Air Force Base.
[2] We all believe that Columbus is and
[3] should be where the future is flying. Thank you
[4] very much for listening to that, Mr. Kling, and
[5] other commissioners. Ex-mayor Fred Hayslett, Fred.
[6] **COMMISSIONER KLING:** Thank you so much,
[7] Governor.
[8] **FRED HAYSLETT:** Thank you, Governor.
[9] First, let me introduce two gentlemen whose
[10] firsthand knowledge of Columbus Air Force Base has
[11] been invaluable as have analyzed data about the UPT
[12] bases. Colonel Nick Ardillo, Air Force retired, is
[13] the deputy chief of staff for Governor Kirk
[14] Fordice. Colonel Ardillo served as wing commander
[15] of the 14th Flying Training Wing at Columbus from
[16] September of 1991 to April of 1993.
[17] Colonel Paul Rowcliffe is site manager
[18] for Reflectone Training Systems at Columbus Air
[19] Force Base. He previously served as commander of
[20] the 14th Flying Training Wing operations group.
[21] They are here today as technical advisors and
[22] available to answer questions.
[23] Members of the Commission, we would like
[24] now to direct your attention to some of the key
[25] facts about Columbus Air Force Base, the

[1] undergraduate pilot training base, which the Air
[2] Force considers its No. 1 facility. During the
[3] Department of the Air Force's discussions about base
[4] closure, Mr. James F. Boatright, who served as group
[5] chair, stated that the two most important criteria
[6] to the Air Force were, Criteria I, the flying
[7] training mission, and Criteria II, facilities and
[8] infrastructure.
[9] As you can see, the Columbus Air Force
[10] Base was ranked first by the Air Force and most
[11] importantly the Joint Cross Service Study Group in
[12] Criteria I, the flying training mission. This is an
[13] important point to remember. When all factors are
[14] considered, Columbus is ranked No. 1 among UPT bases
[15] in mission performance.
[16] As this chart on Criteria II, facilities
[17] and infrastructure, indicates, Columbus was the only
[18] UPT base to receive a green rating by the Air
[19] Force. As many of you saw yesterday, the facilities
[20] and infrastructure at Columbus are a valuable asset
[21] to the Air Force and will become more valuable as
[22] the service is downsized, becoming leaner. Columbus
[23] Air Force Base has been consistently recognized for
[24] exceptional performance, demonstrating the success
[25] of the base in fulfilling its mission.

[1] While the list of recognitions earned by
[2] Columbus Air Force Base units is lengthy, please let
[3] me just mention a few. First, the 14th Flying
[4] Training Wing received the Air Force Outstanding
[5] Unit award for the period July 1, '92, through June
[6] 30th, 1994. The 14th Civil Engineering Squadron
[7] received the Air Force outstanding civil engineering
[8] unit in 1994. And this spring, the public affairs
[9] office was recognized by the Air Force receiving the
[10] public affairs director's excellence award.
[11] These are just some of the unit awards
[12] received by Columbus Air Force Base. The list of
[13] individual military and civilian personnel earning
[14] recognition is extensive. The fact that Columbus
[15] Air Force Base units and personnel are so successful
[16] is indicative of two important elements: The
[17] facilities are outstanding, and the environment
[18] creates a pleasing quality of life creating highly
[19] motivated people.
[20] Now let me turn your attention to a few
[21] of the many key attributes we believe make Columbus
[22] Air Force Base a critical installation. The one to
[23] keep operable as United States downsizes its
[24] military and reengineers its forces. These key
[25] attributes are also why the Air Force ranked

[1] Columbus first in its analysis. The most important
[2] is flexibility, flexibility, flexibility. Columbus
[3] without tremendous expense can support any of the
[4] Air Force's five missions: Trainer, fighter,
[5] bomber, tanker, airlift transport.
[6] Having been a strategic air command base,
[7] home to the B-52, Columbus Air Force Base has the
[8] infrastructure to provide service capabilities in
[9] both pilot production and additional missions. One
[10] recent example illustrates this point. Columbus Air
[11] Force Base served as the temporary home to the
[12] KC-135 of the International Guard's 186th Air
[13] Refueling Group from Meridian without interrupting
[14] its regular training schedule.
[15] Columbus' three parallel runway
[16] configuration with its 12,000 feet center runway
[17] accounts for much of its flexibility and its high
[18] rating on facilities and infrastructure. But that's
[19] not all Columbus has to offer. That two-mile plus
[20] runway and the 63-foot runway that used to be the
[21] B-52 taxiway are both reinforced concrete
[22] substructures that will support the heavier aircraft
[23] without additional expense.
[24] In the lower right-hand column there's a
[25] Christmas tree, as we call it, of the alert

(1) coast. It is an important logistical requirement to
(2) provide support to those aircraft across the Country
(3) for such occurrences as unforeseen maintenance
(4) problems. As the only pilot training base east of
(5) the Mississippi, Columbus is responsible for this
(6) support over a large geographic area, basically all
(7) support east of the Mississippi.

(8) Two new analyses of data developed by the
(9) BRAC staff were presented at the "adds" hearing. In
(10) both Staff Analysis I and Staff Analysis II Columbus
(11) Air Force Base dropped slightly in the rankings.
(12) There are two considerations which adversely
(13) affected those rankings and need to be corrected.
(14) The first consideration is weather as related to
(15) icing forecast days. The staff analysis plugged in
(16) uncertified data on icing forecast days.
(17) Unfortunately that uncertified data was the only
(18) data available at that time. In the information
(19) provided to you today, there is a schedule of the
(20) number of sorties flown and the number of sorties
(21) lost to icing at Columbus Air Force Base during the
(22) past 30 months.

(23) As you can see, 167,000 sorties have been
(24) flown with 335 sorties canceled due to icing.
(25) That's less than two-tenths of 1 percent and really

(1) becomes a nonissue. Whatever the icing data
(2) analyses show, it is one factor that is inclusive of
(3) the overall sorties canceled or rescheduled.
(4) Therefore, to include both items in the overall data
(5) analysis is, in fact, double counting the effects of
(6) icing on training accomplishment. There is actually
(7) very little difference among UPT bases on sorties
(8) lost to weather. Those lost sorties are the real
(9) issue and are fairly consistent in number at all UPT
(10) bases.

(11) Air space is the second consideration
(12) which contributed to Columbus' lower ranking when
(13) adjusted by the BRAC staff. The original joint data
(14) call included all available training air space.
(15) This resulted in the following air space areas:
(16) Columbus had 45,092 cubic nautical miles; Laughlin,
(17) 58,868; Reese, 31,116; and Vance, 36,084. That
(18) placed Columbus second in available air space, but
(19) in Staff Analysis II, only air space on and
(20) scheduled was included. This gave Columbus 20,545
(21) cubic miles of air space. However, this did not
(22) include Meridian One East MOA, which is scheduled
(23) and exclusively used by Columbus. This air space
(24) has been a primary T-37 training area for numerous
(25) years under a letter of agreement. A copy of that

(1) letter is included in your briefing book. This area
(2) should have been included in the Air Force data call
(3) and increases Columbus' air space to 22,319 cubic
(4) nautical miles.

(5) As we speak of air space, first let's
(6) look at the air space which is actually owned by
(7) Columbus. While we are doing that, I'd like to
(8) bring your attention to this area right here. This
(9) is MOA I, this is MOA III, and really should be
(10) considered one MOA, and when you do that, it
(11) decreases the average distance to Columbus' MOAs and
(12) air space areas to 21 1/2 miles. This is the air
(13) space that Columbus exclusively uses and schedules.
(14) And this is air space used by Columbus Air Force
(15) Base. When including all air space, that's a total
(16) of 40,496 cubic nautical miles.

(17) However, we also think there's another
(18) consideration, and that is usable air space. The
(19) joint data call on air space included this note:

(20) "Since air traffic controlled and assigned air
(21) space, or ATCAA, is not chartered, bases can only
(22) report ATCAA they actually use or impact their
(23) operations." When reporting ATCAA, some bases
(24) reported air space to an unuseable high ceiling of
(25) to T-37 and T-38 aircraft since the ceiling is

(1) established by a letter of agreement with the FAA.
(2) All indications are it is impractical to
(3) use air space above 30,000 feet for the T-37 and
(4) T-38 aircraft because of limited aircraft
(5) maneuverability and accomplishing training syllabus
(6) requirements. Adjusting owned/scheduled air space
(7) for all four locations to a maximum usable altitude
(8) of 30,000 feet results in the following cubic miles
(9) of air space: Columbus has 22,319 cubic miles of
(10) air space, once again making it second in usable air
(11) space available.

(12) We believe that this represents the most
(13) realistic evaluation of air space for the T-37 and
(14) the T-38 aircraft. Although there are different
(15) methods for evaluating the air space structure of
(16) each base and result in different conclusions, air
(17) space is not a limiting factor in regards to pilot
(18) graduate capacity in Columbus. Columbus' air space
(19) is viewed favorably by the Air Force due to the
(20) close proximity of the MOAs to the base, which allow
(21) student pilots to maximize their training time.
(22) This closeness to training areas is only one of the
(23) reasons Columbus is one of the two least costly UPT
(24) bases to train a pilot in a COBRA data results.

(25) Having addressed the weather and air

[1] To the members of the Commission and the
[2] concerned groups, I would say that we have a high
[3] degree of confidence in the BRAC process. The BRAC
[4] data have been rigorously reviewed, thoroughly
[5] analyzed by a group of flying training experts from
[6] the services. Their analyses contain a proportional
[7] blend of objective data and seasoned judgment.
[8] These experts concluded in the analysis by OSD and
[9] the Air Force that Reese is the appropriate base to
[10] close. This recommendation was then presented to
[11] the Secretary of the Air Force who made her
[12] recommendation to the Secretary of Defense.

[13] I am confident that the DOD
[14] recommendation to close Reese Air Force Base and
[15] only Reese Air Force Base is in the best interest of
[16] the Air Force and the Nation. That means we must
[17] keep Columbus, Vance, and Laughlin Air Force Bases
[18] open. I thank you for your support and for the
[19] conscientious manner in which you are approaching a
[20] most difficult decision. Thank you.

[21] **COMMISSIONER KLING:** General, we
[22] certainly appreciate your being here with us and for
[23] those comments. And we certainly will respect and
[24] look into what you said further. Who would be
[25] next? Colonel, no other further comments by any of

[1] the panel? Maybe perhaps there's some questions by
[2] the commissioners.

[3] **COMMISSIONER STEELE:** Two or three
[4] questions.

[5] **COMMISSIONER KLING:** Commissioner Steele.

[6] **COMMISSIONER STEELE:** General, if the
[7] four installations are all so close, what caused the
[8] Air Force to select Reese over others? There have
[9] been a lot of questions back and forth about
[10] different weather factors and cross-winds and
[11] whether things matter or they don't matter, whether
[12] they should be players. What led you to your
[13] decision to discriminate?

[14] **LIEUTENANT GENERAL BOLES:** We looked
[15] at - a lot of discussion about numbers, factors,
[16] models, and we came down to looking at capacity,
[17] training quality, flexibility, and margin of
[18] safety. Capacity is heavily affected by weather.
[19] The three bases that we have recommended have the
[20] lowest attrition when you start comparing long-term
[21] apples to apples factors. Reese is slightly
[22] different, and I will talk about that in just a
[23] moment.

[24] Training quality reflects a number of
[25] factors; and it, again, comes back to the three

[1] remaining bases have the lowest cross-winds which
[2] have an effect. They also have the best
[3] combinations of air space volume and accessibility.
[4] Flexibility and margin of safety, and in
[5] that one, I think we would agree the traffic pattern
[6] is the most critical phase of flight. And in the
[7] summertime Reese's density altitude, as you saw on
[8] one of the charts, that becomes very critical for
[9] T-38s, particularly T-38 solo operations when it's
[10] about twice as frequent as at the next most critical
[11] base. So in each of the analyses, each of the
[12] models that have been run, they come so close and
[13] only in one model has there been even a tie between
[14] Reese and any other base. So that kept us with the
[15] recommendation for Reese. As I said, it was not an
[16] easy choice. Reese is an excellent facility, but if
[17] you have to choose one, that was the difficult
[18] choice.

[19] **COMMISSIONER STEELE:** Thanks you for
[20] expanding on that.

[21] **COMMISSIONER KLING:** We certainly thank
[22] you all very much. We appreciate your comments. We
[23] appreciate your being with us today and, Governor,
[24] to you, thank you so very much.

[25] **GOVERNOR FORDICE:** Thank you, Chairman

[1] Kling. We appreciate the opportunity to be here.

[2] **COMMISSIONER KLING:** I want to be sure of
[3] one thing. Be sure that you let Senator Dixon know
[4] that I did not take his place today. Otherwise,
[5] he's liable to fire me. Then I'd be in big
[6] trouble.

[7] **GOVERNOR FORDICE:** I'll let him know.
[8] Thank you so much for the opportunity.

[9] **COMMISSIONER KLING:** We will now take a
[10] break for ten minutes, and then we will hear from
[11] the state of Florida. And with that, thank you.

[12] (A recess was taken)

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[1] number of Air Force Reserve C-131 and F-16 bases
[2] that are being studied by your commission. As you
[3] know, the Air Force Reserve considered a wide
[4] variety of options and recommended that we, in fact,
[5] close one Air Force Reserve C-130 and one F-16
[6] base. These recommendations were extremely
[7] difficult because all of our bases are truly, in
[8] fact, cost-effective, well-manned, combat ready and
[9] supporting Air Force requirements on a continual
[10] basis.

[11] In our F-16 analysis we supported and saw
[12] an opportunity for savings by reducing our base
[13] infrastructure as part of our overall F-16 force
[14] structure reduction. The Air Force Reserve is
[15] reducing to a total of 60 F-16s. We are very
[16] sensitive to the importance of maintaining a very
[17] delicate balance between infrastructure reductions
[18] and demographic diversity. Experiences during
[19] Desert Shield and Storm have validated the
[20] importance of maintaining a broad recruiting base in
[21] key population areas such as Miami and the south
[22] Dade area.

[23] We, in fact, have found now that our high
[24] level of volunteerism after the fact there even more
[25] reinforces the peacetime reliance on having our air

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[1] reserve bases where our experienced and skilled
[2] individuals live. Homestead Air Reserve Base has
[3] proven its strategic value and its recent
[4] contingency support in the Caribbean area of
[5] operations. Its location provides us an outstanding
[6] training location due to its exceptional flying
[7] weather, its access to the air combat maneuvering
[8] instrumentation range, supersonic training areas,
[9] and suburb joint range facilities. Additionally it
[10] provides exceptional support to other Federal
[11] agencies as they carry out a wide range of diverse
[12] operations supporting national objectives and
[13] policies.

[14] As we look to our future, it's even more
[15] critical that the Air Force Reserve maintain a
[16] presence at Homestead. Our operations there are
[17] affordable, and the track record of the 42nd Fighter
[18] Wing is flawless. They provide excellent support to
[19] the Air Force and to other DOD and Federal
[20] agencies. They have achieved an outstanding record
[21] of inspections, and they maintain continual combat
[22] readiness even in spite of the devastation of
[23] Hurricane Andrew. Furthermore, Air Force Reserve
[24] bases such as Homestead provide the Air Force the
[25] opportunity for a blue suit presence in key grass

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[1] root communities across America. As a result,
[2] millions of citizens are kept keenly aware of the
[3] United States military mission being a truly
[4] national priority.

[5] In your difficult task, I strongly urge
[6] your commission to not exceed the Air Force
[7] recommendation to close more than one C-130, Air
[8] Force Reserve C-130, or F-16 base. And I also urge
[9] the Commission to fully compare the viability of
[10] each considered base. Homestead Air Reserve Base is
[11] most assuredly one of our best, and its closure
[12] would be most unfortunate and contrary to the needs
[13] of our command and this Nation.

[14] I thank you for your consideration, and
[15] it is indeed my pleasure to introduce Senator Daryl
[16] Jones.

[17] **COMMISSIONER KLING:** Thank you, General
[18] Sherrard, for your good comments.

[19] **SENATOR JONES:** Mr. Chairman,
[20] commissioners and staff, my name is Daryl Jones.
[21] I'm a member of the Florida State Senate and
[22] Homestead Air Reserve Base is in the district that I
[23] represent. I also served my Country as a Reservist
[24] in the 42nd Fighter Wing at Homestead. It is my
[25] honor and privilege to brief you today on the

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[1] strategic military value of this important military
[2] asset.

[3] The mission of the 42nd Fighter Wing at
[4] Homestead is to maintain the capability to mobilize,
[5] deploy, and to perform fighter operations anywhere
[6] in the world within 72 hours or such other tasks as
[7] required by higher headquarters. Our base also
[8] hosts the Defense Logistics Agency. The DLA is
[9] responsible for contracting to meet Department of
[10] Defense fuel requirements in Central and South
[11] America and the Caribbean basin. We expect the
[12] 125th Fighter Group, Detachment 1, on station around
[13] the end of the year. And construction of the U.S.
[14] Customs service facilities is imminent.

[15] As you know, facilities for the 301st
[16] Rescue Squadron are part of our overall plan. Our
[17] community, of course, would welcome back this
[18] outstanding unit. The Florida National Guard is
[19] preparing to move its City of Homestead Armory to
[20] the base, and currently the base is being evaluated
[21] for potential support functions for the U.S.
[22] Southern Command. As directed by the 1993 BRAC,
[23] these are the aircraft currently assigned to
[24] Homestead: the 42nd's 18 Falcon fighters are
[25] already on station.

(1) force and other joint use training missions. In
(2) conclusion, Homestead Air Reserve Base is clearly
(3) the premier Air Force Reserve fighter base for both
(4) recruiting and training of mission-ready worldwide
(5) deployable force. Further, this treasured asset is
(6) the essential location for real world support of
(7) Caribbean contingency operations.

(8) We, therefore, respectfully request that
(9) you support our position that Homestead Air Reserve
(10) Base remain open. Mr. Chairman, commissioners, and
(11) staff, thank you for your time and your attention.

(12) It is now my pleasure to introduce to you Mr. David
(13) Weaver, the convening chairman of Team Miami.

(14) **COMMISSIONER KLING:** Thank you.

(15) **DAVID WEAVER:** Good afternoon, Mr.
(16) Chairman, commissioners. This is for me and several
(17) other members of our team a little bit of deja vu
(18) all over again. We have been before this Augusta
(19) group two years ago, and while we will do recognize
(20) and we respect the importance of this process, I
(21) must say that it is difficult for us once again to
(22) have to justify the existence of our base.

(23) We understand that you have to look at
(24) maximizing military value, minimizing costs and
(25) ensuring sufficient recruiting demographics for our

(1) air reserve bases. We know that the focus today is
(2) narrower than it was the last time around and that
(3) cost production comparisons and the net present
(4) value of savings from closure are even more critical
(5) to your decision.

(6) We are advised that at least one of three
(7) bases must close, Carswell, Berkstrom, or Homestead,
(8) that the argument has been made that shutting down
(9) Homestead will save \$85 million in military
(10) construction moneys, that greater operating savings
(11) can be generated by closing Homestead, and that the
(12) economies of scale of Berkstrom's joint use airport
(13) will generate an earlier and significantly greater
(14) cash stream in the benefit of the Air Force than the
(15) same joint use programs at Homestead. None of these
(16) arguments hold water.

(17) I draw your attention to the COBRA cost
(18) comparison board before you. It clearly shows that
(19) all the savings from closure are in Homestead's
(20) favor. Net present value savings are \$28 million
(21) greater by closing Berkstrom. One-time costs to
(22) close are almost identical. Closing Berkstrom will
(23) generate \$18 million greater savings over the next
(24) six years. The recurring savings are greater by
(25) closing Berkstrom.

(1) More civilians are eliminated by closing
(2) Berkstrom. Operating costs at both bases are
(3) identical, and \$12.7 million more of military
(4) construction savings are generated by closing
(5) Berkstrom.

(6) So we rest our preliminary case on the
(7) numbers. It's clearly from a COBRA perspective
(8) better to keep Homestead open. But there are two
(9) other issues out there. The first, can the Air
(10) Force save \$85 million by closing Homestead? The
(11) answer is a resounding no. The Air Force won't save
(12) a penny if those moneys aren't spent. Not a cent of
(13) those moneys are mil-con moneys. They are simply
(14) being tracked as an adjunct to the mil-con budget.

(15) Now, those moneys belong to Dade County,
(16) and they're going to stay in Dade County unless the
(17) law changes. They were specifically designated by
(18) Congress as special appropriations, and they have
(19) absolutely nothing to do with the military
(20) construction budge. Our Congressional delegation is
(21) committed to those funds staying where they were
(22) intended to go.

(23) The taxpayers of America will gain
(24) nothing by shutting down Homestead. Only the Air
(25) Force and the defense and training capability of our

(1) Nation will lose access to the facilities that won't
(2) have cost the military anything. \$28 million of
(3) those moneys have already been spent, another
(4) \$24 million in the advance design stage, only
(5) \$33 million is left in the pipeline. The final
(6) issue is more complex.

(7) We agree that Austin's new airport will
(8) reduce long-term operating costs at Berkstrom.
(9) Berkstrom expects that base operating costs will
(10) drop by a million dollars a year once the new
(11) airport is fully operational, and they expect
(12) personnel and real property maintenance costs to
(13) eventually drop as well. But we think that what's
(14) fair for the goose is also fair for the gander.

(15) What about Homestead's FAA-approved dual
(16) use airport, which is in the advanced planning
(17) stages. What about the \$125 million in proposed
(18) private developer funds? What about Dade County's
(19) commitment of \$24 million in capital construction
(20) moneys? And what about Dade County's one point four
(21) to \$2 million a year which starts in October of this
(22) year? Commissioner Moss is going to address that
(23) issue in a minute.

(24) The fact of the matter is, Commissioners,
(25) we can and will make exactly the same case as

[1] economy. Ladies and gentlemen, the base, the
 [2] hurricane when it came through Homestead in south
 [3] Dade County represented a 30 billion-dollar
 [4] devastation and natural disaster, one of the worst
 [5] that we've ever had in the whole United States.
 [6] The BRAC decision in 1993 and its
 [7] acceptance by President Bill Clinton gave us some
 [8] light and gave us encouragement in our community.
 [9] This decision to place us back on the potential
 [10] closure list has had a psychological and an
 [11] emotional impact on our community that is very
 [12] difficult to share with you-all today and explain to
 [13] you. The families of the 482nd who also went
 [14] through Hurricane Andrew and then were torn apart by
 [15] their temporary relocation to Tampa came back
 [16] together about a year ago, and they began making
 [17] plans for the future. Along with the 482nd came
 [18] about 1200 jobs and about \$90 million of economic
 [19] impact into our community. The folks from the 482nd
 [20] were reunited with their families, and stress was
 [21] reduced. But I must share with you that that stress
 [22] level is increasing again.
 [23] I ask you-all as we consider the
 [24] possibility of base closure who will make decisions
 [25] to purchase homes or to accept promotions in

[1] assure you that we in Dade County are particularly
 [2] sensitive to the military's increased emphasis on
 [3] the quality of life issues such as health, welfare,
 [4] safety, and morale. It's important to remember that
 [5] reserve base personnel unlike active installations
 [6] are fully immersed in the civilian community; and,
 [7] therefore, they share all the same advantages of
 [8] amenities of the dynamic, urban-suburban south
 [9] Florida environment.
 [10] Dade County has the nations fourth
 [11] largest public school system with one of the
 [12] Country's best accelerated college preparation
 [13] programs and six excellent institutions of higher
 [14] education. We have one of the Nation's cleanest,
 [15] healthiest environments with year-round outdoor
 [16] recreational opportunities for families and over 650
 [17] municipal, county, state, and national park
 [18] facilities. We have a recruiting pool of over
 [19] 4 million people, representing an ethically
 [20] diversified population which has historically
 [21] provided the Air Force with high quality reservists,
 [22] including large numbers of highly-trained persons
 [23] with extensive experience in aviation skills, a
 [24] quality that you can only find in an area
 [25] surrounding a major commercial international

[1] civilian pursuits or even make a decision regarding
 [2] their family size if they don't know where they're
 [3] going to be training. The decision to bring the
 [4] 482nd back and the 301st back gave our community a
 [5] great deal of hope the stability could be returned
 [6] to the area. Our business and commercial interests
 [7] do not depend exclusively on the base, but they do
 [8] factor that very much into their business
 [9] decisions.
 [10] The issue before you today is one of
 [11] urgency for Homestead, Florida City, and all of Dade
 [12] County. I urge you to please allow the plan that
 [13] was accepted by the BRAC commission in 1993 and
 [14] recognized by Secretary Bill Perry as the finest
 [15] that he had ever seen. I urge you also please
 [16] remove the base from closure consideration.
 [17] I am now pleased to introduce Don
 [18] Slesnick. Don is the vice-chairman of the Greater
 [19] Miami Chamber of Commerce. Don.
 [20] **COMMISSIONER KLING:** Mayor DeMilly, thank
 [21] you so much for your comments.
 [22] **DON SLESNICK:** Mr. Chairman,
 [23] commissioners, it's good to be back with you again.
 [24] I am here on behalf of the Chamber and all the
 [25] citizens of Dade County represented here today to

[1] airport.
 [2] We have extensive shopping opportunities
 [3] for families with enormous variety of malls,
 [4] discount outlets, and two new BX marts, one which
 [5] just recently opened at Homestead with 5,000 people
 [6] in attendance, showing the urgency of that need in
 [7] the community of retirees and reservists, and one
 [8] new BX mart at the nearby Coast Guard housing area.
 [9] We have the only urban area in the United States
 [10] with five major sports franchises, five major league
 [11] sports franchises, and three of the Country's most
 [12] highly rated sporting events: the Durell-Ryder open
 [13] golf tournament, the Lipton tennis tournament, the
 [14] Orange Bowl college football championship game.
 [15] We have a wealth of cultural activities,
 [16] including over 50 annual festivals to include
 [17] nationally acclaimed book and film festivals. We
 [18] also have two symphony orchestras, a world class
 [19] ballet, and a world class opera company. And for
 [20] the young, energetic members of the command there
 [21] are the dusk-to-dawn entertainment areas of Coconut
 [22] Grove and the art deco district of South Miami
 [23] Beach. All in all there is no more exciting,
 [24] healthier, or more supportive location for the 482nd
 [25] and 301st than the Homestead Air Force Reserve base.

[1] **PUBLIC COMMENT: MISSISSIPPI AND FLORIDA**
 [2]
 [3] **COMMISSIONER KLING:** We are now ready to
 [4] begin a period set aside for public comment. Our
 [5] intention is to try to ensure that all opinions on
 [6] the recommendations of the Secretary or the
 [7] additions of the Commission affecting Mississippi
 [8] and Florida are heard. We have assigned 26 minutes
 [9] for this period. We asked persons wishing to speak
 [10] to sign up before the hearing began, and they have
 [11] done so by now. We have also asked them to limit
 [12] their comments to two minutes, and we will ring a
 [13] bell at the end of that time. Please stop after
 [14] your two minutes are up.
 [15] Written testimony of any length is
 [16] welcome by the Commission at any time in this
 [17] process. If all those signed up to speak would
 [18] raise your right hands now and all those that are
 [19] out there that will be speaking, would they please
 [20] raise their right hand and I'll administer the
 [21] oath. Do you solemnly swear or affirm that the
 [22] testimony you are about to give to the Defense Base
 [23] Closure and Realignment Commission shall be the
 [24] truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?
 [25] **WITNESSES:** I do.

[1] **COMMISSIONER KLING:** Thank you. We will
 [2] now begin with Katie Sorensen, County Commissioner,
 [3] Miami. Welcome.
 [4] **KATIE SORENSEN:** Thank you,
 [5] Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon, commissioners. I
 [6] represent the area surrounding the base. My name is
 [7] Katie Sorensen, and it's an honor to be here today.
 [8] It's an honor because of the people that I
 [9] represent. I am sure you're aware of Dade County's
 [10] diversity and ethnic and cultural diversity and the
 [11] tension that often goes with it. But the people
 [12] around the base - hispanic, black, white, Asian,
 [13] rural, urban, agricultural - live and work together
 [14] in a quietly cooperative manner that is a national
 [15] model of tolerance and mutual respect.
 [16] South Dade is made up of genuine, real
 [17] McCoy, feet on the ground, meat and potatoes family
 [18] kind of people. South Dade people are proud. South
 [19] Dade people are practical. South Dade people have
 [20] great stamina and marvelous resiliency. These are
 [21] people who had their homes and livelihoods
 [22] obliterated by a vicious storm, as the poet Rudyard
 [23] Kipling put it, who watched the things they gave
 [24] their lives to broken and stooped and built them up
 [25] with worn out tools. Character, commitment,

[1] fortitude that's south Dade.
 [2] South Dade is not glitzy or trendy like
 [3] Miami Beach, but you can get there within an hour.
 [4] But if you want quality Lorianne Swank of the White
 [5] Lion Restaurant makes a darn good chicken salad, and
 [6] people come from miles around to go to our rodeo
 [7] midwinter. But south Dade is so much more. South
 [8] Dade is the home for the military. We appreciate
 [9] the military lifestyle, we love military families,
 [10] we are happy and proud to have military people as a
 [11] our neighbors and friends.
 [12] The BX mart just reopened two weeks ago,
 [13] and our people feel renewed optimism and hope.
 [14] Commissioners, please, help us put the hurricane
 [15] behind us once and for all. We are ready to soar
 [16] again. We implore you, let us keep the 482nd, bring
 [17] back the 301st, and send us more. We will be in
 [18] south Dade waiting and welcoming all with open arms
 [19] and loving hearts. Thank you.
 [20] **COMMISSIONER KLING:** Thank you for those
 [21] welcome comments. Also representing Homestead,
 [22] Mr. Jeff Kirk, city councilman, City of Homestead.
 [23] **JEFF KIRK:** Thank you Chairman and
 [24] commissioners. My name is Jeff Kirk. I'm a
 [25] councilman with the City of Homestead on behalf of

[1] the 20,000 residents of the city of Homestead.
 [2] Two years ago when you, the Commission,
 [3] authorized Homestead as an Air Force Reserve Base,
 [4] you gave the people and citizens of Homestead, the
 [5] merchants, the residents, a vision of hope. With
 [6] that hope, we began to rebuild in the wake of the
 [7] largest natural disaster in the United States
 [8] history, a distinction that we still hold. I am
 [9] here to tell you today that Homestead is coming
 [10] back. We are coming back stronger, and our citizens
 [11] have a resolve to rebuild and improve the city. But
 [12] we are not out of the woods yet. It's only been a
 [13] couple of years since the hurricane, and we're still
 [14] in the process of rebuilding.
 [15] Unfortunately we don't have any new
 [16] sources of money to tap. We don't have new sources
 [17] of state aid to tap. We must now depend on economic
 [18] development. Let us not take a step backwards and
 [19] stop halfway. Let us continue economic development,
 [20] and please do not close our base now. Two years ago
 [21] you gave us the green light, and we have not
 [22] disappointed you. The citizens of Homestead rallied
 [23] around the military troops and personnel when we did
 [24] our operation and Haiti and, boy, we were proud to
 [25] see the troops and see the people and be a portion

[1] partnership relationships.

[2] **COMMISSIONER KLING:** Thank you for those
[3] fine comments, Mr. Phillips. Bob Jensen. How do
[4] you do, sir. Welcome.

[5] **BOB JENSEN:** Thank you. I'm Bob Jensen,
[6] and I'd like to tell you that I represent the
[7] Military Affairs Committee of our Chamber of
[8] Commerce, and I'm also a retired Naval officer. I'd
[9] like to go back to Senator Jones' presentation and
[10] emphasize the military importance of our base, its
[11] location for international operations, the weapons
[12] training and combat training that takes place there
[13] today, and the unparalleled training ranges that we
[14] have.

[15] You have heard about recruiting.
[16] Recruiting is everything to the Air Force Reserve.
[17] Not only do we have a large, talented, triethnic
[18] community, but we have an aviation hub and we also
[19] have an International medical center.

[20] Please follow the recommendations of the
[21] Air Force Reserve and allow them to continue
[22] operating from Homestead. Thank you.

[23] **COMMISSIONER KLING:** Your comments are
[24] most appreciated. Thank you. Mr. Steven Cranman
[25] from Miami.

[1] **STEVEN CRANMAN:** Thank you, Chairman and
[2] commissioners. My name is Steven Cranman. I'm the
[3] executive director of the Brian Cutlerage Council.
[4] We're an economic development organization in the
[5] south Dade area. I'm speaking to you from the
[6] civilian business community. You have heard we were
[7] impacted by Hurricane Andrew. You have heard that
[8] we had the closure of Homestead Air Force Base, but
[9] what does it really mean? It means jobs. It means
[10] quality of life. It means economic vitality of
[11] particular community.

[12] My organization just recently two months
[13] ago administered a business profile survey, the
[14] first conducted since Hurricane Andrew. I have that
[15] report to submit to you here today. I am sad to
[16] say, however, 62 percent of the respondents within
[17] this administrative survey purported to us that they
[18] had decreased traffic with regard to our customers.
[19] Consequently, they also reported to us that when it
[20] came to business profits, they also were down. We
[21] need to pull our community together. We need to get
[22] the economic vitality of our community back on line,
[23] the way it was prior to Hurricane Andrew.

[24] We also used to have 45,000 winter
[25] visitors that would come into your community to

[1] enjoy the sunshine, take advantage of the base
[2] hospital and commissary. It's also diminished now
[3] to only 15,000. It's also extremely critical that
[4] this military installation work in tandem with the
[5] reuse plan that has been worked through the
[6] community and ready to go. If we do not get this
[7] military installation back into the community, it is
[8] going to set us back tremendously.

[9] In short, I ask for your consideration.
[10] And I implore you, please, keep the Homestead
[11] Reservist unit in our community. Thank you for your
[12] consideration.

[13] **COMMISSIONER KLING:** And thank you, Mr.
[14] Cranman. Do we have Kim Striker here? Ms. Striker,
[15] did you take the oath before?

[16] **KIM STRIKER:** No.

[17] **COMMISSIONER KLING:** Do you solemnly
[18] swear or affirm that the testimony you are about to
[19] give to the Defense Base Closure and Realignment
[20] Commission shall be the truth, the whole truth, and
[21] nothing but the truth?

[22] **KIM STRIKER:** I do.

[23] **COMMISSIONER KLING:** Thank you.

[24] **KIM STRIKER:** Good afternoon, chairman
[25] and commissioners. I represent a community that

[1] directly abuts the base. I'm the president of the
[2] Princeton-Naranja Community Council, and our
[3] neighbors grew up around the base and because of the
[4] Homestead Air Force Base. We are made up of the
[5] retirees and the people who are working at the base
[6] that want to live close to the base.

[7] We support and we do embrace the military
[8] presence that's in our community. Although other
[9] communities may have compelling reasons to want to
[10] keep their bases active, I believe that ours is far
[11] greater. We went through Andrew together, and our
[12] recovery is very much tied to the base's recovery.

[13] When then President Bush and now
[14] President Clinton came to south Dade, they both made
[15] commitments to rebuild the base. The impact that
[16] this had on those of us who had lost everything
[17] cannot be explained in words. We worked hard to
[18] maintain ourselves and keep a sense of hope in the
[19] midst of the disaster. The commitment to rebuild
[20] the base gave us a hope and a reason to believe that
[21] the recovery would occur.

[22] The last BRAC process was very terrifying
[23] to those of us who are so close to the base, but we
[24] survived the BRAC with a realignment instead of a
[25] closure. Although the loss of some of the military

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THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION
REGIONAL HEARING

June 9, 1995

9:00 a.m.

The Fox Theater
660 Peachtree Street, NE
Atlanta, Georgia

Lori N. Sumrall, CCR-B-1304, RPR

BROWN REPORTING, INC.
1100 SPRING STREET, SUITE 750
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30309
(404) 876-8979

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1 COMMISSIONER KLING: Good morning, ladies
2 and gentlemen, and welcome to this regional hearing
3 of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment
4 Commission. My name is Lee Kling, and I am a member
5 of the commission charged with the task of
6 evaluating the recommendations of the Secretary of
7 Defense regarding the closure and realignment of
8 military installations in the United States.

9 Also here with us today are my colleagues
10 and fellow commissioners, Wendi Steele, Al Cornella,
11 and shortly will be joining us will be Joe Robles
12 and Rebecca Cox.

13 The commission is also authorized by law
14 to add bases to the secretary's list for review and
15 possible realignment or closure. On May 10th, as
16 all of you know, we voted to add 35 bases to the
17 list. Today we will hear from some of those
18 newly-affected communities. First let me thank all
19 the military and civilian personnel who have
20 assisted us so capably during our visits to the many
21 bases represented at this hearing. We have spent
22 several days looking at the installations that we
23 added to the list on May 10th for review and asking
24 questions that will help us make our decision. The
25 cooperation we have received has been exemplary, and

1 We are faced with an unpleasant and painful task
2 which we intend to carry out as sensitively as we
3 can. Again, the kind assistance we have received
4 here is most greatly appreciated.

5 Now, let me tell you how we will proceed
6 here today. It is the same format as our 14
7 previous regional hearings. The commission has
8 assigned a block of time to each state affected by
9 the base closure list. The overall amount of time
10 was determined by the number of installations on the
11 list and the amount of job loss. The time limits
12 will be enforced strictly. We notified the
13 appropriate elected officials of this procedure and
14 left it up to them working with the local
15 communities to determine how to fill the block of
16 time.

17 Today we will begin with testimony for
18 the state of Georgia for 100 minutes followed by a
19 25-minute presentation by the state of Alabama.
20 After that there will be a 35-minute period for
21 public comment regarding the Georgia and Alabama
22 installations on our list. The rules for this
23 portion of the hearing have been clearly outlined,
24 and persons wishing to speak this morning should
25 have signed up by now or, if you have not by now,

1 testimony you are about to give to the Defense Base
2 Closure and Realignment Commission shall be the
3 truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

4 WITNESSES: I do.
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1 security have been linked before the United States
2 was the United States.

3 Elijah Clark stood with 700 Georgians to
4 face the British at Kettle Creek in 1779. And 80
5 years later Georgians stood with General Joseph E.
6 Johnston battlefields not far from where we are
7 today. Georgians have been there with Pershing and
8 MacArthur and Taylor and Westmoreland.

9 And just a few years ago when the call
10 came from the Middle East, Georgians who were born
11 or who serve here climbed into their tanks and their
12 fighters and attack aircraft, their helicopters,
13 their submarines, and deployed to meet the new
14 enemy. The ones who stayed behind made sure the
15 ones that went had the best maintained and
16 operational equipment in the desert. Ladies and
17 gentlemen, if you look at the present shape of forts
18 and airfields and marine and Navy bases in the
19 Southeast, you are looking at America's rapid
20 deployment force.

21 Years ago we closed the military bases
22 that were no longer needed in Georgia and what
23 remains is the hub of a juggernaut that goes into
24 battle first. Georgians are not there two months
25 after the battle begins. Georgians are there before

1 we downsize the American military. I know that you
2 are doing the best you can. And as Speaker, I will
3 work to get your report through the Congress based
4 on your judgment of what you think is necessary
5 because frankly we have to rely on somebody to make
6 these kind of tough decisions.

7 However, prior to your making those
8 decisions, I would like to make a few points.
9 Georgia, I think, has a clear history of providing
10 strong support for sound defense. As you have seen
11 at Warner Robins and at Naval Air Station Dobbins,
12 the tremendous commitment both of the communities
13 and of the personnel is, I think, a story in and of
14 itself.

15 The size of Warner Robins, the skill and
16 enthusiasm of the air logistics center is
17 extraordinary; and Warner Robins is a national asset
18 serving nearly half the Country's defense forces in
19 terms of the geographic area that would naturally
20 draw upon Warner Robins. It is a national asset,
21 and I hope you will conclude that it should be kept
22 open.

23 Naval Air Station Dobbins has a strong
24 case in its excellent demographic base for
25 Reserves. The fact is, there are more pilots

1 Defense Department. We are trying to convince the
2 system to be more joint, to be more used to working
3 with each other.

4 As we downsize, it becomes more vital
5 that all the services can provide support. And I
6 can't imagine a more dramatic moment for you to be
7 here when we have just had this historic example of
8 the importance of rescuing a young American because
9 the entire team functioned as one team, and
10 everybody pulled together in a way that was quite
11 remarkable.

12 Let me just say in closing these are
13 facilities that matter. Dobbins as a complex
14 matters not just because it serves the huge
15 demographic base of Atlanta but because it also
16 creates an opportunity for all the services to work
17 and train together in a way that is very important
18 to the entire Defense Department.

19 Warner Robins matters because it is an
20 enormous complex in the heart of a state that is
21 very, very pro defense. It's a complex that serves
22 the Air Force with remarkable ability; and I think
23 you have seen, those who visited, the enthusiasm,
24 the commitment, and the excellence that Warner
25 Robins brings to its job.

1 aviation recruiting in America. Atlanta is home to
2 Delta, Lockheed, and many other companies employing
3 more than 35,000 people with aviation-related
4 skills. NAS Atlanta did receive low scores in the
5 military value matrix for demographics, but why?
6 And why would the Navy and Marine Corps want to put
7 additional squadrons and Reserve units at NAS?

8 The answer is clear: NAS Atlanta's low
9 demographic score does not paint an accurate
10 picture. In simple terms, the demographic score was
11 low because the Navy was in the process of a
12 purposeful drawdown and change in the structure at
13 the end of 1993 when the snapshot was taken.

14 Also NAS was required to answer in yes or
15 no terms, something that we politicians avoid at all
16 costs. In summary, NAS Atlanta's demographics
17 rating in the Navy matrix may have been technically
18 correct under the rules of the data call; but it
19 ended up being grossly misleading. The Navy
20 understands that, the Marine Corps understands that,
21 and I believe you will understand that when we have
22 completed the presentations.

23 In regard to Warner Robins, I would like
24 to address the issue of the Air Force's
25 recommendations to downsize all five logistics

1 Services Committee of the Senate.

2 COMMISSIONER KLING: Thank you, Senator.

3 SENATOR NUNN: Mr. Chairman, Commissioner
4 Cornella, Commissioner Steele, Commissioner Robles,
5 and members of the staff who worked so hard -- and
6 I'm very well aware of that -- I am very pleased to
7 be able to join the Governor, Senator Coverdell,
8 Speaker Gingrich, my colleagues in the Congress in
9 extending a warm welcome to you in visiting state of
10 Georgia and our capitol, Atlanta. And I can only
11 say when I heard the chairman describe this task as
12 unpleasant and painful but the description of
13 sensitive treatment that we were going to get, those
14 words all remind me of going to a dentist's office.
15 And I think that's kind of the way we all feel
16 today, including the commissioners who are charged
17 with this awesome responsibility.

18 We have guests here from Florida,
19 Alabama, and Mississippi; and I can say to all of
20 you, we want you to come back for the Olympics next
21 year where we will not be visiting a dentist's
22 office, we will all be having a great celebration.
23 So we know you have a tough job, and we appreciate
24 this opportunity to help make the National security
25 case for keeping Robins Air Logistics Center and the

1 unit vacancy, as Senator Coverdell has already
2 stated.

3 No. 3, significant degradation and
4 operational readiness of key units would occur if
5 NAS Atlanta closed. No. 4, NAS Atlanta's location
6 provides superb training opportunities which, for
7 instance, allowed the marine attack helicopters to
8 go directly from NAS Atlanta into combat in Desert
9 Shield and Desert Storm. And, finally, NAS Atlanta
10 and the joint complex are ready and able to support
11 additional squadrons without spending the seventy to
12 \$90 million that would be required at any other
13 location.

14 Turning to Warner Robins Air Logistics
15 Center, two years ago in this same room, I don't
16 think I was under oath then; but I told the
17 commissioners of '93 that Warner Robins was the
18 No. 1 base in the United States Air Force. I am
19 pleased because I might have been under oath -- I am
20 pleased that the Pentagon and the President have
21 confirmed that by naming Robins as the No. 1 base in
22 the United States Air Force.

23 I know the Commission has a tough
24 challenge in deciding whether to close one or two
25 air logistics bases or whether to support the Air

1 are participating in UN-NATO operations over the
2 skies of the former Yugoslavia, in the Persian Gulf
3 where our forces are participating in coalition
4 operations to enforce UN sanctions against Iraq, in
5 Korea where our forces are working with our Asian
6 allies to contain the threat that North Korea poses
7 to the peace.

8 Robins is supporting our combat
9 operations everyday in those locations and elsewhere
10 around the globe, as evidenced by the radar and
11 avionics in the commanding control AWACS aircraft,
12 the offensive and defensive systems in the F-15s and
13 F-16s flying combat air patrol, the C-141 cargo
14 aircraft providing the bulk of the direct logistics
15 support to our frontline units, the U-2 aircraft
16 providing theater-wide intelligence support, the Air
17 Force search and rescue helicopters, the AC-130
18 gunships and special operations systems that support
19 rescue and other missions, and, finally, the global
20 positioning system terminals that give precise
21 location information to our rescue crews. Robins is
22 truly No. 1 in supporting our combat forces all over
23 the globe.

24 Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission,
25 I thank you for your dedicated service in this

1 And that is maintaining our national borders,
2 maintaining our national security and projecting and
3 protecting our national interests anywhere in the
4 world through maintaining a strong military. And it
5 is an honor today to be a part of that process that
6 I know you-all take very, very seriously as do all
7 of us here today.

8 I have the honor of representing
9 Georgia's Seventh Congressional District in which
10 NAS Atlanta is located. And it is my pleasure today
11 to represent not only the citizens of the Seventh
12 District but also the Cobb Chamber of Commerce, the
13 Cobb and Atlanta communities, and our friends from
14 the Navy and the Marine Corps. We appreciate and
15 welcome this opportunity to substantiate the Navy
16 Department's recommendations to retain NAS Atlanta.

17 I also enthusiastically support the BRAC
18 1993 redirect to bring additional squadrons to NAS
19 Atlanta. In just a few moments you will hear in
20 great detail about the virtues of NAS Atlanta, its
21 exceptional demographics where, in fact, recruiters
22 always make 100 percent of their recruiting goals.

23 NAS Atlanta is well suited for fleet
24 support, for training missions and, I might add
25 parenthetically, of particular interest to me as a

1 To present our case in detail will be
2 Rear Admiral J.D. Olson, Commander of Naval Air
3 Reserve force; Major General James Livingston,
4 Commanding General of the Marine Forces Reserve;
5 Captain Hank Frazier, Commander of Navy Air Station
6 Atlanta, and Speaker Newt Gingrich. Admiral Olson.

7 REAR ADMIRAL OLSON: Thank you,
8 Congressman. Distinguished members of the Base
9 Reassignment and Closure Commission, as the
10 Commander of the Naval Air Reserve force, I'm proud
11 to be with you today to address the importance of
12 Naval Air Station Atlanta in its key role in the
13 Naval Air Reserve force of the future.

14 Let me say right up front that I hope to
15 make one thing perfectly clear. I'm here to tell
16 you that this outstanding base is absolutely needed
17 to ensure my force's capability to meet its mission
18 requirements now and in the future. I will also
19 tell you that the closing of this base would cost
20 the taxpayer tens of billions of dollars in totally
21 unnecessary military construction and moving
22 expenses. More than that, the resultant loss of
23 unit and individual combat readiness, which cannot
24 be easily quantified but would nonetheless be a
25 critical burden to our force of the future, would

1 Subsequently the squadron showed numerous empty
2 billets. Its selected reservists in both services
3 were reassigned to other units in the area. At the
4 same time other Marine aviation reassignments
5 temporarily increased the number of empty billets by
6 46 percent.

7 Needless to say, this all added up to a
8 completely distorted and unrealistic picture of the
9 true demographic capability of a base operating
10 within the vicinity of a major metropolitan area.
11 The picture has since improved dramatically. As
12 plans were set in motion last year requesting BRAC
13 Commission approval of a Department of Navy
14 initiative to redirect one Navy and one Marine F-18
15 squadron and an air wing staff presently based at
16 NAS Cecil Field, Florida, to NAS Atlanta.

17 As well, the start-up of new E-2C
18 squadron at NAS Atlanta dedicated to the Navy's drug
19 interdiction mission in the Caribbean should clearly
20 demonstrate the Navy's commitment to the rich
21 demographic potential of the greater Atlanta area.
22 In fact, with a total of nine Navy and Marine
23 squadrons assigned, NAS Atlanta will operate to
24 maximum capacity in the very near future, a true
25 vote of confidence on the part of both military

1 certainly have increased the relative ranking of NAS
2 Atlanta in overall military value in the BRAC
3 analysis. Further credit would be gained in the
4 overall ranking for NAS Atlanta if the data call
5 took into account other factors which point to the
6 distinct advantages of operating within the
7 synergistic environment of a joint base.

8 For example, NAS Atlanta scored zero
9 points for the fact that the air station itself does
10 not have a so-called hush house for sound
11 attenuation during jet engine testing. What could
12 not be shown in the strict yes-no format of the BRAC
13 data call was the fact that Navy and Marine
14 squadrons assigned to NAS Atlanta do have access at
15 no cost to the hush house operated by the
16 International Guard across the field on Dobbins Air
17 Reserve base.

18 Now I want to take a moment to review the
19 record of some other critical areas of importance
20 and to set the record straight in ones that require
21 more information than was allowed in the BRAC '95
22 data call. Let's begin by examining NAS Atlanta's
23 current and future mission and its impact on
24 readiness.

25 I will state in the most powerful way

1 nearly 40 percent less to operate on an annual basis
2 than the next cheapest major activity. Placed
3 rather dramatic context, if you were to divide the
4 annual base operating cost by the number of
5 squadrons supported, the annual cost per squadron
6 here in Atlanta would total just over \$1.7 million
7 compared to nearly \$7 million per squadron at the
8 other Naval Reserve base under BRAC study this
9 year. Clearly this base represents the best bargain
10 within my force and perhaps within the Department of
11 Defense.

12 As for manpower, Atlanta offers a
13 veritable recruiting gold mine in terms of highly
14 talented, highly educated people with aviation and
15 high-tech backgrounds that we seek to recruit into
16 our squadrons and fleet augmentation units.

17 Now let's focus on cost payback. This
18 one deserves very close scrutiny because this is
19 where we really have a chance to do right by the
20 American taxpayer. First, please recall that our
21 plans to bed down three more squadrons at NAS
22 Atlanta entails no mil-con expense here but would
23 run sixteen to \$23 million in construction costs
24 alone for just the Navy squadrons at alternate
25 sites.

1 give. My remarks for the record give a rundown of
2 all those awards, and hardly recommend that you
3 review those remarks to see just what I mean. I
4 will also point out that you have a copy of the base
5 newspaper just out. The headline of which NAS
6 Atlanta wins unit commendation. That's just one of
7 those major awards that I've been talking about.

8 Secondly, I want to underscore the
9 commitment we have to the rich demographics of the
10 greater Atlanta area and this city's recruiting
11 potential within the resident aviation and the
12 high-tech industries that provide us with very
13 skilled, highly motivated people for our squadrons
14 and other units.

15 The final thought is this: If the BRAC
16 plan is presented to the commission by the Secretary
17 of Defense dealing with Navy and Marine Corps
18 Reserve forces is accepted, then I most strongly
19 endorse that plan. We will position ourselves in
20 the best possible manner for joint operation of
21 bases, economy of operation within that joint world,
22 and nearly seamless continuation of our high state
23 of readiness.

24 As a point of fact, if that plan is
25 accepted as written, we will have joint facilities

1 Nation's defense.

2 Unlike other components, the Marine Corps
3 Reserve is not downsizing. Consequently, no excess
4 capacity exists at our sites. My focus is war
5 fighting, and my combat units in Atlanta are ready
6 now. If you close NAS Atlanta, you will cost my
7 units three to five years' loss of capacity. The
8 Marine Corps is a total force of 216,000 active and
9 reserve marines positioned globally and providing
10 the nation a force in use as well as a force in
11 readiness.

12 By public law, the Marine Corps must
13 remain ready when the Nation is least ready. An
14 integral component, the Marine Corps Reserve
15 augments and reinforces, contributing 25 percent of
16 overall Marine Corps total force unit strength. 53
17 percent of our units were activated during the
18 Persian Gulf War, the highest percentage of any
19 reserve component. This included all four units
20 currently assigned to NAS Atlanta. The postCold War
21 drawdown of active forces following Desert Storm
22 makes the Marine Reserve even more valuable to the
23 national military strategy for our major regional
24 conflicts. According to regional operation plans,
25 our units deploy not within months but within days

1 necessary for recruiting. Two more accurately show
2 you the Marine Corps' stake in NAS Atlanta. Let me
3 quickly review how we are organized.

4 My major subordinate commands include a
5 ground combat unit, a combat service support unit,
6 and aviation units at 191 sites. 26 sites,
7 including NAS Atlanta, are 4th Marine Aircraft Wing
8 unit locations. There is a logic to our geographic
9 laydown. Marines train and deploy for combat in
10 marine air-ground task forces, or MAGTFs, of
11 combined arms. We locate reserve units regionally
12 to support recruiting and to train the way we fight,
13 with aviation, ground and combat service support
14 units operate together.

15 NAS Atlanta is the key aviation site in
16 the Southeast region. To complement air-ground
17 training in the region, an alternate site in the
18 Southeast is absolutely necessary. None of the
19 proposed alternatives, I repeat, none offer better
20 capability and value. Beaufort, Mayport, and New
21 River are demographically unsupportable. Mayport
22 and New Orleans can marginally support recruiting
23 but still require millions in construction costs
24 without improving training opportunities. The
25 primary factors favoring NAS Atlanta are qualified

1 From where I sit, commanding an integral
2 component of the Nation's force in readiness, the
3 most compelling argument is retaining a first to
4 fight posture for the East Coast. The Marine Corps
5 needs trained and qualified reserve units now. When
6 units move, recruiting and retraining requires three
7 to five years. Incrementally BRAC moves a road to
8 readiness. Previous BRAC moves coupled with the
9 loss of NAS Atlanta would leave more than two-thirds
10 of the 4th Marine Aircraft Wing and significant
11 readiness lost. In regional conflict or other
12 emergencies, I may not have combat-ready units
13 available for the call. In summary, NAS Atlanta is
14 cost-effective, jointly integrated, and
15 operationally critical. It meets our recruiting and
16 training needs. Its closure would result in a loss
17 of key Marine Corps combat capability for three to
18 five years and needless millions expended for
19 relocation and military construction.

20 As an operational war fighter, taxpayer,
21 and steerer of sacred resources, I urge your
22 retention of NAS Atlanta as an operating Naval Air
23 Station. I will be followed by Commanding Officer
24 of NAS Atlanta, Captain Hank Frazier.

25 CAPTAIN FRAZIER: Good morning. In this

1 which are now filling in our alternate units.

2 In addition to these personnel it is very
3 likely that many of the highly skilled pilots and
4 maintenance technicians assigned to the units
5 scheduled to move will move with these units to
6 Atlanta. Historically exceptional demographics of
7 Atlanta have supported the large requirements of not
8 only Atlanta but the joint facilities. It stands to
9 reason that this demographic base will grow. By
10 national concensus, NAS Atlanta has one of the most
11 demographically rich populations of aviation skills
12 in the United States. The F-18 warns and happens
13 the most complex training programming of any Naval
14 aircraft post or present. The Navy has thoroughly
15 reviewed these requirements and has certified that
16 fully 90 percent of the specific training can be
17 accomplished using the military operating areas and
18 ranges within 20 minutes flying time of Naval Air
19 Station.

20 The off-station training requirements
21 consist of carrier qualifications, anti-air missile
22 shoots, supersonic intercepts, and combined air wing
23 operations. All squadrons even active duty Navy and
24 Marine Corps squadrons must use off-station sites to
25 complete these sophisticated training events.

1 now.

2 As you can see, Atlanta is the most cost
3 efficient reserve air station. Naval Air Station
4 Atlanta is a cost-efficient operation due to
5 enormous benefits derived from joint operations.
6 Shown is fiscal year 1997 headquarters cost. We
7 chose that because that is the first year we will
8 have all five planned units available. These
9 figures do not include flight hour costs and
10 military salaries for any of the stations so as to
11 compare only base infrastructure cost.

12 How do we achieve this
13 cost-effectiveness? In one word, jointness. All
14 six DOD components located at NAS Atlanta and
15 Dobbins Air Reserve Base are able to operate at
16 reduced cost because we have eliminated redundant
17 services, and services provided by one component are
18 enjoyed by all. Runway services, clearly the single
19 greatest operating expense, are provided by the Air
20 Force Reserve. This reduces NAS Atlanta's operating
21 cost by approximately \$5 million.

22 We receive cost benefits in other
23 important areas as well. As pointed out on the tour
24 Monday, there are many other examples of one
25 component providing services from which all

1 training available. NAS Atlanta Dobbins is only one
2 of a select few Department of Defense facilities
3 which support all six reserve components in one
4 location, a cost-effective utilization resources.

5 The jointness enjoyed at NAS Atlanta is
6 on the forefront of the Department of Defense's
7 objective to achieve multi-services' uses of
8 facilities. Thank you. And now I have the distinct
9 privilege to introduce a man who needs no
10 introduction. Ladies and gentlemen, the Speaker of
11 the House of Representatives, the Honorable Newt
12 Gingrich.

13 COMMISSIONER KLING: Thank you, Captain
14 Frazier.

15 SPEAKER GINGRICH: I think the experts
16 who testified have really made three points. First,
17 obviously from the standpoint of the professional
18 military services charged with keeping an effective
19 readiness and operating forces, they believe in
20 their professional judgment that NAS Atlanta should
21 stay open.

22 Second, I really want the audience to
23 recognize this. If you listen to the fact that they
24 have to restate and put in context the data that you
25 had available, I believe you did the right thing by

1 capability for the lowest cost to the American
2 taxpayer.

3 And in that framework, I think based on
4 this expert's testimony, you have more than enough
5 evidence of why all of the Dobbins facility from the
6 Navy, the Army, the Marine Corps, the Air Force, all
7 of it is a great national asset and we look forward
8 to your questions.

9 COMMISSIONER KLING: Mr. Speaker, thank
10 you so much for those helpful comments and to you
11 other gentlemen on the panel. We certainly
12 appreciate, and I don't know if there are any
13 questions from any of -- Commissioner Cornella.

14 COMMISSIONER CORNELLA: First of all, I
15 thank you for the hospitality that you exhibited
16 during our visit, and we appreciate that. It seems
17 after the visit that by closing this installation
18 all the infrastructure would still remain. I'm
19 going to direct my questions to Admiral Olson. Is
20 that correct, sir?

21 REAR ADMIRAL OLSON: Yes. If you're
22 asking what would happen with the facilities, it
23 would become excess property and, quite frankly, I
24 rack my brain to figure out how it could be put to
25 use because of its co-location with Dobbins Air

1 REAR ADMIRAL OLSON: We've had enough of
2 it.

3 COMMISSIONER CORNELLA: Thank you.

4 COMMISSIONER KLING: General Robles.

5 COMMISSIONER ROBLES: Just a quick
6 question. I think Captain Frazier may be the guy in
7 the hot seat on this one. Certainly the testimony
8 of all of you collectively was overwhelmingly
9 positive on the economics, the demographics, and the
10 war fighting potential of this facility. But just
11 for the record, are there any encroachment
12 problems? Operationally do you have a problem with
13 Atlanta airfield encroaching on your ability to run
14 air ops out of that air station?

15 CAPTAIN FRAZIER: No, sir, none come to
16 mind. I think if you checked Dobbins NAS records
17 against the rest of the UD components, we would come
18 out very favorably.

19 COMMISSIONER ROBLES: So from your point
20 as the Commander of the Naval Air Station, you don't
21 see that as a problem?

22 CAPTAIN FRAZIER: No, sir. In fact, we
23 have, as referred to in testimony, tactical aircraft
24 have operated out of that field, tactical jets,
25 since 1952.

1 Delegation quotes the comment by the commander in
2 chief of the Atlantic Fleet that he had sought to
3 retain the most fully capable air station north of
4 Norfolk. Is there any concern with retaining
5 Atlanta and perhaps losing an air station that is
6 north of Norfolk?

7 REAR ADMIRAL OLSON: Well, first of all,
8 I should point out that we're not talking about one
9 Reserve Naval Air Station against another. It's
10 really a question of which is the preferred base in
11 the Northeast to operate and, of course, the
12 operating commander in this case felt that NAS
13 Brunswick was the preferred choice because of its
14 capabilities, its location, and that's why we would
15 end up, in the plan as submitted by the Department
16 of Defense, we would retain one base in the
17 Northeast and one very critical base in the
18 Southeast as well. It's a perfect match.

19 COMMISSIONER STEELE: Thank you.

20 COMMISSIONER KLING: Thank you. Thank
21 you, Speaker Gingrich, Congressman Barr, Admiral
22 Olson General Livingston, and Captain Frazier. We
23 really appreciate your fine and helpful comments,
24 and with that we take thank you and we will now hear
25 from Robins Air Force Base. Thank you, gentlemen.

1 question it is because of the people, military and
2 civilian, working together. Never in my life have I
3 seen such community support and allegiance to a
4 cause. But this is the case all over Georgia, and
5 over the years the words "military" and "Georgia"
6 have become synonymous. More than any other state
7 we have a history of service and a reputation for
8 valor, and it shows in every base from Fort Gordon
9 in the north to Kings Bay in the south. A Georgia
10 military installation is where the people, the
11 community, and devotion to Country all come
12 together. Robins Air Force Base is a shining
13 example of that rich tradition.

14 One of my distinct honors as a member of
15 Congress is to serve on the House Committee on
16 National Security; and as a member of that committee
17 I have come to understand in vivid detail that
18 although we have seen the end of the Cold War, there
19 are still many serious real threats out there in
20 this world. As a nation we must remain fully
21 committed to assuring the modernization of our force
22 structure; and although we are downsizing, the roles
23 and missions that remain become all the more
24 critical.

25 For air lift, the C-130 and C-141

1 Century Partnership and some 300,000 people of
2 central Georgia, we wish to add our welcome to those
3 of our Governor and the members of our Georgia
4 delegation.

5 Commissioners Kling, Cornella, and
6 Steele, you recently visited with us. It's good to
7 see you again. And to Commissioners Cox and Robles,
8 we hope at some time to be able to host you at
9 Robins ALC.

10 As previously stated, you have faced the
11 unenviable challenge of making the right military
12 decision, the right business decision to downsize
13 the military to meet threats and contingencies well
14 into the next century. In short, what is smart
15 business for America's defense? This is a
16 monumental challenge to the Commission, the staff,
17 and each of you. We applaud each of you for your
18 untiring and dedicated and selfless service to our
19 Nation.

20 In my mind as a businessman, the
21 challenge before you is quite simply put as
22 demonstrated by this graphic on the slide. In the
23 1980's at the height of the Cold War defense
24 build-up, the U.S. Air Force was capable of
25 projecting force with approximately 40 plus wings.

1 business sense, what makes good operational sense.

2 In other words, should the military
3 decision for readiness be tempered and evaluated on
4 the basis of cost? In other words, what is the best
5 military value for the national defense, and how
6 should that be achieved with minimal or no impact on
7 readiness.

8 Make sure, though, if you do close one or
9 two depots that you darn sure don't want to close
10 the best Air Force Base in the world. As you are
11 tempering or trying the military decision against
12 the business decision of what makes good sense, we
13 must employ you to seek the opinion and inputs of
14 General Fogelman, our Air Force CEO, before coming
15 to any final decision. As you know, in business
16 this makes good sense as well.

17 We are quite confident that Robins has
18 tremendous value now and in the future. The future
19 holds great promise for greater efficiency and
20 effectiveness through technology. As many of you
21 have seen, Robins has been in the forefront of
22 that. Secondly, the long-term community business
23 climate is unmatched. The community support itself
24 has become a hard and soft military asset.

25 There are many components or facets that

1 As you are well aware, this is the
2 criteria behind me against which you must make a
3 decision. Retired General Billy A. Barrett will
4 address the military value and touch upon the
5 environmental factors. General Barrett's biography
6 is in your book under the biography tab; but in
7 short, General Barrett has 28 years of experience
8 with field and staff aircraft maintenance supply and
9 maintenance policy, transportation management and
10 logistics policy experience. He has extensive
11 experience in war and in peace. He was responsible
12 for the logistics readiness center during Desert
13 Storm. He served as a member of the BCEG for BRAC
14 '88. Further, he has served at San Antonio ALC and
15 the Sacramento ALC, which gives him a very unique
16 perspective and experience to provide you with a
17 valuable insight into ALC operations and maintenance
18 operations. General Barrett.

19 BRIGADIER GENERAL BARRETT: Thank you,
20 George. Good morning, members of the Commission and
21 staff. As Mr. Isreal has said, you have a difficult
22 decision to make. In my view the critical part of
23 your decision is the effect it will have on National
24 Security.

25 Our national security can never be

1 allies.

2 Included in the C-130 fleet are 71
3 aircraft that are part of the premier special
4 operations force in DOD. As proven in Desert Storm,
5 the F-15 is the workhorse fighter of the Air Force
6 and is still under procurement for several of our
7 allies. There are over 770 aircraft in the active
8 Air Force inventory and the garden reserves and 349
9 in our FMS fleet. The C-141 is the backbone of the
10 strategic airlift of air mobility command.

11 As described in the Robins data and shown
12 in the tour, Robins is now modifying 118 to 249
13 aircraft in the fleet with a new center wing box
14 which will extend the service life of those aircraft
15 to 45,000 hours. These three weapons systems are
16 all primary to our war fighting effort.

17 Often I think the electronic warfare and
18 avionics mission support areas at Robins are not
19 given their just due when people look at this
20 center. Electronic warfare got its berth in 1970
21 and as proven in Desert Storm is a major force
22 multiplier that wins wars and saves lives. In war,
23 if the electronic warfare suite is not operational,
24 the aircraft will not be sent into battle.

25 Avionics at Robins also supports most of

1 support current war scenarios. As you will see
2 later, this is the highest in the command and was a
3 major factor in our top tier depot rating.

4 Although we do not overhaul the systems
5 shown here, Warner Robins does manage other key
6 systems: helicopters, intelligence platforms,
7 air-to-air missiles, and the Air Force's vehicle
8 fleet, numbering over 106,000. The point being if
9 you close this depot, the management and, more
10 importantly, the engineering functions supporting
11 these systems must also be relocated affecting
12 readiness. Because of our location and facilities,
13 the runway and the ramps, we are also home to
14 several frontline operational missions. The 5th
15 Combat COM Group is one of two mobile COM groups in
16 the Air Force. They are frequently seen on CNN in
17 Somalia, Guantanamo Bay, Bosnia, Turkey, and
18 Kuwait.

19 The 19th Air Refueling Wing takes
20 advantage of our location and runway while providing
21 refueling throughout the world. The first
22 International Guard unit to be equipped with a B-1
23 will be here in 1996, and at this time its
24 construction is underway to accommodate the only
25 J-Stars Wing in DOD. Some 28 aircraft and 3500

1 however, on this chart is the difference between the
2 discounted savings on a seven-year return on
3 investment and a 22-year return on investment. By
4 the time a Robins closure breaks even, the Air Force
5 would have saved almost \$750 million had they closed
6 the cheapest depot. That's the significance of this
7 chart.

8 Discounting the cost issue, I maintain
9 that any decision that affects the way we do
10 business will have a serious impact on our
11 readiness. If you think about it, in all the
12 postCold War contingencies -- Iraq, Somalia, Haiti,
13 and right now Bosnia -- Robins has been totally
14 engaged. Every product line they maintain, fighters
15 airlifts, special operations C-130s, avionics,
16 electronic warfare have been involved in one or more
17 of these actions.

18 And if I could return you to your books
19 now, at this point I made reference to F-16s in
20 Bosnia, and since I'm sworn in I would like you to
21 discount that paragraph because before I got here I
22 found it is incorrect. So I would like to make that
23 for the record.

24 If you extend what we do to the full
25 range of systems managed by Robins, it is even more

1 are full with specialized high-tech equipment, which
2 are managed and maintained by highly qualified
3 personnel.

4 In prior rounds in realignment and
5 closure, the word "unique" in my view was overused.
6 In some cases I have used it in my briefing. All
7 depots in DOD have one of a kind capabilities. At
8 Robins many of our facilities were built to specific
9 missions. The combat Talon hangar that some of you
10 saw is a joint C-130 assault hanger which was paid
11 for by the special operations command. The
12 electronic warfare facilities are eight in number
13 and have evolved with the expansion of the EW
14 mission over the past 20 years. One of these
15 facilities was paid for by our FMS customers.

16 The avionics facility has also evolved
17 with a mission and is the largest in DOD, and our
18 specialized hangars to support the F-15 and 141
19 aircraft were also built for these specific
20 missions. If these missions are moved, most of the
21 facilities must be replicated if the same level of
22 support is to continue. The industrial complex at
23 Robins is the largest directive on Robins. As you
24 have seen on your visits, all five Air Force depots
25 reflect quality, pride, and lots of high tech

1 believe, was provided to you by the base briefing.
2 Robins represents a big investment that has involved
3 into a modern state of the art installation. It is
4 tailored to support frontline missions that are not
5 going away, and Robins is ready to accommodate
6 more.

7 Shifting gears, I would now like to talk
8 environmental advantage of Robins. In every round
9 of closure, clean-up costs have not been a factor.
10 Yet some would tend to lead you to believe that to
11 have been dirty in the past is better because it
12 raises the cost of closure. Therefore, it's more
13 difficult to make a decision to close such a
14 facility. In my view, this is a must-pay bill
15 regardless of the decision. And in most cases the
16 cost of clean-up is already in the programming
17 documents outside of the BRAC process. Therefore,
18 the real issue is how will the environment affect
19 the center's ability to do business in the future.

20 Air Force depots are big industrial
21 complexes. In fact, Robins is the largest
22 industrial complex in the state and, I suspect, in
23 the Southeast. From an environmental perspective,
24 complexes such as this need four things. They clean
25 air in abundant supply, clean water, adequate

1 recycled. Therefore, our 50-year community landfill
2 capacity is significant to our operation. I might
3 also add that the treated waste water that is
4 discharged from Ocmulgee River is of a better
5 quality than that found in the river upstream.

6 Without question, Robins has a
7 significant environmental advantage when it comes to
8 the business of depot maintenance. Our leadership
9 both on and off base are committed to continuing
10 this excellent stewardship. This is not just my
11 view. And after receiving the award for best
12 environmental program in the Air Force in April of
13 this year, the Secretary of Defense said we had the
14 best environmental quality program in DOD. When
15 evaluating Air Force depots, environmental factors
16 are important, and Robins' environmental advantage
17 is clear.

18 As you visited the Air Force depots, you
19 saw a wide range of skills and capabilities. Robins
20 alone has over 240 skills supporting 13 commodities
21 with 21 centers of excellence spanning a wide range
22 of technology. But the issue is not to be able to
23 do a lot of things, even if you do them well. The
24 important issue is to do the things well that are
25 valuable to the war fighter. This is what we do,

1 warfare are examples of how we are postured for the
2 future.

3 The bottom line is future flexibility.
4 The reason Robins is a tier-one depot is not just
5 because of the broad range of things we do but the
6 relevance of that effort to the war-time mission,
7 military value. Not only is Robins a top tier depot
8 as voted by DOD, it also the best base in the Air
9 Force as validated by the President with the
10 installation excellence award.

11 The decisions facing you are of great
12 importance. I've tried to show you that military
13 value, return on investment, and the environmental
14 considerations of Warner Robins Air Force Base leave
15 no doubt that Robins should be a major part of the
16 future in the Nation's defense. I'll now turn it
17 back to Mr. Isreal. Thank you.

18 COMMISSIONER KLING: Thank you, General
19 Barrett.

20 GEORGE ISREAL: Thank you, General
21 Barrett. Now let me address the community economic
22 impact. And I don't wish to bore you by crying in
23 our beer, so to speak, but rather for you to
24 understand.

25 Number one, this community was built to

1 graph in blue represents the approximate population
2 in those counties today in the 1990s.

3 The thing is, Houston County, which is a
4 little bit different from other counties and
5 communities which host an ALC, was built for
6 Robins. This is not true with any other MSA. This
7 slide is intended to orient you to exactly where
8 Robins Air Force Base is in the state of Georgia --
9 right dead in the center -- and at the same time to
10 illustrate the extent of the economic impact Warner
11 Robins, or Robins Air Force Base, has in the
12 population of central Georgia.

13 Red on this composite slide overlays
14 payroll and contract payments to vendors and
15 suppliers in various counties in our state. Robins
16 Air Force Base is the largest industrial complex in
17 the state with the greatest single economic impact.
18 The total economic impact exceeds \$1 billion
19 annually, with a multiplier effect that would be
20 some \$3.5 billion total.

21 In order for each of you to understand
22 the disparate adverse economic impact, you must
23 understand the comparative difference in size of the
24 Macon-Warner Robins MSA when compared to the other
25 four MSAs. Our MSA, which hosts Robins Air Force

1 to recruit the brightest and the best, the most
2 capable, and we think that is a real factor in the
3 Robins success story.

4 Under a closure scenario, our job loss
5 would appear as follows: a direct job loss of
6 20,113 jobs. The regional development center staff
7 calculated that the lost support jobs at 51,087 jobs
8 which equates to that 3.5 multiplier which I
9 mentioned earlier, which we think is quite
10 conservative. That is a job loss of some 49.8
11 percent of the total jobs in our MSA.

12 Whether a mistake or not, the
13 Macon-Warner Robins MSA has tended to be a company
14 town. Much of our capital resources has been
15 invested to meet the needs of the Air Force and the
16 logistics center. One important factor is the
17 investment our community has made in
18 infrastructure. Under a closure scenario it further
19 exacerbates the disparate adverse economic impact
20 but also sends a loud and resounding negative
21 messages for communities throughout this Nation,
22 which is to not do too much in support of our
23 national defense.

24 But on the flip side, we think that it
25 represents a real opportunity to you, DOD, and the

1 technicians for electronic warfare, avionics,
2 composite repair, computer science, and I could go
3 on and on. The Middle Georgia Technical Institute
4 was founded in the late Eighties by the State of
5 Georgia with an investment of over \$23 million.

6 The community and state have met Uncle
7 Sam's needs many, many times over since we deeded
8 that original 3,000 acres to Uncle Sam in 1940 and
9 even most recently, the some \$2 million to clear the
10 ATZ and noise impact zone to the north, which has
11 been done just since BRAC '93. And as an aside, I
12 was told this morning that the last of the 28
13 parcels has been deeded.

14 The road transportation projects to
15 accommodate traffic generated by Robins personnel
16 and supplies has been massive, from Russel Parkway
17 to Highway 247 to the 247 Connector and the six
18 lanes of I-75 in Houston and Bibb Counties.
19 Hundreds and hundreds of millions of dollars have
20 been invested to meet this need.

21 There has been a sizeable investment in
22 community infrastructure to meet and the serve needs
23 of Robins Air Force Base and the Warner Robins ALC
24 now and well into the next century. Some
25 \$65 million has been invested by utility companies

1 Mr. King, Mr. Cornella, Ms. Cox, Mr. Robles,
2 Commissioner Steele, anything in business and any
3 businessman knows that this has to go in the
4 matrix. People are the biggest cost of doing
5 business, but they are also the biggest asset.

6 This slide reflects the wage base
7 comparison from ALC to ALC. The most expensive ALC
8 has an average wage of 22 percent above Robins'.
9 The team Robins work force is less expensive than
10 the other three ALCs. What a bargain. And you're
11 getting a capable, motivated, dedicated work force,
12 a real military asset. And this is work force is
13 further complemented by the ready support and labor
14 pool from the aerospace industry in Georgia and
15 within our MSA and an annual capacity to do school
16 and train and graduate or retrain almost 800
17 aerospace workers in middle Georgia every year.

18 Aerospace is a culture among the work
19 force. While most of the 22,000 work at Robins,
20 large numbers are employed at Boeing, McDonnell
21 Douglas, Norfolk, and other blue chip defense
22 contractors and aerospace companies right in central
23 Georgia.

24 In summary, General Barrett has capably
25 demonstrated Robins' military value, the return on

1 have any questions or comments? None? You must
2 have done a -- you and General Barrett and
3 Congressman Chambliss must have done an awful good
4 job. There's no questions here. So we certainly
5 thank you-all for being with us and for your
6 information. We will take that and put that through
7 the filter and see what we get to. And we thank you
8 very, very much.

9 We will now take a -- I guess we can take
10 about a ten-minute break and then we will come back
11 and hear from the state of Alabama. So thank you.

12 (A recess was taken.)
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1 have Steve Hettinger here who's the mayor of
2 Huntsville, Alabama; Mike Gillespie, who's the
3 chairman of the Madison County, Alabama, Commission;
4 Julian Price is back here who's the mayor of
5 Decatur, Alabama. Chuck Yancura is here behind me.
6 He's the mayor of Madison, Alabama. Jerry Mansfield
7 is here. He's the county executive of Lincoln
8 County, Tennessee. Lincoln County is just up the
9 road from Huntsville, Alabama.

10 Today we are here to address the issue --
11 we are here because of the SSDC issue, whether that
12 should be closed and moved to Redstone Arsenal. We
13 are also going to be discussing ATCOM, the aviation
14 and troop command because it has been proposed by
15 the BRAC process that that be moved to Redstone
16 Arsenal. So we're going to be talking about both of
17 those issues because they'd been related not by us
18 but by the St. Louis people as issues that here
19 today.

20 Presenting with me on the panel here
21 today to my immediate left is Dr. Ralph Langley. He
22 will present after me. And to his left is Mr. Ed
23 Buckbee, then to his left is Linda Green. They will
24 be doing our community presentations here today.

25 Let me start off saying to you that we

1 Army's recommendation to close ATCOM is fully
2 supported by the law. The Army is in full
3 compliance with the BRAC law in its analysis and in
4 its recommendations.

5 Second, and in our opinion very
6 importantly, the savings and efficiencies will
7 result from a consolidation of ATCOM and MICOM at
8 Redstone Arsenal, incredible savings. The Army has
9 identified \$46 million in annual savings and
10 \$453 million in savings over 20 years. The return
11 on that move investment will be less than three
12 years, 2.3 years or something around that length of
13 time.

14 Third, the information that has been
15 provided to this commission by the opponents of the
16 ATCOM closure is inaccurate. That information
17 relates mainly to cost analysis around the least
18 cost and the costs related to the consolidation of
19 ATCOM there. That's where we get into the confusion
20 caused by SSDC. And for this I have said now twice,
21 the evaluation of SSDC and ATCOM are indeed separate
22 issues. We strongly feel there can't be a
23 comparison to the SSDC transfer and that this cannot
24 be looked to as an alternative to the ATCOM transfer
25 there to Redstone because, again, they are separate

1 We come not because we are an authority
2 in the field, but we are bringing the Army's
3 recommendation and refocusing or reemphasizing that
4 it is that important matter that the Army suggests
5 here, not some Chamber of Commerce or not some
6 politicians or not some public-minded citizens like
7 ourselves. Indeed it must be a heart-wrenching, gut
8 wrenching decision that you face and the people
9 involved and the jobs involved, et cetera, and we
10 are concerned with that pain and the politics but
11 the thing we are faced with here today is to take
12 some high roads and some high ground. It must be a
13 difficult and challenging call that's been given to
14 your commission to do this. Is it a no-win
15 situation? Are in a funeral or a wedding
16 situation?

17 It's a challenge indeed and a real
18 problem. We understand that, but we think that the
19 basic issue here is to claim that high road and that
20 high ground and the hopeful merger of ATCOM with
21 MICOM and would result in an amazing efficiency of
22 such a wise integration. We believe also that the
23 reduction of -- and, again, the Army's figure.
24 Think of that number: 1,066. Let me repeat that,
25 1,066 positions that have been found not by us but

1 in the Army, civil service, and military out of St.
2 Louis would be welcomed.

3 We have just received Mark Twain
4 ressurected, revived, and bought to our
5 neighborhood. Just a few miles down the Tennessee
6 River Mark Twain has moved in for the refilming of
7 Tom Sawyer. We welcome him with open arms. We
8 would do the same for these from ATCOM. We promise
9 under oath be good citizens and support -- I have
10 lived in ten different communities across American,
11 and I have never seen a better combination and
12 integration of support between military and civilian
13 personnel than we have in the Tennessee Valley
14 currently right now with not only MICOM, Redstone,
15 but Marshall as well. We are proud of them.

16 Indeed let me just review briefly some of
17 those statistics and data, again, not my figures,
18 not ours, not developed by some chamber of commerce
19 but by the Army. Our Congressman just mentioned
20 those. Mr. Cramer, let me review them quickly.
21 First of all, your own law that states the result of
22 a timely closure and realignment of military
23 installations. We believe this would hit bull's
24 eye, moving ATCOM in combination with MICOM. Again,
25 the realignment of the aviation and troop command is

1 not our figures. These are the figures given us by
2 the evaluation teams of this U.S. Army.

3 St. Louis has challenged these numbers,
4 challenged their integrity and their merit. We have
5 here one of our finest businessmen who has made the
6 Space Center or the Space Museum in our city a
7 national treasury. Mr. Ed Buckbee.

8 ED BUCKBEE: Thank you, Dr. Langley.

9 COMMISSIONER KLING: Thanks, Dr. Langley.

10 ED BUCKBEE: Thank you Mr. Chairman,
11 members of the BRAC commission for the opportunity
12 to speak to you as a member of the Huntsville,
13 Alabama, community. I started my career as an Army
14 officer at Redstone Arsenal in the early 1960s. I
15 worked for the U.S. Army Missile Command, and I
16 served as director of the Space and Rocket Center
17 Museum, which is, as you probably know, a real
18 showcase of Redstone's contributions to the Army's
19 missile defense program.

20 For over three decades I've had a front
21 row seat in observing the team at Redstone develop
22 and field the most advanced missile systems in the
23 world, from the old reliable Redstone that took Alan
24 Shepherd to the edge of space to the Patriot of
25 Desert Storm fame. I watched the Redstone team lead

1 partner in defense. We are prepared to do so again
2 by supporting the Army's recommendation to expand
3 Redstone's mission to include Army aviation. And I
4 cannot think of a better place in the Army to
5 consolidate such a highly technical mission than at
6 Redstone Arsenal.

7 In testimony before this Commission in
8 Chicago there was a challenge to the Army's
9 recommendation to consolidate and merge ATCOM and
10 MICOM at Redstone Arsenal. I'd like to comment on
11 those issues raised at that meeting and to assure
12 you that the action conforms to BRAC law and is the
13 result of sound and accurate analysis.

14 In regard to treatment of the leased
15 facilities, you were asked to ignore the precedence
16 of the 1990 BRAC law. The law was amended in 1990
17 and the term military installations, as you know,
18 specifically includes any leased facility. Further,
19 you were asked to ignore the 1993 BRAC commission's
20 recommendation, which states the Commission suggests
21 that DOD direct the services to include a separate
22 category for leased facilities during the 1995
23 process to ensure a bottom up review of all leased
24 space. I think it's important to note that the Army
25 fully complies with the BRAC amended law and the

1 point here is that total savings or 95 percent of
2 the savings occur only through the elimination of
3 redundant positions through the consolidation of
4 commands.

5 The first round fired in Desert Storm was
6 a Redstone managed Hellfire missile from a St.
7 Louis-managed Apache helicopter. I can't think of a
8 better example of success. The soldier was
9 integrated with a weapons platform which enabled him
10 to deploy his weapons and achieve success in the
11 battlefield. Ladies and gentlemen, the Army is
12 saying to us let's supply that successful
13 combination to our missile and aviation programs.
14 Let us marry the people who develop and support the
15 weapons systems with the people who develop and
16 support the weapons platform and give that soldier a
17 more effective weapon on the battlefield. By doing
18 this we can integrate research, achieve a higher
19 degree of success. We can concentrate our efforts
20 in a single location and we can consolidate those
21 functions and we can reduce personnel and
22 substantially raise costs -- reduce costs.

23 The long-term results, we believe, will
24 be a true value added to the Army's aviation and
25 missile capability in this nation. The United

1 can say the same thing about their facility. And
2 these feelings put a very human face on the
3 difficult job that you have been asked to perform.
4 Most of us have experienced downsizing or
5 right-sizing in some capacity, and it is always a
6 difficult process. My job as president and CEO of a
7 bank in the Tennessee Valley region gives me a
8 different viewpoint for today's issues. As a banker
9 I look at numbers everyday. As you know, for a
10 business to be successful in the longrun, the
11 numbers must work. It is from this point of view
12 that we will look at the next issue.

13 One of the reasons we are here today is
14 that the St. Louis delegation has told you some
15 things that are wrong. The numbers the Army itself
16 uses shows us quite a different picture. One issue
17 that has been raised is the possibility of
18 establishing the aviation command in St. Louis and
19 moving SSDC on to Redstone. SSDC functions as a
20 major command and serves as the Army component
21 command assigned to the U.S. Joint Space Command.
22 SSDC is responsible for the Army space program
23 theater missile defense and national missile
24 defense. The relocation of the space and strategic
25 defense command is neither a realignment nor a

1 command at Goodfellow Center, consolidating
2 assignment into the same complex, and moving SSDC to
3 Redstone. Again, this commission staff requested an
4 analysis from the Army. Again, the Army performed
5 the analysis and, again, the Army's numbers show
6 there is never a payback.

7 You have the same responsibilities to the
8 taxpayers as I have as a banker to my shareholders.
9 When do we as taxpayers get the return on our
10 investment? In either alternative proposed by St.
11 Louis, never. And never is unacceptable. Dr.
12 Langley.

13 COMMISSIONER KLING: Thank you, Ms.
14 Green.

15 DR. LANGLEY: Indeed, let me in summary
16 try to conclude some points here. One about
17 Redstone. The arsenal itself has been rated by its
18 own people, by the Department of Defense, and
19 Redstone has been the recipient of numerous,
20 numerous Army-wide awards for excellence. We are
21 proud of that locally. I hope the whole nation
22 rejoices in it. Redstone was picked in 1995 as the
23 No. 1 commodity command in the whole U.S. Army.
24 Indeed when we would invite ATCOM to come to our
25 area of the Country, we would be inviting them to

1 government and we deplore that.

2 In conclusion, let me just summarize by
3 saying the numbers, again, not ours, the numbers
4 given us by the evaluation teams of our own very
5 able Army evaluators make sense to us, good sense,
6 makes dollars and cents. In fact, we would just
7 simply have to say don't these figures, don't these
8 numbers speak for themselves? The numbers talk.
9 They seem to here today. They speak rather
10 eloquently, loud and clear to us -- we hope to
11 you -- do this. We think the taxpayers would say do
12 this. We think the Congress would say do this, and
13 we are glad we think the United States Army would
14 say do this. What more could we say?

15 CONGRESSMAN CRAMER: I might say to the
16 Commission as well in conclusion you may have been
17 confused by the SSDC issue in light of the fact that
18 perhaps if you consider moving SSDC to Redstone
19 there might not be room for ATCOM. Redstone for the
20 reasons sited by this panel has been looked to by
21 the Army as a place of excellence, a place that in
22 the past they've moved personnel, they've moved
23 commands to, they've consolidated there.

24 We've got land, land, lots of land and an
25 infrastructure around there that is very

1 STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

2
3 COMMISSIONER KLING: Good afternoon,
4 ladies and gentlemen, and welcome to our afternoon
5 session. I'm Lee Kling, and with me are my fellow
6 commissioners, Al Cornella at the end, Rebecca Cox,
7 and Wendi Steele. This afternoon we will hear a
8 presentation from the state of Mississippi which
9 will last for 45 minutes followed by a presentation
10 by Florida for 25 minutes. As is the case with all
11 our regional hearings, the Commission has given a
12 block of time to the states based on the number of
13 installations on the list and the jobs lost.

14 We have left it to elected officials and
15 community leaders to decide how to fill the block of
16 time. After the two presentations there will be a
17 period of 26 minutes for additional public comment
18 from Mississippi and Florida. The persons who wish
19 to speak at that time should have signed up by now
20 in the lobby or, if not, if they would please do so
21 at this time. They are asked to limit themselves to
22 two minutes and that time limit will be strictly
23 enforced.

24 We will be ready to begin the Mississippi
25 presentations as soon as I have sworn in the

1 of 214 and a half million dollars annually, and
2 Columbus is the largest employer in Lowndes County
3 with 2584 employees. That's double the number of
4 employees at the county's second largest employer.
5 We are talking about significant economic impact.

6 At the final press conference in Columbus
7 yesterday, one of the reporters asked me What does
8 that mean in terms of economic development,
9 Governor? And I said, well, I'd hate to tell you
10 the effort that would be required because I do
11 expend a lot of personal effort on economic
12 development to replace \$214 million worth of
13 economic activity and 2600 employees. That really
14 brings it down to an awesome personal scale is how
15 am I going to generate enough business to take up
16 that slack. So it is a very important economic
17 factor.

18 The base is extremely important to the
19 economy of the whole state on this scale. It ranks
20 among the top ten businesses in terms of the wealth
21 it brings into the state, if you want to look at it
22 on that comparative basis. Until I was elected
23 Governor of the great state of Mississippi in 1992,
24 I was a businessman in Vicksburg, Mississippi. And
25 as a owner of a construction company, my business

1 most flexible pilot training base in the entire
2 United States Air Force. It has the capability to
3 provide any type of flying mission that the Air
4 Force wants and needs.

5 I will say parenthetically I hope you-all
6 got a feel yesterday, those of you that took the
7 flying trip from Columbus Air Force Base down to
8 Meridian Naval Air Station, of the incredible
9 possibilities of joint use not only of the MOAs but
10 of the bombing ranges and forth. At a time when the
11 military is in the throes of downsizing and
12 right-sizing and reengineering the way it operates,
13 Columbus Air Force Base represents the best
14 investment of our Country's military dollars both
15 now and well into the future. And I believe that
16 the facts demonstrate that, and I hope that the
17 facts will be able to stand on their own feet once
18 they're brought out.

19 Again, let me tell you how much I
20 appreciate the opportunity to express the state's
21 whole-hearted total 100 percent support of Columbus
22 Air Force Base here before you today. And CAFB,
23 Columbus Air Force Base 2,000's chairman, who is
24 former Mayor Fred Hayslett, will present the key
25 facts that illustrate the critical military value of

1 undergraduate pilot training base, which the Air
2 Force considers its No. 1 facility. During the
3 Department of the Air Force's discussions about base
4 closure, Mr. James F. Boatright, who served as group
5 chair, stated that the two most important criteria
6 to the Air Force were, Criteria I, the flying
7 training mission, and Criteria II, facilities and
8 infrastructure.

9 As you can see, the Columbus Air Force
10 Base was ranked first by the Air Force and most
11 importantly the Joint Cross Service Study Group in
12 Criteria I, the flying training mission. This is an
13 important point to remember. When all factors are
14 considered, Columbus is ranked No. 1 among UPT bases
15 in mission performance.

16 As this chart on Criteria II, facilities
17 and infrastructure, indicates, Columbus was the only
18 UPT base to receive a green rating by the Air
19 Force. As many of you saw yesterday, the facilities
20 and infrastructure at Columbus are a valuable asset
21 to the Air Force and will become more valuable as
22 the service is downsized, becoming leaner. Columbus
23 Air Force Base has been consistently recognized for
24 exceptional performance, demonstrating the success
25 of the base in fulfilling its mission.

1 Columbus first in its analysis. The most important
2 is flexibility, flexibility, flexibility. Columbus
3 without tremendous expense can support any of the
4 Air Force's five missions: Trainer, fighter,
5 bomber, tanker, airlift transport.

6 Having been a strategic air command base,
7 home to the B-52, Columbus Air Force Base has the
8 infrastructure to provide service capabilities in
9 both pilot production and additional missions. One
10 recent example illustrates this point. Columbus Air
11 Force Base served as the temporary home to the
12 KC-135 of the International Guard's 186th Air
13 Refueling Group from Meridian without interrupting
14 its regular training schedule.

15 Columbus' three parallel runway
16 configuration with its 12,000 feet center runway
17 accounts for much of its flexibility and its high
18 rating on facilities and infrastructure. But that's
19 not all Columbus has to offer. That two-mile plus
20 runway and the 63-foot runway that used to be the
21 B-52 taxiway are both reinforced concrete
22 substructures that will support the heavier aircraft
23 without additional expense.

24 In the lower right-hand column there's a
25 Christmas tree, as we call it, of the alert

1 opportunity to fly over SeaRay, the gunnery range.
2 Columbus is the only UPT base being reviewed by the
3 Commission that has the use of a gunnery range.
4 This range is required for the introduction to
5 fighters' fundamental training. The gunnery range
6 is located only 35 miles or 4 minutes by an AT-38
7 from Columbus. Strafing and practice ordnance
8 delivery are both done at SeaRay.

9 This gunnery range facility could not be
10 readily replaced at some other location to provide
11 IFF. It would cost millions of dollars to replace.
12 However, replacement cost is not the most critical
13 factor. It would be very difficult to secure the
14 land for such a facility, especially without local
15 objection; and environmental permits might even be
16 more difficult to secure. In addition, the
17 environmental clean-up involving in closing an
18 existing range could be cost-prohibitive, exceeding
19 \$4 million an acre according to environmental
20 experts.

21 Another aspect of critical importance to
22 Columbus' military value is related to the issue of
23 safety or, as we refer to it, T-38 take-off risk.
24 The performance of a T-38 and to a greater extent
25 the AT-38 is adversely affected by elevation and

1 temperature points are shown in reference to normal
2 daily high temperatures for each month. Note that
3 Columbus never reaches the temperature of the yellow
4 increased risk area or the terminate flying red
5 area. To summarize this point, Columbus' conditions
6 equate to significantly less risk for the T-38 and
7 the AT-38 flying operations because of its
8 considerably lower field elevation and longer
9 runway. With student pilots, safety must always be
10 a major concern.

11 At the BRAC "adds" here in Washington on
12 May the 10th, the question of future needs for pilot
13 production was asked. It was indicated at that time
14 that Columbus' capacity was projected to be 408
15 students. As this graph indicates, in the very
16 recent past Columbus has not only met but exceeded
17 that capacity utilizing its current facilities and
18 its current air space. With its present facilities
19 and infrastructure, Columbus has the capability to
20 surge quickly in terms of pilot production beyond
21 projection.

22 Columbus' geographic location in the
23 Continental United States is a plus. Each weekend
24 AETC sends out upwards of 100 aircraft on
25 cross-country training sorties ranging from coast to

1 becomes a nonissue. Whatever the icing data
2 analyses show, it is one factor that is inclusive of
3 the overall sorties canceled or rescheduled.

4 Therefore, to include both items in the overall data
5 analysis is, in fact, double counting the effects of
6 icing on training accomplishment. There is actually
7 very little difference among UPT bases on sorties
8 lost to weather. Those lost sorties are the real
9 issue and are fairly consistent in number at all UPT
10 bases.

11 Air space is the second consideration
12 which contributed to Columbus' lower ranking when
13 adjusted by the BRAC staff. The original joint data
14 call included all available training air space.
15 This resulted in the following air space areas:
16 Columbus had 45,092 cubic nautical miles; Laughlin,
17 58,868; Reese, 31,116; and Vance, 36,084. That
18 placed Columbus second in available air space, but
19 in Staff Analysis II, only air space on and
20 scheduled was included. This gave Columbus 20,545
21 cubic miles of air space. However, this did not
22 include Meridian One East MOA, which is scheduled
23 and exclusively used by Columbus. This air space
24 has been a primary T-37 training area for numerous
25 years under a letter of agreement. A copy of that

1 established by a letter of agreement with the FAA.

2 All indications are it is impractical to
3 use air space above 30,000 feet for the T-37 and
4 T-38 aircraft because of limited aircraft
5 maneuverability and accomplishing training syllabus
6 requirements. Adjusting owned/scheduled air space
7 for all four locations to a maximum usable altitude
8 of 30,000 feet results in the following cubic miles
9 of air space: Columbus has 22,319 cubic miles of
10 air space, once again making it second in usable air
11 space available.

12 We believe that this represents the most
13 realistic evaluation of air space for the T-37 and
14 the T-38 aircraft. Although there are different
15 methods for evaluating the air space structure of
16 each base and result in different conclusions, air
17 space is not a limiting factor in regards to pilot
18 graduate capacity in Columbus. Columbus' air space
19 is viewed favorably by the Air Force due to the
20 close proximity of the MOAs to the base, which allow
21 student pilots to maximize their training time.
22 This closeness to training areas is only one of the
23 reasons Columbus is one of the two least costly UPT
24 bases to train a pilot in a COBRA data results.

25 Having addressed the weather and air

1 and in the foreseeable future. As our military
2 pares itself down, long range thought and planning
3 must be focused on ensuring that the remaining bases
4 are multi-mission capable. Columbus meets that
5 critical multi-mission requirement.

6 Both the Air Force and the Joint Cross
7 Service Study Group ranked Columbus Air Force Base
8 as the No. 1 undergraduate pilot training base.
9 Later analysis, which included some misconceptions
10 and utilized uncertified data, ranked Columbus no
11 lower than No. 2. It is difficult to see how
12 Columbus Air Force Base, ranked either first or
13 second among its counterparts, could be the base
14 selected for closure. As the data was scrutinized,
15 nowhere could we find demonstrated when the
16 Secretary of Defense deviated substantially from
17 either of the four structure plan or the final
18 criteria as published in the Federal Register.

19 We believe by all analysis Columbus Air
20 Force Base should not be closed. After your
21 questions, we would like to close with General
22 Boles.

23 COMMISSIONER KLING: Thank you, sir. We
24 thank you for that excellent information,
25 Mr. Hayslett. General.

1 Seventies and the end of the conflict in southeast
2 Asia, because of that reduction in pilots and
3 requirements the Air Force has closed five flying
4 training bases. We have realigned one flying
5 training base. So the easy closures are done. The
6 remaining undergraduate flying training bases are
7 all excellent facilities. So we now have to in a
8 manner of speaking choose from among our family
9 members because each base has served us well in
10 peacetime and in wartime.

11 The civilian members at all of our UPT
12 bases are truly part of the Air Force family. Many
13 of the men and women in uniform came from those
14 communities. Many more married within those
15 communities. But notwithstanding the excellence of
16 the facilities and the community support, there is
17 an excess capacity in the physical infrastructure
18 that we have today and what we foresee as needed for
19 the future. So as part of the BRAC process, the Air
20 Force carefully scrubbed its flying training
21 requirements. We likewise scrubbed our capacity and
22 concluded that one undergraduate flying training
23 base could be closed. We also concluded that we
24 could not close two UPT bases and continue to meet
25 our commitments.

1 the panel? Maybe perhaps there's some questions by
2 the commissioners.

3 COMMISSIONER STEELE: Two or three
4 questions.

5 COMMISSIONER KLING: Commissioner Steele.

6 COMMISSIONER STEELE: General, if the
7 four installations are all so close, what caused the
8 Air Force to select Reese over others? There have
9 been a lot of questions back and forth about
10 different weather factors and cross-winds and
11 whether things matter or they don't matter, whether
12 they should be players. What led you to your
13 decision to discriminate?

14 LIEUTENANT GENERAL BOLES: We looked
15 at -- a lot of discussion about numbers, factors,
16 models, and we came down to looking at capacity,
17 training quality, flexibility, and margin of
18 safety. Capacity is heavily affected by weather.
19 The three bases that we have recommended have the
20 lowest attrition when you start comparing long-term
21 apples to apples factors. Reese is slightly
22 different, and I will talk about that in just a
23 moment.

24 Training quality reflects a number of
25 factors; and it, again, comes back to the three

1 Kling. We appreciate the opportunity to be here.

2 COMMISSIONER KLING: I want to be sure of
3 one thing. Be sure that you let Senator Dixon know
4 that I did not take his place today. Otherwise,
5 he's liable to fire me. Then I'd be in big
6 trouble.

7 GOVERNOR FORDICE: I'll let him know.
8 Thank you so much for the opportunity.

9 COMMISSIONER KLING: We will now take a
10 break for ten minutes, and then we will hear from
11 the state of Florida. And with that, thank you.

12 (A recess was taken)

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1 want to make it very clear that we want to keep
2 Homestead Air Force Base.

3 COMMISSIONER KLING: Excuse me. Would
4 you be more comfortable standing up there, if you
5 would like.

6 CONGRESSWOMAN MEEK: All right. Thank
7 you, sir. Mr. Chairman and members of the
8 committee, I'm Carrie Meek, a proud member of the
9 United States Congress. Homestead Air Force Reserve
10 Base is in my district, and I want to make it
11 unequivocal and clear that we want to please keep
12 Homestead Air Reserve Base, our national model
13 realignment base, open and operating.

14 I urge you. Homestead should remain open
15 because of its strategic location, because of its
16 tremendous military value for contingency operations
17 and training and because the livelihoods of so many
18 people in our community depend upon it.

19 Mr. Chairman promises that were made
20 should be kept. I was before this Commission, the
21 BRAC Commission, two years ago. Promises were made
22 to us. Two years later I'm back here again. I am a
23 public official, a public server. My credibility
24 will be grossly undercut if you do not keep the
25 promises that were made by the '93 commission. Just

1 Homestead Air Reserve Base is a model for
2 the entire nation, one of the most successful
3 military base realignments ever. Keep Homestead
4 open because the facts show that this is in the best
5 interest to the people. I appeal to your sense of
6 fairness. Keep the 482nd Fighter Wing at
7 Homestead. Bring back the 301st Rescue Squadron
8 because the facts show that to do so is
9 cost-effective and makes solid military sense.

10 Keep the fine reputation of the BRAC
11 alive. Keep your promise. Keep Homestead Air Force
12 Reserve Base alive. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13 COMMISSIONER KLING: Congresswoman Meek,
14 thank you very much and all your testimony will be
15 part of the record, including those letters.
16 General.

17 MAJOR GENERAL SHERRARD: Good afternoon,
18 Mr. Chairman and members of the Commission. I'm
19 Major General Jimmy Sherrard, the Vice Commander of
20 the Air Force Reserve; and my purpose this afternoon
21 is to state the position of the Air Force Reserve
22 regarding Homestead Air Reserve Base in view of its
23 being added to the listing of bases which you are
24 considering for closure and realignment.

25 We are very concerned about the large

1 reserve bases where our experienced and skilled
2 individuals live. Homestead Air Reserve Base has
3 proven its strategic value and its recent
4 contingency support in the Caribbean area of
5 operations. Its location provides us an outstanding
6 training location due to its exceptional flying
7 weather, its access to the air combat maneuvering
8 instrumentation range, supersonic training areas,
9 and suburb joint range facilities. Additionally it
10 provides exceptional support to other Federal
11 agencies as they carry out a wide range of diverse
12 operations supporting national objectives and
13 policies.

14 As we look to our future, it's even more
15 critical that the Air Force Reserve maintain a
16 presence at Homestead. Our operations there are
17 affordable, and the track record of the 42nd Fighter
18 Wing is flawless. They provide excellent support to
19 the Air Force and to other DOD and Federal
20 agencies. They have achieved an outstanding record
21 of inspections, and they maintain continual combat
22 readiness even in spite of the devastation of
23 Hurricane Andrew. Furthermore, Air Force Reserve
24 bases such as Homestead provide the Air Force the
25 opportunity for a blue suit presence in key grass

1 strategic military value of this important military
2 asset.

3 The mission of the 42nd Fighter Wing at
4 Homestead is to maintain the capability to mobilize,
5 deploy, and to perform fighter operations anywhere
6 in the world within 72 hours or such other tasks as
7 required by higher headquarters. Our base also
8 hosts the Defense Logistics Agency. The DLA is
9 responsible for contracting to meet Department of
10 Defense fuel requirements in Central and South
11 America and the Caribbean basin. We expect the
12 125th Fighter Group, Detachment 1, on station around
13 the end of the year. And construction of the U.S.
14 Customs service facilities is imminent.

15 As you know, facilities for the 301st
16 Rescue Squadron are part of our overall plan. Our
17 community, of course, would welcome back this
18 outstanding unit. The Florida National Guard is
19 preparing to move its City of Homestead Armory to
20 the base, and currently the base is being evaluated
21 for potential support functions for the U.S.
22 Southern Command. As directed by the 1993 BRAC,
23 these are the aircraft currently assigned to
24 Homestead: the 42nd's 18 Falcon fighters are
25 already on station.

1 duty bases. We are unique in that we have
2 year-around, nearly perfect flying weather and large
3 supersonic training areas over the Gulf of Mexico
4 and the Straits of Florida. We also have access to
5 numerous low-level flying routes and an excellent
6 air-to-ground weapons training range at Avon Park.

7 To further complement these assets,
8 Homestead also enjoys ready access to an Air Combat
9 Maneuvering Instrumentation, or ACMI, range in the
10 adjacent Gulf of Mexico which provides pilots with
11 the latest technology to evaluate the success of
12 their combat training, thus making each mission
13 significantly more cost-effective. Our community
14 support is so strong that we could probably fly over
15 downtown Homestead and not get a noise complaint.

16 The 1993 BRAC correctly foresaw that
17 because we possess these treasured assets Homestead
18 Air Reserve Base has become a favorite destination
19 for Air Combat Command and other units engaged in
20 combat weapons training. As demonstrated by
21 numerous weapons training deployments over the past
22 year, we have provided support for visiting Air
23 Force fighter operations as well as Marine
24 helicopter bearer base and extraditionary force
25 operations. In other words, this base is not only

1 readiness material and fuel as well as large fuel
2 reserves.

3 We have used our barracks for the beddown
4 of deployment forces and have a considerable amount
5 of land available for expansion and additional
6 beddown. Also we have an aerial port squadron
7 permanently on station which saves the significant
8 cost of having to import one on short notice. All
9 of our facilities planning has been done with an eye
10 toward multiple use and flexibility. During the
11 past year alone Homestead has been an essential
12 element in Federal, state, and local mass migration
13 plans and continues to process over 500 Cuban
14 parolees each week.

15 During the restoration of democracy in
16 Haiti, Homestead acted as a staging base for KC-135
17 straddle tankers, an Army helicopter brigade,
18 complete their own aviation support group and
19 numerous other support aircraft including Navy E-2
20 Hawkeye early warning and control aircraft as well
21 as specially configured C-130s capable of quick
22 response to combat related fire fighting
23 emergencies.

24 Finally, we have hosted several special
25 operations exercises including marine expeditionary

1 air reserve bases. We know that the focus today is
2 narrower than it was the last time around and that
3 cost production comparisons and the net present
4 value of savings from closure are even more critical
5 to your decision.

6 We are advised that at least one of three
7 bases must close, Carswell, Berkstrom, or Homestead,
8 that the argument has been made that shutting down
9 Homestead will save \$85 million in military
10 construction moneys, that greater operating savings
11 can be generated by closing Homestead, and that the
12 economies of scale of Berkstrom's joint use airport
13 will generate an earlier and significantly greater
14 cash stream in the benefit of the Air Force than the
15 same joint use programs at Homestead. None of these
16 arguments hold water.

17 I draw your attention to the COBRA cost
18 comparison board before you. It clearly shows that
19 all the savings from closure are in Homestead's
20 favor. Net present value savings are \$28 million
21 greater by closing Berkstrom. One-time costs to
22 close are almost identical. Closing Berkstrom will
23 generate \$18 million greater savings over the next
24 six years. The recurring savings are greater by
25 closing Berkstrom.

1 Nation will lose access to the facilities that won't
2 have cost the military anything. \$28 million of
3 those moneys have already been spent, another
4 \$24 million in the advance design stage, only
5 \$33 million is left in the pipeline. The final
6 issue is more complex.

7 We agree that Austin's new airport will
8 reduce long-term operating costs at Berkstrom.
9 Berkstrom expects that base operating costs will
10 drop by a million dollars a year once the new
11 airport is fully operational, and they expect
12 personnel and real property maintenance costs to
13 eventually drop as well. But we think that what's
14 fair for the goose is also fair for the gander.

15 What about Homestead's FAA-approved dual
16 use airport, which is in the advanced planning
17 stages. What about the \$125 million in proposed
18 private developer funds? What about Dade County's
19 commitment of \$24 million in capital construction
20 moneys? And what about Dade County's one point four
21 to \$2 million a year which starts in October of this
22 year? Commissioner Moss is going to address that
23 issue in a minute.

24 The fact of the matter is, Commissioners,
25 we can and will make exactly the same case as

1 When Austin is fully operational in 1998,
2 their base costs will drop to 8.2 million. That's
3 an advantage of a half a million dollars a year,
4 once again, to Homestead. In summary, there are no
5 military savings which will result from failure to
6 complete projects authorized by Congress, by two
7 Presidents, and by the current Secretary of
8 Defense. Two, there are \$28 million greater savings
9 to be generated by not closing Homestead. Three,
10 annual operating costs are significantly less at
11 Homestead than at Berkstrom. And four, in both
12 cases there are cost benefits which will derive from
13 joint use operations; but Homestead, due to Dade
14 County's contributions will benefit sooner, thus
15 improving Homestead's cost competitiveness even
16 more. We thank you very much for your time. It's
17 my honor now to introduce Dade County Commissioner,
18 Dennis Moss.

19 COMMISSIONER KLING: Thank you. Mr.
20 Weaver.

21 DENNIS MOSS: Honorable Chairman,
22 commissioners, back in 1993 metropolitan Dade County
23 government -- and I'm happy that my colleague,
24 County Commissioner Katie Sorensen is also here with
25 me today -- made a commitment to enter into a

1 commissioners, we urge your positive
2 recommendation. At this time I would like to
3 introduce the Honorable Mayor Tad DeMilly from the
4 city of Homestead.

5 MAYOR DEMILLY: Mr. Chairman, members of
6 the Commission, I am pleased that I also have a
7 couple of my colleagues from the City Council with
8 me, Councilman Jeff Kirk and Councilman Steve
9 Scheiber in the audience.

10 I'd like to take just a few moments and
11 speak with you-all about the economic impact of a
12 proposed base closure to our community. Homestead
13 Air Force Base, I believe, is unique from all the
14 other bases that are under consideration. In August
15 of 1992 Hurricane Andrew came through our community
16 and effectively shut Homestead Air Force Base.
17 Prior to the base being closed, it represented
18 \$450 million a year to our local community and over
19 8500 jobs. With the base closure came a great deal
20 of devastation along with the hurricane. We had
21 over 50,000 people that were homeless in our
22 community, and we were absolutely totally devastated
23 as a community.

24 Along with base closure also came the
25 devastation of our tourist economy and our farming

1 civilian pursuits or even make a decision regarding
2 their family size if they don't know where they're
3 going to be training. The decision to bring the
4 482nd back and the 301st back gave our community a
5 great deal of hope the stability could be returned
6 to the area. Our business and commercial interests
7 do not depend exclusively on the base, but they do
8 factor that very much into their business
9 decisions.

10 The issue before you today is one of
11 urgency for Homestead, Florida City, and all of Dade
12 County. I urge you to please allow the plan that
13 was accepted by the BRAC commission in 1993 and
14 recognized by Secretary Bill Perry as the finest
15 that he had ever seen. I urge you also please
16 remove the base from closure consideration.

17 I am now pleased to introduce Don
18 Slesnick. Don is the vice-chairman of the Greater
19 Miami Chamber of Commerce. Don.

20 COMMISSIONER KLING: Mayor DeMilly, thank
21 you so much for your comments.

22 DON SLESNICK: Mr. Chairman,
23 commissioners, it's good to be back with you again.
24 I am here on behalf of the Chamber and all the
25 citizens of Dade County represented here today to

1 airport.

2 We have extensive shopping opportunities
3 for families with enormous variety of malls,
4 discount outlets, and two new BX marts, one which
5 just recently opened at Homestead with 5,000 people
6 in attendance, showing the urgency of that need in
7 the community of retirees and reservists, and one
8 new BX mart at the nearby Coast Guard housing area.
9 We have the only urban area in the United States
10 with five major sports franchises, five major league
11 sports franchises, and three of the Country's most
12 highly rated sporting events: the Durell-Ryder open
13 golf tournament, the Lipton tennis tournament, the
14 Orange Bowl college football championship game.

15 We have a wealth of cultural activities,
16 including over 50 annual festivals to include
17 nationally acclaimed book and film festivals. We
18 also have two symphony orchestras, a world class
19 ballet, and a world class opera company. And for
20 the young, energetic members of the command there
21 are the dusk-to-dawn entertainment areas of Coconut
22 Grove and the art deco district of South Miami
23 Beach. All in all there is no more exciting,
24 healthier, or more supportive location for the 482nd
25 and 301st than the Homestead Air Force Reserve base,

1 The Congress appropriated about
2 \$11 billion. When we are looking at savings now, if
3 every one of these \$85 million could be realized --
4 and we are certainly challenging those figures --
5 you put that against a plan, the linchpin of which
6 was the restoration of the base, and you
7 appropriated \$11 billion to do that, that's what the
8 Federal government did. The state government has
9 put up not in the billions but has put up in the
10 millions of dollars. The county government, the
11 local governments have all come to the table as
12 well, and all of that plan is designed upon having a
13 public/private partnership and public/private base
14 that would be Homestead.

15 That's been going underway now. It has
16 been working very, very well. To pull that pin out
17 is much more than saying you're going to remove a
18 reserve squadron. You literally pull the pin out
19 from under keeping all the retired personnel in the
20 area, all of the jobs that this creates. In
21 addition to the fact I think there's one major piece
22 of new information that's occurred since BRAC '93,
23 and that is the location of the Southern Command in
24 Dade County. The Southern Command is going to need
25 a facility that has a military presence. Certainly

1 if we have any questions from any of the
2 commissioners. We don't, so that means you must
3 have made all of your points pretty well. And we
4 thank you so much for being with us, and we will be
5 in touch. We will now in just a couple minutes
6 begin the public comment period. And so we will
7 just break to straighten up a little bit and come
8 back.

9 (A recess was taken).
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1 COMMISSIONER KLING: Thank you. We will
2 now begin with Katie Sorensen, County Commissioner,
3 Miami. Welcome.

4 KATIE SORENSEN: Thank you,
5 Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon, commissioners. I
6 represent the area surrounding the base. My name is
7 Katie Sorensen, and it's an honor to be here today.
8 It's an honor because of the people that I
9 represent. I am sure you're aware of Dade County's
10 diversity and ethnic and cultural diversity and the
11 tension that often goes with it. But the people
12 around the base -- hispanic, black, white, Asian,
13 rural, urban, agricultural -- live and work together
14 in a quietly cooperative manner that is a national
15 model of tolerance and mutual respect.

16 South Dade is made up of genuine, real
17 McCoy, feet on the ground, meat and potatoes family
18 kind of people. South Dade people are proud. South
19 Dade people are practical. South Dade people have
20 great stamina and marvelous resiliency. These are
21 people who had their homes and livelihoods
22 obliterated by a vicious storm, as the poet Rudyard
23 Kipling put it, who watched the things they gave
24 their lives to broken and stooped and built them up
25 with worn out tools. Character, commitment,

1 the 20,000 residents of the city of Homestead.

2 Two years ago when you, the Commission,
3 authorized Homestead as an Air Force Reserve Base,
4 you gave the people and citizens of Homestead, the
5 merchants, the residents, a vision of hope. With
6 that hope, we began to rebuild in the wake of the
7 largest natural disaster in the United States
8 history, a distinction that we still hold. I am
9 here to tell you today that Homestead is coming
10 back. We are coming back stronger, and our citizens
11 have a resolve to rebuild and improve the city. But
12 we are not out of the woods yet. It's only been a
13 couple of years since the hurricane, and we're still
14 in the process of rebuilding.

15 Unfortunately we don't have any new
16 sources of money to tap. We don't have new sources
17 of state aid to tap. We must now depend on economic
18 development. Let us not take a step backwards and
19 stop halfway. Let us continue economic development,
20 and please do not close our base now. Two years ago
21 you gave us the green light, and we have not
22 disappointed you. The citizens of Homestead rallied
23 around the military troops and personnel when we did
24 our operation and Haiti and, boy, we were proud to
25 see the troops and see the people and be a portion

1 Homestead Air Reserve Base provided a southern
2 staging area which proved vitally important,
3 particularly for low range aircraft and choppers
4 requiring refueling.

5 Closure of Homestead Air Reserve Base
6 would clearly eliminate Federal control and thus
7 there would no longer be any assurance that the
8 landing strip and support facilities on site would
9 be available in the event of an emergency. Without
10 Homestead Air Reserve Base there would be no large
11 base capability south of Tampa's MacDill and Patrick
12 adjacent to Cape Canaveral. These facilities are
13 200 miles north.

14 The Air Force in not placing Homestead
15 Air Reserve Base on the 1995 list of bases to
16 consider closing recognized the cost-effective
17 strategic contribution of Homestead. BRAC '93
18 determined to realign Homestead Air Force Base in
19 the wake of Hurricane Andrew as a cost-saving
20 measure primarily. The thought was why rebuild the
21 entire base when we needed to shut down bases for
22 overall cost cutting purposes. The realignment
23 decision has been made and has been implemented.
24 The 482nd Reserve Fighter Wing has returned, and the
25 commissary has been rebuilt converting it to a large

1 for our community.

2 After Hurricane Andrew, the U.S. Defense
3 Department saw a need to expand this relationship
4 due to a vision of grant of \$14 million that was
5 matched by \$1 million from the State to the college
6 in order to provide a world class aviation program
7 that would be located at the Homestead Air Force
8 Base. This program will be in joint relationship
9 with the Dade County Public Schools and hopefully
10 with the continuing relationship of the Homestead
11 Air Force Base and the Air Force people there. This
12 program would provide linkages to the Caribbean,
13 Central and South American markets.

14 The full implementation of this program
15 would provide the following degree programs at this
16 base: professional pilot technology, aviation
17 administration, aviation maintenance, air traffic
18 control. It would help you to reduce your air
19 traffic control and really to relegate that to the
20 college so that we could take on that benefit. We
21 urge you strongly to continue this tripartite
22 relationship because we see this as a need to make
23 our citizens more competitive in a changing world
24 market. Thank you for your continuing help, and
25 help us to keep our base open for these excellent

1 STEVEN CRANMAN: Thank you, Chairman and
2 commissioners. My name is Steven Cranman. I'm the
3 executive director of the Brian Cutlerage Council.
4 We're an economic development organization in the
5 south Dade area. I'm speaking to you from the
6 civilian business community. You have heard we were
7 impacted by Hurricane Andrew. You have heard that
8 we had the closure of Homestead Air Force Base, but
9 what does it really mean? It means jobs. It means
10 quality of life. It means economic vitality of
11 particular community.

12 My organization just recently two months
13 ago administered a business profile survey, the
14 first conducted since Hurricane Andrew. I have that
15 report to submit to you here today. I am sad to
16 say, however, 62 percent of the respondents within
17 this administrative survey purported to us that they
18 had decreased traffic with regard to our customers.
19 Consequently, they also reported to us that when it
20 came to business profits, they also were down. We
21 need to pull our community together. We need to get
22 the economic vitality of our community back on line,
23 the way it was prior to Hurricane Andrew.

24 We also used to have 45,000 winter
25 visitors that would come into your community to

1 directly abuts the base. I'm the president of the
2 Princeton-Naranja Community Council, and our
3 neighbors grew up around the base and because of the
4 Homestead Air Force Base. We are made up of the
5 retirees and the people who are working at the base
6 that want to live close to the base.

7 We support and we do embrace the military
8 presence that's in our community. Although other
9 communities may have compelling reasons to want to
10 keep their bases active, I believe that ours is far
11 greater. We went through Andrew together, and our
12 recovery is very much tied to the base's recovery.

13 When then President Bush and now
14 President Clinton came to south Dade, they both made
15 commitments to rebuild the base. The impact that
16 this had on those of us who had lost everything
17 cannot be explained in words. We worked hard to
18 maintain ourselves and keep a sense of hope in the
19 midst of the disaster. The commitment to rebuild
20 the base gave us a hope and a reason to believe that
21 the recovery would occur.

22 The last BRAC process was very terrifying
23 to those of us who are so close to the base, but we
24 survived the BRAC with a realignment instead of a
25 closure. Although the loss of some of the military

1 open is that it's the right thing to do. And I'd
2 like to repeat that: It's the right thing to do,
3 and I think we should keep the base open. Thank
4 you.

5 COMMISSIONER KLING: Thank you, sir. I
6 believe that concludes the public comment period.
7 We have now concluded this hearing of the Defense
8 Base Closure and Realignment Commission. I'd like
9 to thank all the witnesses who have testified, and
10 you brought us some very valuable information, which
11 I can assure you will be given careful consideration
12 by the Commission members as we reach our
13 decisions.

14 I also want to again thank all the
15 elected officials and community members who have
16 assisted us during our base visits and in
17 preparation for this hearing. In particular I'd
18 like to thank Senator Nunn and his staff and the
19 Georgia Chamber of Commerce for their assistance in
20 helping obtain this beautiful, wonderful site for
21 the hearing.

22 Finally I'd like to say thank you to the
23 citizens of the communities represented here today
24 that have supported the members of our armed
25 services for so many years, making them feel welcome

1 STATE OF GEORGIA:

2 COUNTY OF FULTON:

3 I hereby certify that the foregoing
4 transcript was reported, as stated in the caption,
5 and the questions and answers thereto were reduced
6 to typewriting under my direction; that the
7 foregoing pages 1 through 174 represent a true,
8 complete, and correct transcript of the evidence
9 given upon said hearing, and I further certify that
10 I am not of kin or counsel to the parties in the
11 case; am not in the employ of counsel for any of
12 said parties; nor am I in anywise interested in the
13 result of said case.

14 Disclosure Pursuant to O.C.G.A. 9-11-28 (d):

15 The party taking this hearing will receive the
16 original and one copy based on our standard and
17 customary per page charges. Copies to other parties
18 will be furnished at one half that per page rate.
19 Incidental direct expenses of production may be
20 added to either party where applicable.

21 Our customary appearance fee will be charged to
22 the party taking this deposition.

23 This, the 16th day of June, 1995.

24 _____
25 Lori N. Sumrall, CCR-B1304

