

Presentation to the Base Realignment and Closure Commission June 20, 2005

For the 110th Fighter Wing
And the
Battle Creek Air National Guard Base

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Introduction: The recommendation to realign the 110th Fighter Wing and close the Battle Creek Air National Guard Base is inconsistent and inaccurate in its analysis

Military Value

Other Considerations

Upjohn Institute for Employment Research Report

- The Honorable Mark Schauer, Michigan Senate
- George Erickcek, Senior Analyst, W. E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research
- Major General E. Gordon Stump, Former Adjutant General, State of Michigan
- The Honorable John Godfrey III, Mayor, City of Battle Creek
- The Honorable Joe Schwarz, United States House of Representatives

Appendices

Attachments

Testimony

The recommendation is inconsistent and inaccurate in its analysis

The Mission Capability Index which determines military value is flawed because it is based on poorly designed questions.

The cost savings for operating and manpower are based on an incomplete analysis which ignores major costs including pilot training.

The recommendation is inconsistent
and inaccurate in its analysis

While the Air Force calculates \$167
million in savings over 20 years,

by closing

W.K. Kellogg Airport.

The recommendation is inconsistent and inaccurate in its analysis

The recommendation did not account for the training and experience necessary to train Selfridge personnel for the maintenance of A-10s. Nor did the recommendation account for the intensive training necessary to convert an F-16 pilot to an A-10 pilot. The concept that the A-10 qualified pilots, maintenance, and munitions personnel will transfer to Selfridge along with the aircraft is false. Full-time jobs and traditional military positions will be assimilated by personnel from the retiring F-16 unit, resulting in

Concurrently, mission capability, i.e., special operations, combat search air rescue, close air support, and forward air control, will be utterly compromised for 3-5 years.

The recommendation is inconsistent and inaccurate in its analysis

The Army and Air Force did not coordinate their departure and expansions at Selfridge. In addition to grossly miscalculated savings,

by assuming the operations and maintenance left by the Army. The result is a net loss for the Air Force.

The current recommendation fails to recognize that the services provided by the U.S. Army Garrison at Selfridge benefit all branches of the service that maintain operations at Selfridge: the Army, Air Force, Navy, Marines and Coast Guard, plus the Michigan National Guard

The recommendation is inconsistent and inaccurate in its analysis

It is the best reserve base for A-10s in the United States. Yet Battle Creek's Mission Capability Index evaluated Battle Creek as one of the lowest for its capability to host A-10s. Despite the same criteria, Battle Creek ranked among the highest for hosting an Unmanned Aerial Vehicle squadron or space. Overall, Battle Creek Air National Guard Base has an excellent composite rating in all mission areas. Real statistical data does not argue in favor of the recommendation for closure. Such ratings should be considered for expanding the base in the future.

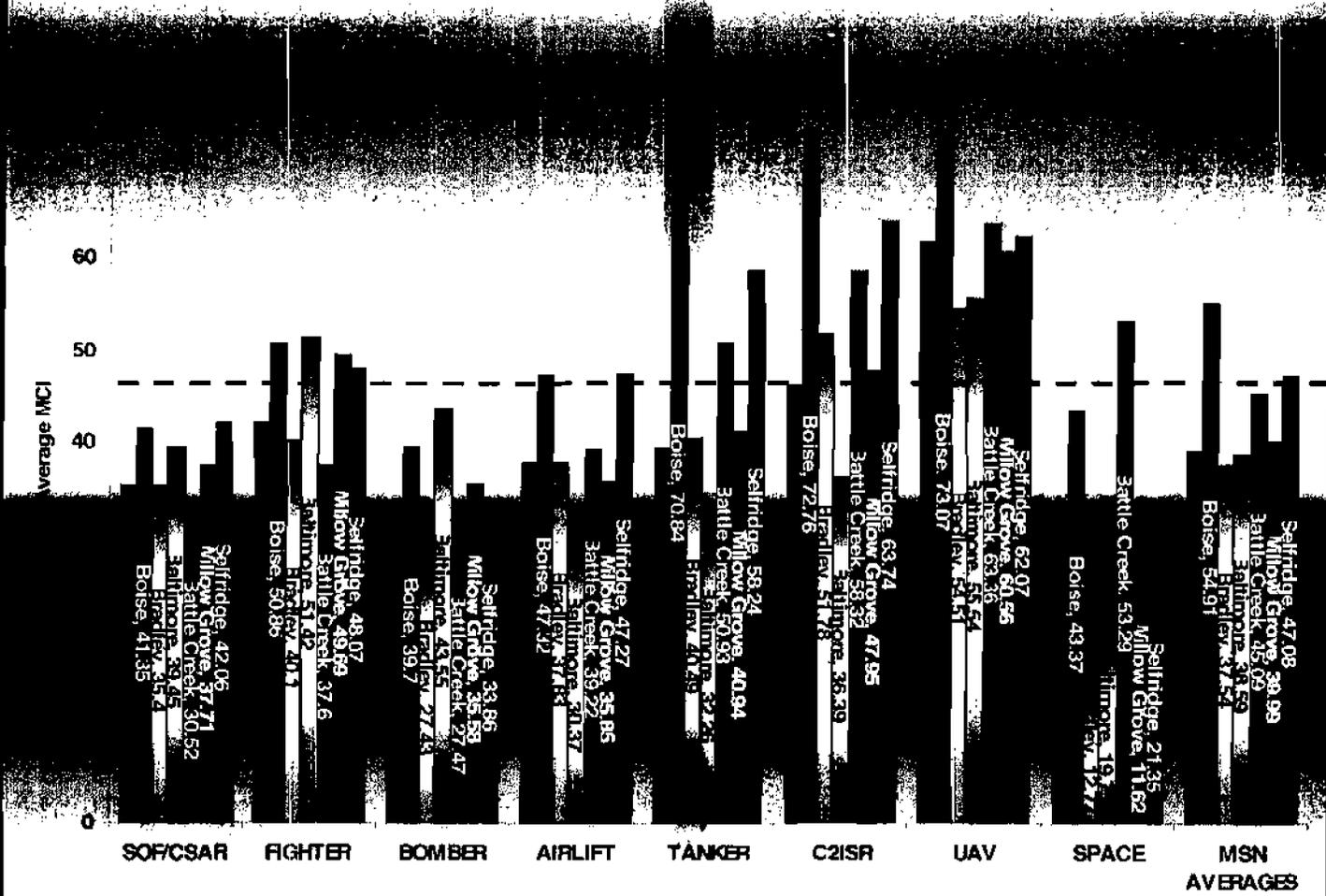
Military Value: Capability & Cost in Dollars

The 110th Fighter Wing meets the test for high military value with its ability to accept new missions, significantly improving warfighting capabilities or the ability to meet the demands of a changing security environment.

- Battle Creek scored better than 4 of 5 other Air National Guard Bases on 5 of 8 missions (Charts 1 & 2)
- Battle Creek's overall Mission Capability Index was better than 4 out of 5 other Air National Guard A-10 units (Charts 3 & 4)
- Considering future capability, Battle Creek is better suited for more missions than 4 of the 5 other Air National Guard A-10 bases

Military Value: Capability & Cost in Dollars

Average of 8 Mission Areas by Criteria



Average
for Batt

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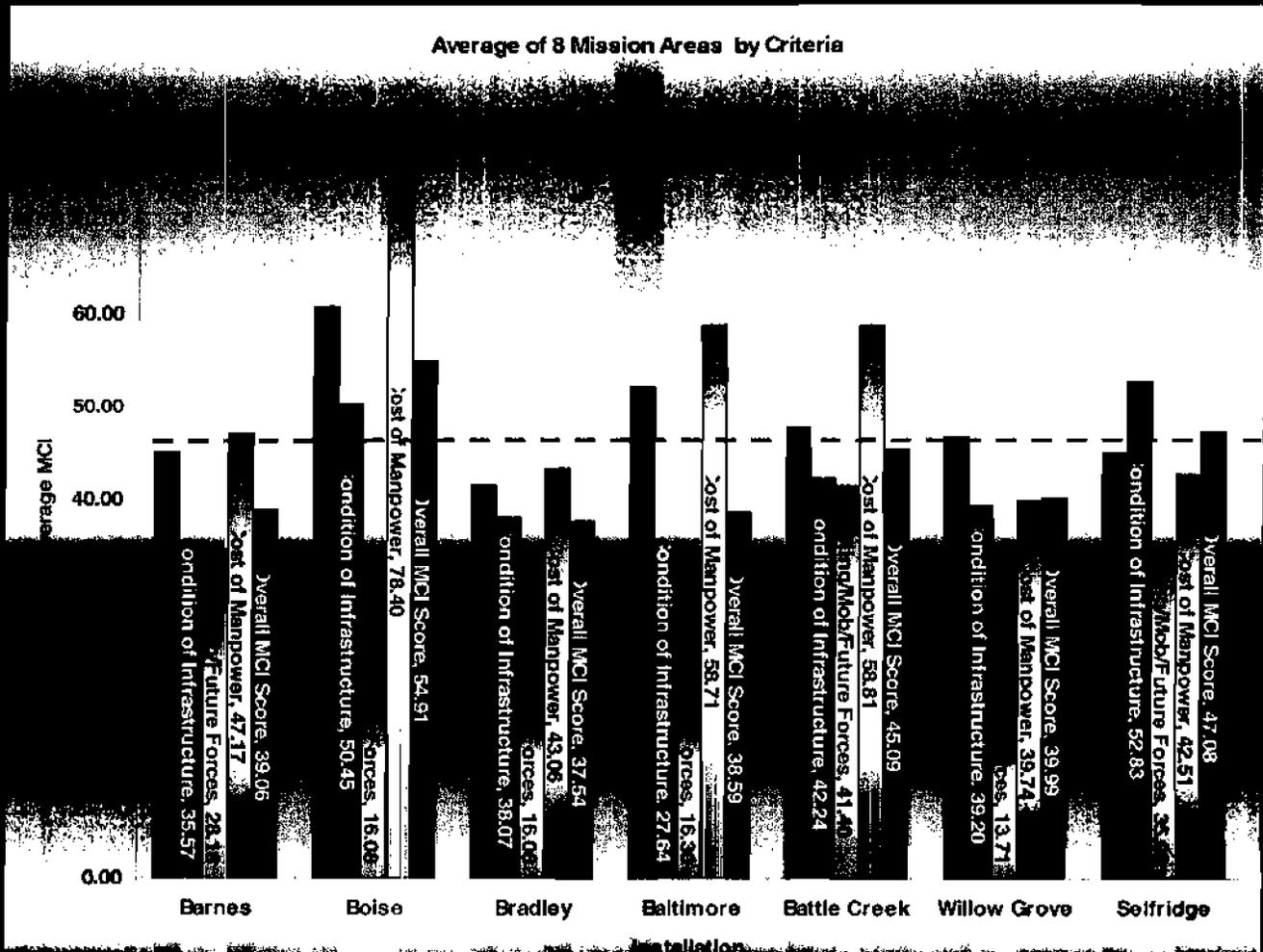
Military Value: Capability & Cost in Dollars

all MCI by Mission Area

	SOF/CSAR	FIGHTER	BOMBER	AIRLIFT	TANKER	C2ISR	UAV	SPACE	M
	35.5	42.02	26.69	37.75	39.35	46.06	61.49	23.61	39
	41.35	50.86	39.7	47.32	70.84	72.76	73.07	43.37	54
	35.4	40.1	27.43	37.83	40.49	51.78	54.51	12.77	37
	39.45	51.42	43.55	30.37	32.26	36.39	55.54	19.75	38
k	30.52	37.6	27.47	39.22	50.93	58.32	63.36	53.29	45
ve)	37.71	49.69	35.58	35.85	40.94	47.95	60.56	11.62	39
	42.06	48.07	33.86	47.27	58.24	63.74	62.07	21.35	47

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Military Value: Capability & Cost in Dollars



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Military Value: Capability & Cost in Dollars

Criteria 1 - 4 Averages Across 8 Mission Areas

<u>BASE</u>	Current and Future Msns	Condition of Infrastructure	Conting/Mob/ Future Forces	Cost of Manpower	Overall MCI Score
ames	44.93	35.57	28.18	47.17	39.06
ise	60.70	50.45	16.08	78.40	54.91
adley	41.41	38.07	16.08	43.06	37.54
altimore	52.30	27.64	16.30	58.71	38.59
ttle eek	47.73	42.24	41.40	58.81	45.09
low ove	46.43	39.20	13.71	39.74	39.99
fridge	44.78	52.83	35.00	42.51	47.08

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Military Value: Capability & Cost in Dollars

Battle Creek meets the test for current and future missions with a combat-proven superior performing A-10 Fighter Wing.

- Only A-10 unit to receive an outstanding rating on an Air Combat Command Operational Readiness Inspection in the past 9 years
- Received the SPAATZ trophy in 1999, recognized as the best fighter wing in the Air National Guard
- One of 3 Air National Guard fighter units to support 3 combat operations in the past 8 years
- Only Air National Guard unit to deploy to Operation Southern Watch – return home – within 3 weeks return to Southwest Asia for Operation Iraqi Freedom – deployed twice the personnel and equipment
- 446 combat sorties over 1,164 combat hours flown in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom
- Unit selected to deploy into Iraq (Tallil Airfield) within 1 week of initiation hostilities in Operation Iraqi Freedom
- 110th Fighter Wing has supported 39 deployments with over 3,000 personnel and nearly 1,000 short tons of cargo in the past 10 years (Chart 5)

Military Value: Capability & Cost in Dollars

Combat Operations – Past 10 years

- 1995 – Operation Noble Eagle (Bosnia)
- 1997 – Operation Joint Endeavor (Bosnia)
- 1999 – Operation Noble Anvil (Kosovo)
- 2000 – Operation Southern Watch (Iraq)
- 2002 – Operation Southern Watch (Iraq)
- 2002 – Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan)
- 2003 – Operation Iraqi Freedom (Iraq)

Note: Transportation, chaplains, and security personnel were also activated to support ongoing operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, since major combat concluded

Military Value: Capability & Cost in Dollars

Battle Creek meets the test for current and future missions, with a combat-proven superior performing A-10 Fighter Wing (continued).

- Combat experienced force:
 - From Operation Iraqi Freedom, received 14 Distinguished Flying Crosses and 10 Bronze Stars
 - Average A-10 time per full-time pilot is 2,340 hours
 - Average combat time per full-time pilot is 191 hours
 - Average pilot has served a minimum of 2 combat tours

Military Value: Capability & Cost in Dollars

Battle Creek meets the test for current and future missions, with a combat-proven superior performing A-10 Fighter Wing (continued).

- Special current qualifications of pilots assigned
 - Night vision goggle = 100%
 - Flight leads = 93%
 - Forward air controllers = 86%
 - Targeting POD = 80%
 - Combat search and rescue = 79%
 - Joint air attack team = 69%
 - Instructors = 55% (Chart 6)

Military Value: Capability & Cost in Dollars

Crew Experience

	Total A10 Hours	Total Time	Combat Hours
Total hours all pilots	52,381.40	78,606.50	5,054.50
Average hours all pilots	1,689.72	2,535.69	163.05
Total part-time hours	25,795.60	44,975.90	2,950.20
Average part-time hours	1,289.78	2,248.80	147.51
Total full-time hours	25,735.50	33,630.60	2,104.30
Average full-time hours	2,339.59	3,057.33	191.30

Special Qualification	No. with Qualification	Percentage
Ship Flt Lead	27	93.10%
Ship Flt Lead	21	72.41%
	16	55.17%
C	25	86.21%
G	29	100.00%
AT	20	68.97%
AR	24	82.76%
C	14	48.28%
BDT 300'	27	93.10%
M ATTKR	26	89.66%
RON	20	68.97%
POD	23	79.31%
G T/O + LND	13	44.83%

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Military Value: Capability & Cost in Dollars

Battle Creek meets the test for current and future missions, with a combat-proven superior performing A-10 Fighter Wing (continued).

- The 110th Fighter Wing is the ONLY A-10 unit with zero Class A or B mishaps since 1995
- The 110th Fighter Wing is exemplary in current readiness and future mission capability (Chart 7)
- The 110th Fighter Wing is the top average fully mission capable rate for A-10 aircraft out of all Air National Guard units for the past 10 years
- Fleet has flown more hours than any other Air National Guard unit over the past 8 years
- Full partner in Total Force, fulfilling all Air Expeditionary Force and Expeditionary Combat Support taskings levied with zero shortfalls
- Provided Expeditionary Combat Support for Operations Allied Force, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom

Military Value: Capability & Cost in Dollars

10 Guard Fleet Mission Capable Rate Average (Last 10 years)

10th/Battle Creek		72.8%
10th/Baltimore	68.2%	
10th/Willow Grove		67.3%
10th/Bradley		59.9%
10th/Boise		69.8%
10th/Barnes		63.9%

10 Reserve Fleet Mission Capable Rate Average (Last 5 years)

10th/New Orleans		62.4%
10th/Barksdale		75.3%
10th/Whiteman		74.3%

10th Fleet Mission Capable Rate Average (Last 5 years)

10th/Battle Creek		75.7%
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10 Guard Fleet Hours Flown (Last 8 years)

10th/Battle Creek		34,772.9
10th/Baltimore	31,546.2	
10th/Willow Grove		31,772.6
10th/Bradley	31,355.1	
10th/Boise		33,900.2
10th/Bradley		34,643.0

Military Value: Capability & Cost in Dollars

Battle Creek meets the test as the only A-10 unit with live drop areas within 170 miles. Credit was only given to units with ranges 50-100 miles – irrelevant distances with modern jets.

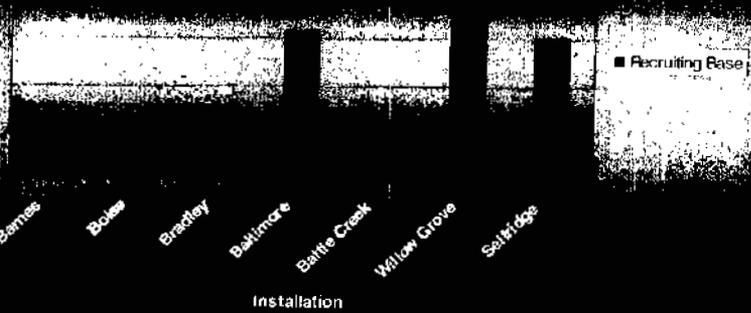
- Access to 3 Air-to-Surface Ranges, with 2 allowing for live weapons within 170 miles
- Access to 6 Military Operating Areas within 170 miles
- 2 Army Maneuver Areas within 170 miles

Military Value: Capability & Cost in Dollars

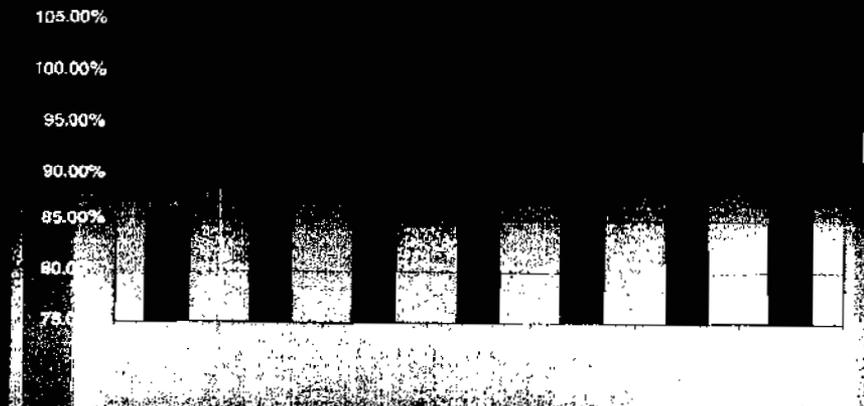
Battle Creek meets the test with unfailing support for combat operations, from the smallest recruiting base to the highest manning level for all Air National Guard units since 2001 (Chart 8).

Military Value: Capability & Cost in Dollars

Recruiting Base



Actual Manning Levels

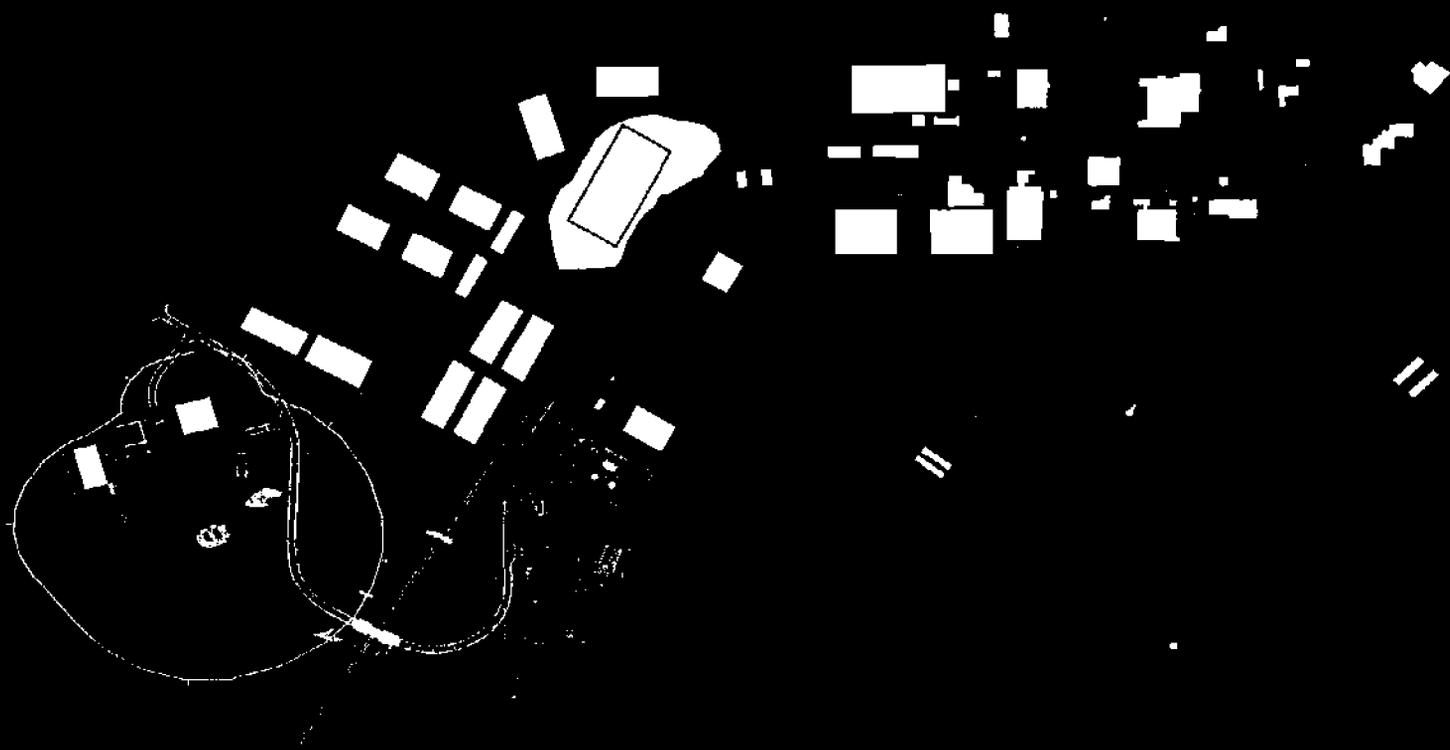


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Military Value: Capability & Cost in Dollars

Battle Creek meets the test for condition of infrastructure, with a 16-year average age of facilities, with 80% constructed after 1991 with a focus on the A-10 mission. There are no encroachment challenges, the newest modern munitions storage facility in the Air National Guard, and room for growth with over 400,000 square feet available in authorized square footage on more than 320 acres (Charts 9 & 10).

Military Value: Capability & Cost in Dollars



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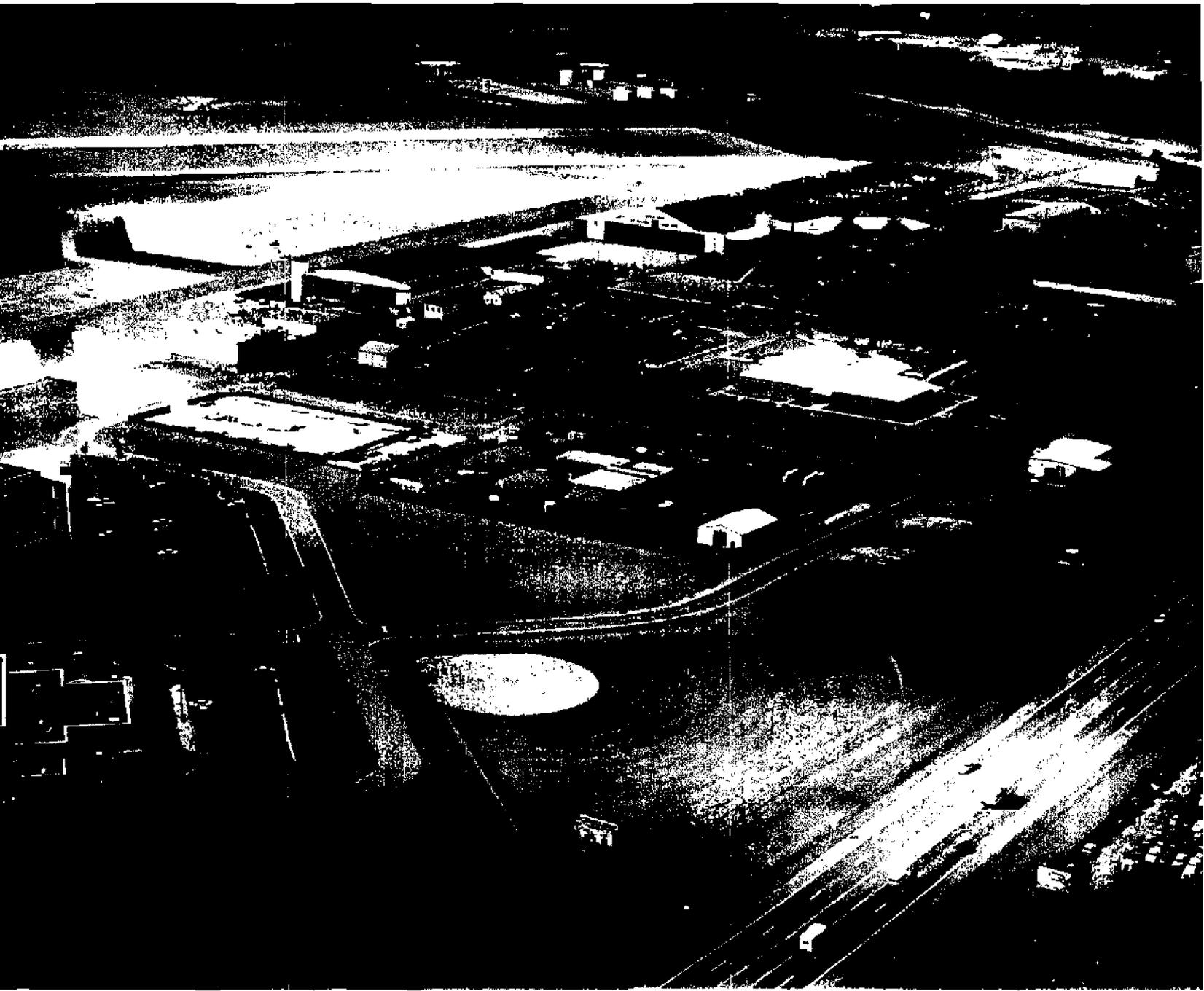


Chart 10



Chart 10a



Chart 10b

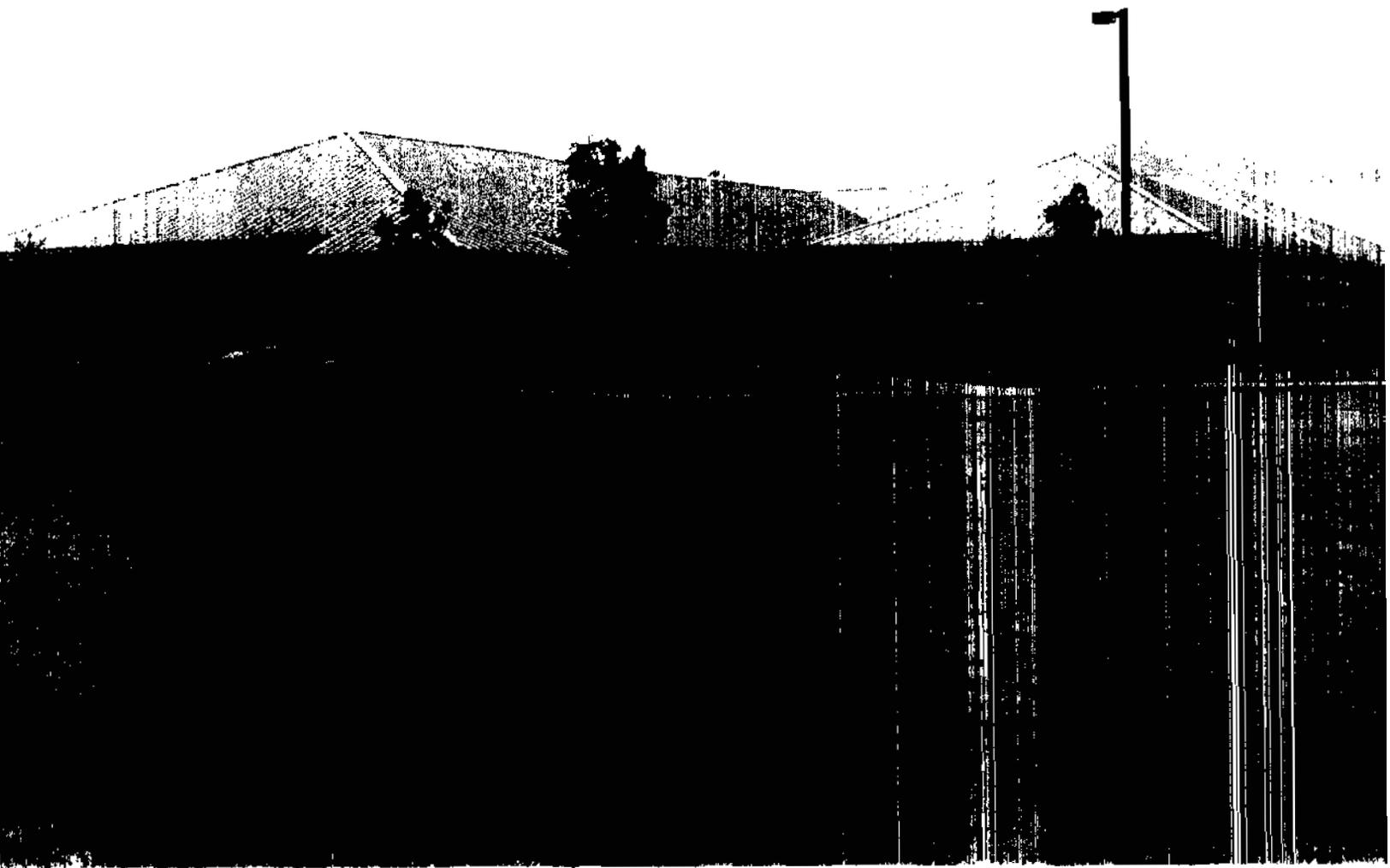


Chart 10c

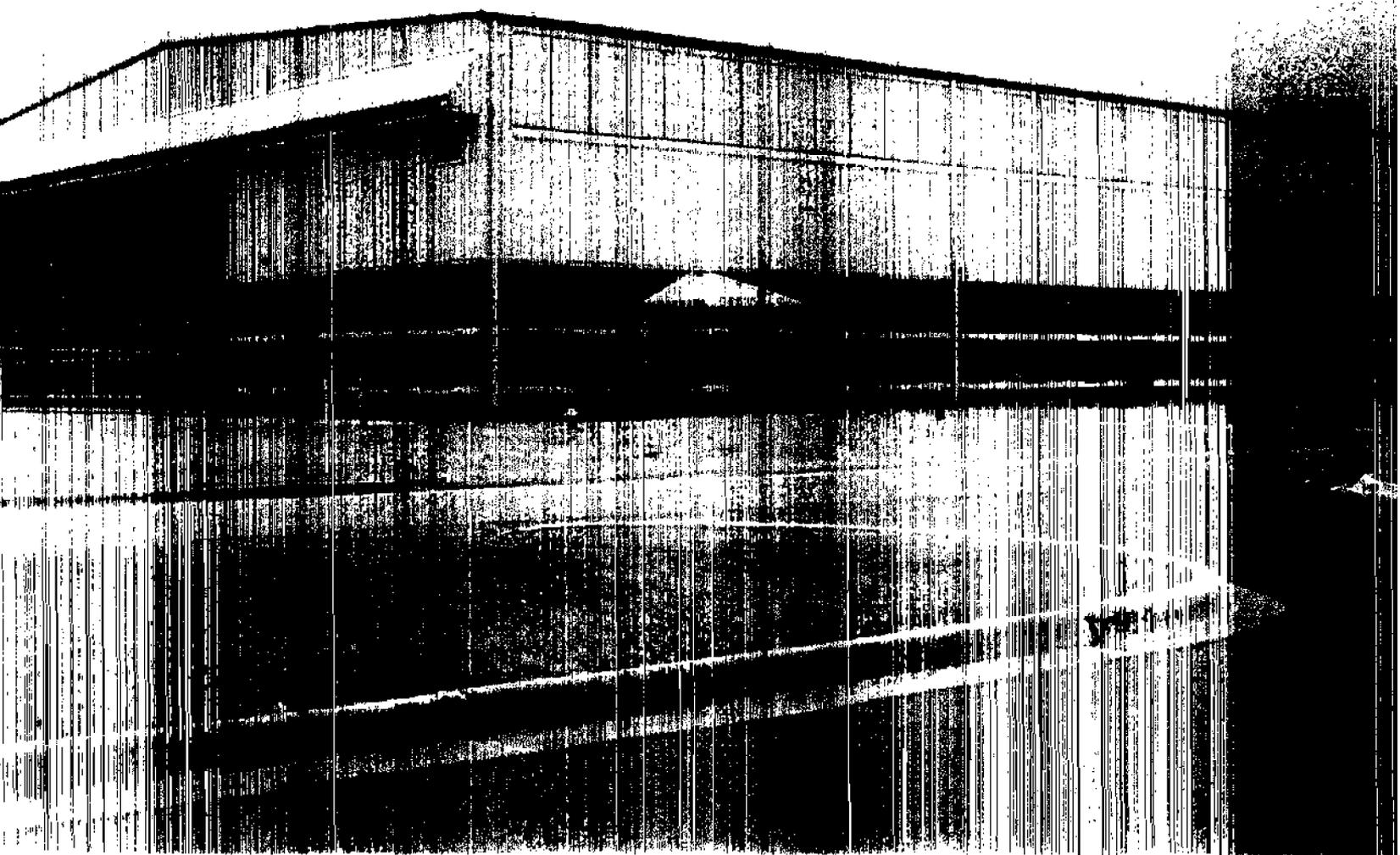


Chart 10d



Chart 10e

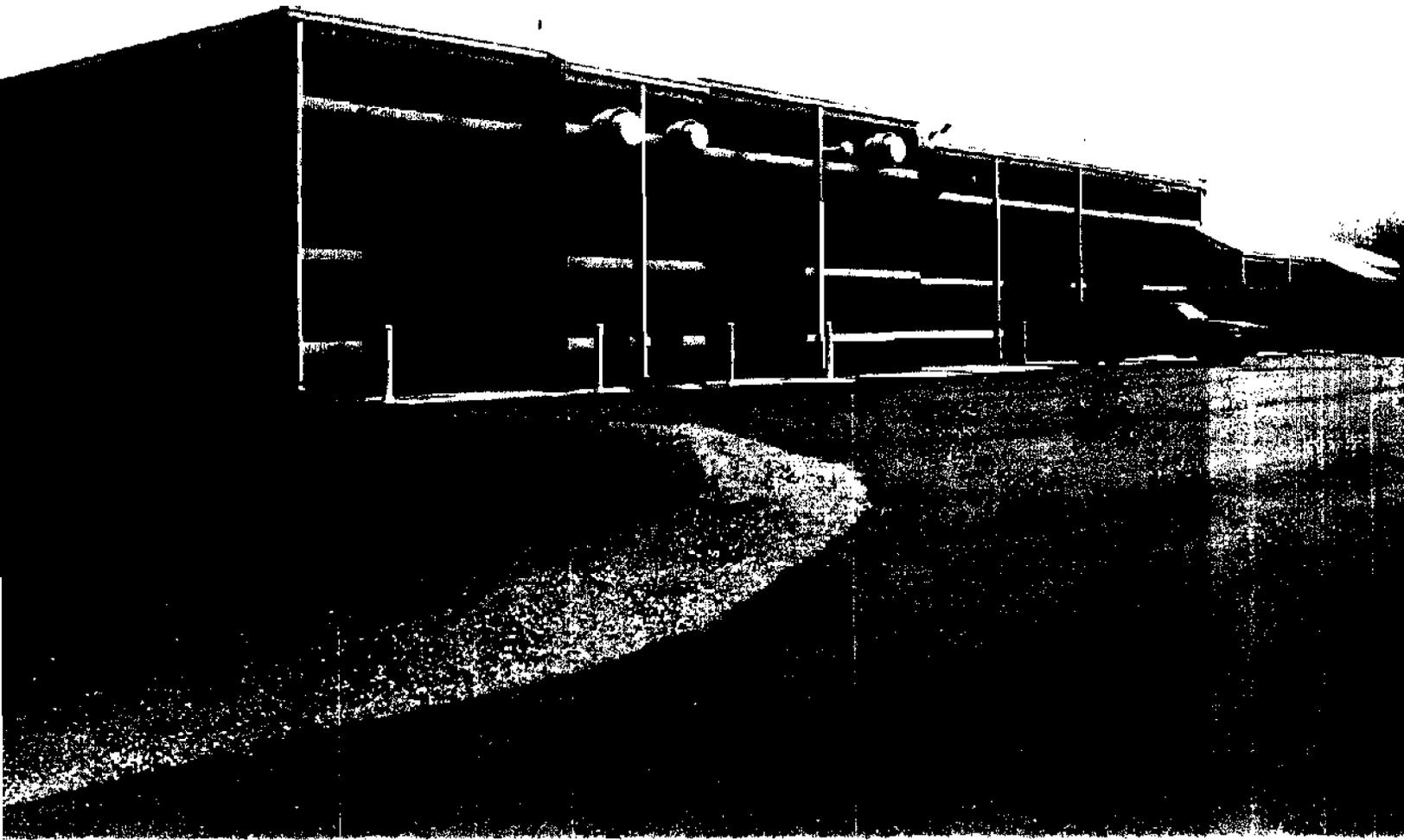


Chart 10f



Chart 109

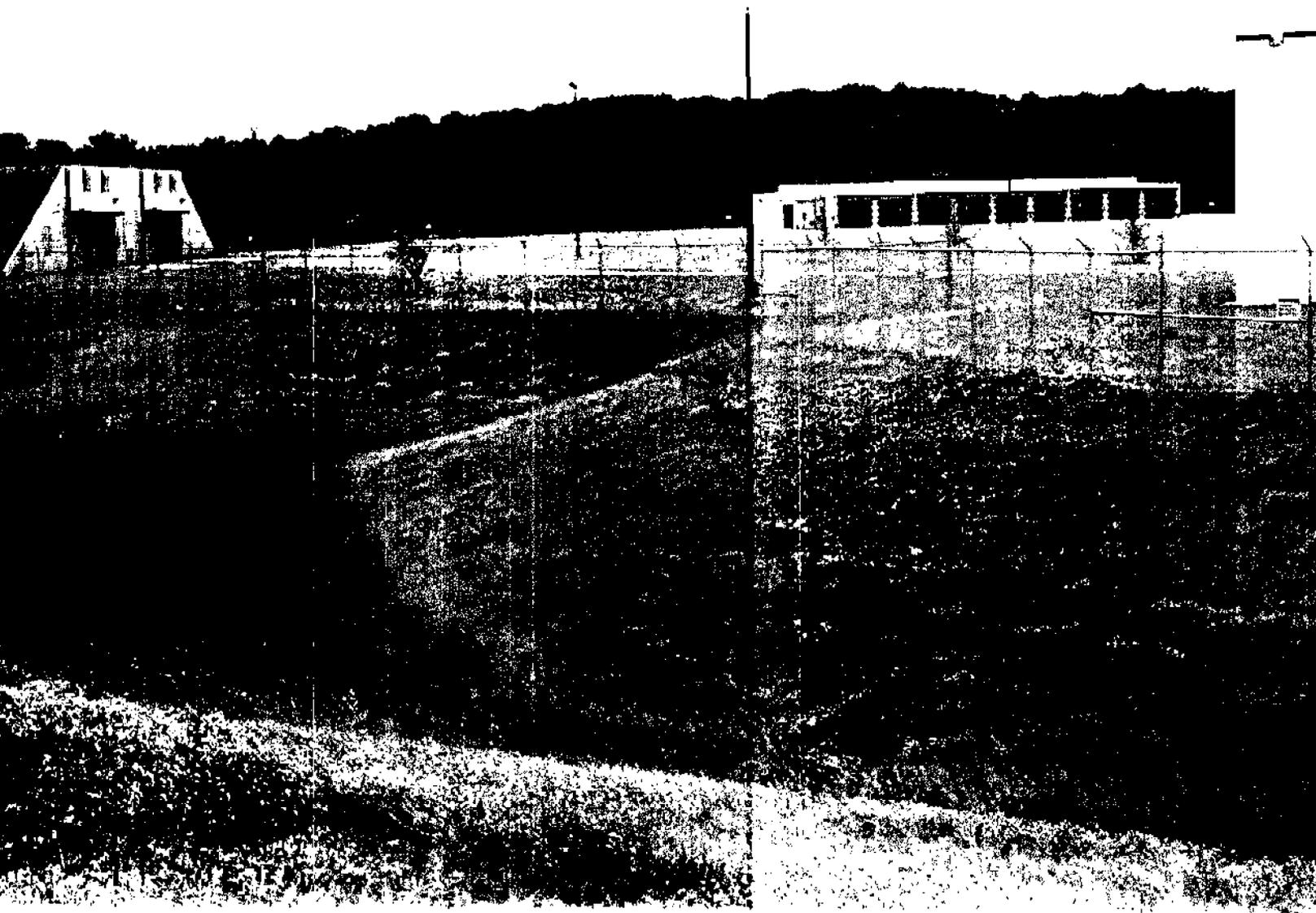


Chart 1

Military Value: Capability & Cost in Dollars

Battle Creek meets the test for contingency, mobilization, and future forces (Chart 11).

- Supporting 39 Air Force deployments with over 3,000 personnel, nearly 1,000 short tons of cargo in the past 10 years

Military Value: Capability & Cost in Dollars

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Total
el	211	160	44	0	225	446	143	750	1035	469	344
	77.4	18.6	0	0	166	84.7	42.6	205.2	242.4	81.5	91
ents	2	3	2	0	3	4	1	12	8	4	39

	2002	2003	2004	2005	Total
ers	360	372	245	99	1076
	16.1	102.6	24.5	102.1	245.3
	2	3	2	3	10

Chart

Military Value: Capability & Cost in Dollars

The overall military value (Mission Capabilities Indices) did not take into account existing infrastructure:

- Zero percent air traffic control tower delays
- 10,003 foot runway, taxiways, and parking aprons capable of supporting any Air Force aircraft including Air Force One, and as a designated alternate landing site for the space shuttle
- Secure and dedicated telecommunications redundancy provided by an OC-48 optical Ethernet fiber ring
- Command-4 (command, control, communications and computers) capability when jointly operating with Defense Logistics Agency Hart-Dole-Inouye Federal Center
- Airfield crash and rescue and mutual aid fire fighting with cities of Springfield and Battle Creek
- Modern weapons storage and issuing facilities with sufficient quantity distance criteria for high explosive munitions
- Vaccine storage capability
- The 110th Fighter Wing has exclusive right-of-way for use of the airfield. The local airspace is unused and unencumbered by any large civilian operations or population centers

Military Value: Capability & Cost in Dollars

The overall military value (Mission Capabilities Index) did not take into account existing infrastructure (continued):

- The absence of encroachment and noise issues, as the Battle Creek Air National Guard Base is surrounded by adjacent land owned by the Fort Custer Army Reserve facility; of all six A-10 bases and Selfridge, Battle Creek is least threatened by encroachment issues
- There is room to expand in Battle Creek; with the adjacent Michigan Army National Guard property, there are thousands of acres for expansion
- Ramp space and apron space adjacent to the runway support more than 40 A-10 aircraft
- Complete and total community support from civilian and business sectors

Military Value: Capability & Cost in Dollars

Battle Creek meets the test for joint warfighting, training, and readiness:

- Since 2002, the 110th Fighter Wing provided deployment support for multiple non-Air Force units: 10 deployments, 1,076 passengers and 245 short tons of cargo
- Primary deployment for the 51st Civil Support Team – Regional Disaster Response Team
- Reconnaissance point with Command-4 (command, control, communications and computers) for 1,800 Defense Logistics Agency personnel in Battle Creek's Hart-Dole-Inouye Federal Center, in the event of a WMD or other disaster
- Training exercises on the Battle Creek Air National Guard include but are not limited to: Michigan Army National Guard, U.S. Navy Reservists, Defense Logistics Agency, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, and the City of Battle Creek (Appendices 1 & 2)
- Served as embarkation and debarkation point during Operation Iraqi Freedom for activated Air Guard and Army & Marine Reserve units and their equipment

Military Value: Capability & Cost in Dollars

Battle Creek meets the test for weather and fuel availability.

- A-10s routinely fly in weather less than 2,000 foot ceiling and three miles visibility
- All-weather systems and runway instrumentation make this item irrelevant and serve only to favor Southern and Western bases
- For surge operations, the raw data does not reflect the availability of fuel stored and ready for purchase at local fixed base operators located at the same airport

Military Value: Capability & Cost in Dollars

The Air Force leadership and programming has identified the A-10 as relevant until 2024. Battle Creek is an A-10 base with demonstrated capability and military value not accurately portrayed by Cost of Base Realignment Options (COBRA) and Web-based Installation Gathering and Entry Tool (WIDGET). Retaining the A-10 at Battle Creek is more cost effective than if transferred and will provide the Air Force with a combat ready, combat proven capability until 2024.

Other Considerations

There are no clear correlations for assessing the community infrastructure to reach conclusions in the recommendation for realignment.

Furthermore, Battle Creek is better positioned to receive incoming personnel.

- In cost of living indices according to the attributes measured, Battle Creek scores better, for example, than Selfridge/Mt. Clemens, the location selected for realignment of the 110th Fighter Wing with a 1.9% lower cost of living (Appendix 3)
- Battle Creek has lower transportation, utility, and health care costs while Selfridge/Mt. Clemens exceeds the national average in these costs (Appendix 3)
- Battle Creek has adequate availability of housing

Other Considerations

Evidenced by a 3.5% rate of 2004 high school graduates choosing military careers in Battle Creek's greater metropolitan area (Calhoun County), the geographic area can, indeed, be considered an economic region that enhances recruitment. In a time of greater struggles to recruit for the armed forces, participation rates of the citizen soldiers for West Michigan will only exacerbate the issue with the loss of the 110th Fighter Wing (Appendix 4).

Other Considerations

It is the commander's estimate that approximately 25% of Southwest Michigan military personnel will transfer to Selfridge in Mt. Clemens, resulting in a loss of combat capability and combat experience.

For information regarding this presentation, please contact:

Jan Burland

Director of Corporate Projects

Battle Creek Unlimited, Inc.

4950 West Dickman Road

Suite 1-A

Battle Creek, Michigan 49015

Telephone: 269.962.7526

burland@bcunlimited.org

W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research

**300 South Westnedge Avenue ! Kalamazoo, Michigan 49007-4686 ! U.S.A.
Telephone (269) 343-5541 ! FAX (269) 342-0672**

Evaluation of the Air Force's Determination of the Military Value of the W.K. Kellogg Air Guard Station and the Potential Cost Savings Generated by Its Closing

George A. Erickcek
Senior Regional Analyst
W.E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research

June 27, 2005

Executive Summary

Military Value

The methodology used by the Air Force in determining the military value of the W.K. Kellogg Air Guard Station is highly subjective, undocumented, and, at the same time, partially based on incorrect and irrelevant data.

The final military value rankings of bases are only partially derived from the bases' Mission Capabilities Index (MCI). A regression analysis using data from 80 Air Force bases shows that the MCIs for the eight separate missions account for only 61 percent of the variation in assigned military values of the bases. Of the eight MCIs, only the bomber and space operation's MCIs were found to be statistically significant in explaining a base's military value.

In addition, the information collected in the WIDGET data gathering process contains errors that negatively impact the calculated MCIs for the W.K. Kellogg AGS. More disturbing is that much of data gathered in the WIDGET process is not relevant in determining the mission capability of the W.K. Kellogg AGS. For example,

- The Prevailing Installation Weather Conditions (Formula 1271) score for the W.K. Kellogg AGS was incorrectly entered (left blank) resulting in no points being given. This significantly impacts six of the base's eight MCI scores
- The Proximity to Airspace Supporting Mission (Formula 1245) was erroneously based on distance and not on the number of mission airspaces available. Pilots flying out of W.K. Kellogg AGS can and do use up to six airspaces which offer a

variety of surface environments, and because of its northern location, seasonal variations as well.

- The MCI for SOF/CSAR including A-10s is based, in part, on base capabilities that do not relate to the operation of A-10s including landing zones for helicopters and drop zones for parachutists.
- The question on Ramp Area and Serviceability (Formula 8) is unnecessarily biased toward large bases because it does not allow for joint ramp area agreements between the base and neighboring uses. In fact, joint ramp agreements can be a cost-effective means for the Air Force to control costs while maintaining necessary surge potential.

In short, the methodology used in determining the military value of W.K. Kellogg AGS was highly subjective and based on incorrect and inappropriate data. Of course, it is well beyond the scope of this analysis to come up with an alternative methodology to determine the military value of the W.K. Kellogg AGS. However, these results do support the recommendation that the BRAC Commission broaden its scope of review to include the base's past record of performance (including recruitment), age and condition of the base's physical infrastructure, and its cost effectiveness.

Potential Cost-Savings Estimates

The Air Force seriously overestimated the potential cost savings generated by closing the W.K. Kellogg Air Guard Station in Battle Creek, Michigan. The Air Force estimates that the Net Present Value (NPV) of cost savings over the next 20 years from closing the base will reach \$167 million. Moreover, its analysis shows that the annual recurring savings after the closing are \$12.7 million with an immediate payback expected.

It is our estimation that the NPV of the cost savings associated with closing the W.K. Kellogg Air Guard Station will reach \$37.2 million and the annual recurring savings to the Air Force after implementation will reach only \$7.2 million. The Air Force will have to wait 10 years before expected savings exceed costs.

Table 1

	W.E. Upjohn Institute estimates (\$ millions)	Air Force estimates (\$ millions)	Difference (\$ millions)
Total one-time cost, including training	\$69.4	\$8.3	\$ -61.1
Net savings 06 -11	-\$26.6	\$46.7	\$ - 75.5
Annual recurring savings after 2011	\$7.2	\$12.7	\$ -5.5
Payback period	10 years	Immediate	
Net Present Value of cost savings	\$37.2	\$166.8	\$ -130.1

The Air Force overstates the potential cost savings of closing W.K. Kellogg Air Guard Base because

- It neglected to account for significant pilot retraining costs. We expect that half of the A-10 pilots currently based at the W.K. Kellogg field will either choose not to move to Selfridge or will be displaced by Selfridge's F-16 pilots. The cost of retraining the reconstituted crew of the transferred A-10 squadron to today's level of mission readiness will likely cost more than \$60 million and take up to 5 years to complete.
- It inflates the potential cost savings that will be generated by eliminating the overhead costs of the W.K. Kellogg airbase. Current expenditures for base operation and maintenance is \$744,500 annually, not \$5.7 million as reported in the COBRA model.

Determination of Military Value

To assist in determining the military value of its installations, the Air Force used a Web-based Installation Data Gathering and Entry Tool (WIDGET). WIDGET provided the means to acquire a consistent data base for 154 installations, which was then used to calculate the Mission Capability Indexes (MCIs) for eight separate missions for each base. The eight missions are fighter; bomber; tanker; airlift; Special Operations/Combat Search and Rescue (including A-10s); Command, Control, Intelligence/Surveillance/Reconnaissance (C2ISR), Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) and space operations. The MCI tool measures the specific military value for each base for all eight of the missions. It is important to note that each of installations was given a MCI score for each of these missions even if it never performed one or more of them.

Armed with the calculated MCIs, the Air Force Base Closure Executive Group (BCEG) determined the military value of each base. How these military values were derived is unclear, however. After reviewing its 20-year force structure projections and overall principles, the BCEG went through several iterations of different base structures until “a set of potential force structure deployments was reached that conformed to the Air Force principles, did not violate any Air Force imperatives, improved military capability and efficiency, and was consistent with sound military judgment.”¹ Based on this “potential force structure deployment” the BCEG adopted a set of recommended base closures and realignments. This step also went through several iterations. “Lastly, the BCEG’s approved Air Force candidate recommendations were time-phased to balance maximized payback and minimized disruption to operational training units.”²

During this decision-making process, the final military value assigned to each of the 154 installations became removed from the installations’ MCIs scores. In other words, the determination of military value became more subjective.

To estimate the importance of the data-intensive MCI process in determining the final military value assigned to each base, we conducted a regression analysis which statistically estimates the linear relationship of a base’s eight MCI scores and its final military value. Unfortunately, the analysis is based on only the 80 bases for which the military values were provided in the Department of the Air Force *Analysis and Recommendations BRAC 2005* (Volume V, Part 1 of 2). We were not successful in obtaining the assigned military value for all bases. The data used in this analysis is presented in Appendix A.

As shown by the Adjusted R-squared Statistic in Table 2, the eight MCIs combined explain 61 percent of the variation in the military values of the 80 bases in the sample. Had the military value been calculated as some type of weighted average of the eight MCIs, then the Adjusted R-squared Statistic would have been 1. In other words,

¹ Department of the Air Force, *Analysis and Recommendations BRAC 2005* (Volume V, Part 1 of 2), page 52.

² *Ibid*, page 52.

approximately 40 percent of the bases' military value cannot be explained by their eight MCI scores. Regarding the individual MCIs, the Bomber and Space Operation's MCIs are statistically significant and have the correct sign. For example, a one unit change in a base's Bomber MCI would, on average, lower its military value (improve its ranking) by nearly 1.8 units. Surprisingly, a higher score in a base's UAV MCI would have, on average, a negative impact on its military value – pushing it higher. Statistically speaking, changes in a base's Fighter, SOF/CSAR, Tanker or CS2ISR MCIs would have an impact on its military value that could not be distinguished from zero.

The Beta statistics indicate the relative importance of each of the MCI values in explaining a change in the military value rating. For example, a one standard deviation change in a base's Bomber MCI will lead to a 0.58 standard deviation decline in the base's military value rating.

Table 2			
Regression Analysis on the Importance of MCI Scores to Military Value			
Dependent Variable: Military Value Rating			
Number of observations: 80			
Adjusted R-Square: 0.61			
MCI Value	<u>Coefficient</u>	<u>t-statistics</u>	<u>Beta</u>
Fighter	-0.99	-1.33	-0.31
SOF	0.07	0.16	0.02
Bomber	<u>-1.79</u>	<u>-2.76*</u>	-0.58
Tanker	0.18	0.21	0.07
Airlift	-0.86	-1.52	-0.26
CS21SR	-0.08	-0.08	-0.03
UAV	<u>1.57</u>	<u>2.66*</u>	0.51
Space Operations	<u>-0.53</u>	<u>-3.79*</u>	-0.30
Constant	145.39	9.20	
Statistically significant at the 5 % level.			

Errors in Calculating MCIs

Although, the above analysis shows that a base's final military value is only partially determined by its MCIs, it is still important to evaluate the accuracy of the MCI methodology in capturing a base's mission capability.

In the following analyses, the MCI scores for the W.K. Kellogg AGS are compared to those of Selfridge and the five other A-10 bases. Table 3 shows the MCI scores for the six comparison bases and the W.K Kellogg AGS, ranked in terms of the overall average MCI for all eight mission areas. W.K. Kellogg ranks third behind Boise and Selfridge.

W.K. Kellogg's average MCI score is only 3 percent below that of Selfridge, or 1.44 points. This is in sharp contrast to the major difference in the two bases' final military values—62 for Selfridge compared to 122 for Kellogg. Clearly, unarticulated subjective factors were added to the Selfridge score to push its military value ranking so low.

Table 3 Overall MCI by Mission Area

<u>BASE</u>	<u>SOF/CSAR</u>	<u>FIGHTER</u>	<u>BOMBER</u>	<u>AIRLIFT</u>	<u>TANKER</u>	<u>C2ISR</u>	<u>UAV</u>	<u>SPACE</u>	<u>MCI AVERAGES</u>
Boise	41.35	50.86	39.7	47.32	70.84	72.76	73.07	43.37	54.91
Selfridge	42.06	48.07	33.86	47.27	58.24	63.74	62.07	21.35	47.08
Kellogg	30.52	37.6	27.47	39.22	50.93	62.74	63.36	53.29	45.64
Willow									
Grove	37.71	49.69	35.58	35.85	40.94	47.95	60.56	11.62	39.99
Barnes	35.5	42.02	29.69	37.75	39.35	46.06	61.49	23.61	39.43
Martin									
State	39.45	51.42	43.55	30.37	32.26	36.39	55.54	19.75	38.59
Bradley	35.4	40.1	27.43	37.83	40.49	51.78	54.51	12.77	37.54

In addition, several of the questions used in WIDGET to assess the military capability of W.K. Kellogg to conduct SOF/CSAR and Fighter missions are irrelevant to the operation of A-10s or do not adequately address the issue they are intended to measure.

First, 22.7 percent of the total SOF/CSAR score rests on the base's proximity to Landing Zones (necessary for helicopters) and Drop Zones (parachutes)—Formulas 1248 and 1249. These do not apply to A-10 operations and should not be factored into MCI for A-10 operations

Regarding the methodology used to determine a base's Fighter MCI, 22.08 percent of the total potential score depends on "The Proximity to Airspace Supporting Mission" (Formula 1245). For the SOF/CSAR MCI a slightly modified question—distance is slightly reduced—accounts for 14.72 percent of the total potential score. These questions are ineffective in obtaining the information required because they only address distance to the airspace; they do not address the more important questions of how many airspace options does the base have and what is the variety of surface environments they offer. Fighters cover 5 miles per minute; therefore, to set the maximum distance at 150 miles is far too restrictive. The W.K. Kellogg Air Base offers six different airspaces with a variety of environments within one-hour fly time. In addition, the Kellogg Air Base was not allowed to list the Grayling Range as an asset as it was "claimed" by Selfridge even though pilots from both bases use it.

Concerning Ramp Area and Serviceability, the WIDGET question was heavily biased toward larger bases by not allowing for readily available shared ramp space to be counted. For smaller bases like W.K. Kellogg, that have successfully executed surge activities, this is an unfair requirement and is not cost effective. W.K. Kellogg controls 66,000 square yards of ramp area; however, it has ready access to another 90,000 square yards if required. One of the clear advantages of shared ramp space, which can be

secured by signed agreement in times of surge activity, is that the Air Force avoids maintenance and service costs.

Finally, the WIDGET questions do not adequately address the growing concern of mission encroachment. Noise migration procedures and congested air travel control environments can harm a base's ability to perform surge operations. This is a strong advantage of the W.K. Kellogg base compared to other bases in urban settings.

In summary, the methodology used by the Air Force to determine the military value of the W.K. Kellogg AGS is unclear, subjective, and based, in part, on erroneous data.

Evaluation of the Air Force's Cost-Savings Estimates

The Air Force used the Cost of Base Realignment Actions (COBRA) model to estimate the cost savings associated with curtailing operations at the W.K. Kellogg AGS. The COBRA model is a standard cost-benefit model which simply compares the cost associated with closing or realigning a military facility (e.g. moving costs and environment costs) with its potential savings (e.g. reduction in personnel costs and overhead). The model estimates the Net Present Value for a 20-year planning period. In short, the COBRA model is an accounting tool, and its results are only as good as its inputs. We have independently tested the model's calculations and found them to be without error.

Table 4 presents the Air Force COBRA model's derived cost saving estimates. The COBRA model estimates that the Air Force will incur a one-time cost of \$8.3 million to close W.K. Kellogg AGS and will save \$12.7 million annually during the implementation period—2006 to 2011. Moreover, the Net Present Value (NPV) of the cost savings derived from closing the base reaches \$166.8 million during the 20-year planning period.

The Air Force analysis carefully calculated the one-time costs of moving 182 employees from W.K. Kellogg to Selfridge, \$4,945,000. The assumptions and methodology used in these calculations appear sound.

Nearly 55 percent of the estimated annual savings of closing the W.K. Kellogg is derived from the elimination of 92 personnel positions. Of the 274 positions currently at the W.K. Kellogg Base, only 182 are scheduled to be moved to Selfridge.

The analysis is incomplete because it does not provide any justification for this expected decrease in personnel. All that is provided is that only 3 of W.K. Kellogg's 11 officer positions, 15 of the base's current 55 enlisted employees, and 164 of the base's 207 civilian employees will be making the move. It is impossible to properly evaluate this substantial source of cost-savings in closing the base. Moreover, the accuracy of the Air Force cost-saving estimate rests substantially on this undocumented assumption of personnel reductions. Unfortunately, we have no choice but to accept this unsubstantiated assumption in our calculations as well.

Table 4 - Air Force Cost Savings Estimates

(in thousands of \$)	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	Beyond
Costs							
Military Construction	\$25	\$284	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personnel	\$0	\$2,103	\$855	\$855	\$855	\$855	\$855
Overhead	\$441	\$616	\$593	\$285	\$285	\$285	\$285
Moving	\$0	\$4,945					
Mission	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$368	\$318	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$834	\$8,266	\$1,448	\$1,140	\$1,140	\$1,140	\$1,140
Savings							
Military Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personnel	\$0	\$4,007	\$7,635	\$7,635	\$7,635	\$7,635	\$7,635
Overhead	\$936	\$1,239	\$5,985	\$5,985	\$5,985	\$5,985	\$6,230
Moving	\$0	\$36	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Mission	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$936	\$5,282	\$13,620	\$13,620	\$13,620	\$13,620	\$13,865
Cost - Savings	-\$102	\$2,984	-\$12,172	-\$12,480	-\$12,480	-\$12,480	-\$12,725
NPV	-\$101	\$2,862	-\$11,359	-\$11,330	-\$11,021	-\$10,721	-\$7,426
rate	1.4%	2.1%	2.3%	2.4%	2.5%	2.6%	2.7%
Net Present Value:	-\$166,849						

Cost of Overhead – Operations and Maintenance

The Air Force's estimated cost savings that will be derived from the elimination of W.K. Kellogg's overhead costs are significantly inflated. It claims that the military will save \$5.7 million annually in overhead expenditures by closing the base. However, it costs the military, in total, only \$707,000 annually to operate and maintain the W.K. Kellogg Air Guard Station. This includes \$57,000 spent annually in airfield maintenance expenditures such as snow removal. The base does not incur any expenses from property lease. Therefore, the Air Force's annual cost savings estimates are as much as \$5 million too high.

Retraining Costs of Pilots and Maintenance Personnel

The proposed relocation of the 110th Fighter Wing to Selfridge will cause the transferred A-10 squadron to "drop to the lowest combat ready status and be a non-deployable unit for at least 3 to 5 years, depending on the availability of training school assets" according to the sworn testimony of Retired Major General E. Gordon Stump (June 20, 2005). Selfridge's F-16 pilots will be given first priority on placement and assignment for the A-

10s, making it very likely that only a few of the current A-10 pilots will make the move. This will require millions of dollars in extra training costs as well as paying for the hundreds of hours of necessary flying time that it will take for the retrained pilots to achieve mission readiness.

The Air Force cost-savings estimates simply ignored these substantial retraining costs. In our calculations we make the conservative assumption that one-half of W.K. Kellogg's pilots will not make the move. As shown in Table 5, the first year of training costs would total nearly \$20 million as 14 pilots take the TX course at either Davis-Monthan or Barksdale Air Force base, and the other four take the even more intensive B courses. After this training, the new pilots will still have to log in the required flying time to gain combat readiness.

Moreover, our estimates do not account for the retraining costs that will be necessary for ground personnel at Selfridge, including aircraft mechanics and munitions specialists.

Assumption: 18 pilots will have to be retrained.						
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Retraining Expenditures						
14 TX courses @ \$990,000 each	\$13,860					
4 B courses @ \$1,500,000 each	\$6,000					
Cost of necessary flying to achieve combat readiness:						
5 years of required A-10 flying time		\$8,095	\$8,095	\$8,095	\$8,095	\$8,095
Total	\$19,860	\$8,095	\$8,095	\$8,095	\$8,095	\$8,095

In total, the military will be burdened with more than \$60 million in retraining costs before for the A-10 squadron returns to the combat readiness it currently holds at the W.K. Kellogg AGS.

Base Construction Costs at Selfridge to House the A-10s

Additional military construction expenditures will be incurred to bed-down the 110FW at Selfridge. These added costs are on top of the Air Force's plans to construct a new Fire and Rescue Station at Selfridge. First, a new structure will be required to house the A-10 flight simulators. In addition, there will be the added construction costs associated with building new fences for force protection due to the closing of the U.S. Army Garrison at Selfridge.

Furthermore, as shown in Table 6, four of the current structures at Selfridge were constructed in 1932, while another seven were built in the 1950s and 1960s. Such old structures require added maintenance and operating costs and several may need to be replaced in the near future.

Table 6 Age of Structures at Selfridge

Structure	Use	Year Built	Size (SF)
3	Hangar	1932	26,880
5	Weapons Release Facility	1932	33,535
7	Aircraft Maintenance Shop	1932	32,890
9	Deployment Processing Facility	1932	34,243
36	Hangar	1955	62,983
1424	Aircraft Maintenance Dock	1960	20,098
1425	Aircraft Maintenance Dock	1960	15,487
1426	AGE Storage Facility	1960	18,317
1428	BCE Pavements and Ground Shop	1960	18,827
1429	Aircraft Shelter	1960	21,297
1430	Avionics Shop	1976	22,098
1436	Fuel System Maintenance Dock	1982	21,010
154	Fuel System Maintenance Dock	1991	17,000
35	Fuel System Maintenance Dock	1999	30,171

Note: West ramp aircraft related facilities were removed from the list since they are reportedly excess to the new mission.

Still, no additional construction costs were added to our re-estimation of the expected cost-savings of closing the W.K. Kellogg AGS.

In comparison, the average age of the facilities at Kellogg is 16 years, with 80 percent of the structures constructed after 1991.

Revised Cost-Saving Estimate

Table 7 presents our revised cost saving estimates. The re-estimation includes the necessary retraining costs that can be expected in moving the 110th Fighter Wing to Selfridge and the correction in the expected overhead cost savings that can result in closing the W.K. Kellogg Base. The Net Present Value of expected savings is reduced to \$37.2 over the 20-year period. The payback period is 10 years.

Table 7 W.E. Upjohn Institute Estimate Cost Savings									
Analysis of COBRA's Estimated Cost Saving of Closing the W.K. Kellogg APT AGS									
(In thousands \$)									
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	Beyond
Costs									
Military Construction	\$25	\$284	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personnel	\$0	\$2,103	\$855	\$855	\$855	\$855	\$855	\$855	\$855
Overhead	\$441	\$616	\$593	\$285	\$285	\$285	\$285	\$285	\$285
Moving	\$0	\$4,945	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Mission	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Retraining	\$0	\$19,860	\$8,095	\$8,095	\$8,095	\$8,095	\$8,095	\$8,095	\$8,095
Other	\$368	\$318	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Costs	\$834	\$28,126	\$9,543	\$9,235	\$9,235	\$9,235	\$9,235	\$1,140	\$1,140
Savings									
Military Construction	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personnel	\$0	\$4,007	\$7,635	\$7,635	\$7,635	\$7,635	\$7,635	\$7,635	\$7,635
Overhead	\$0	\$0	\$745	\$745	\$745	\$745	\$745	\$745	\$745
Moving	\$0	\$36	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Mission	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Savings	\$0	\$4,043	\$8,380	\$8,380	\$8,380	\$8,380	\$8,380	\$8,380	\$8,380
Total	\$834	\$24,083	\$1,164	\$856	\$856	\$856	\$856	-\$7,240	-\$7,240
NPV	\$823	\$23,106	\$1,086	\$777	\$756	\$735	\$715	-\$5,885	-\$5,725
Total NPV	-\$37,175								

Other Factors to Consider

First, the U.S. Army estimates that they will save \$260 million over 20 years by closing the Army Garrison at Selfridge. In order to avoid encroachments that would endanger operations, the Air Force will have to assume responsibility for the property at Selfridge garrison, and thus they will assume some of its overhead costs. The Air Force analysis does not account for these potential costs. Moreover, the costs will likely run much higher than the need to construct a new fence, as mentioned above. Demolition costs may be required as well.

Second, in preparing its cost analysis the Air Force used a very low discount rate schedule, which slowly increases from 1.4 percent in 2005 to 2.7 percent in 2025. Using such a low discount rate places greater value on expected long-term cost savings than most analysts would be willing to accept. Twenty years is a very long time period in the rapidly changing environment of national defense. It would have been prudent to introduce a risk factor during the later years of the forecast period. Table 8 shows the impact of the project's Net Present Value under different discount rates and risk scenarios. In all scenarios, the expected NPV is reduced.

	Current Discount	3% Discount	3% Discount & 3% Risk in last 5 years
Air Force NPV	-\$166,712	-\$160,971	-\$145,953
Upjohn Institute NPV	-\$37,175	-\$35,116	-\$26,560

Conclusion

The Air Force justifies the closing of W.K. Kellogg Air Guard State solely on its military value.

The Air Force placed one squadron at Selfridge (62 – *military value*) because it is significantly higher in military value than Kellogg (122 – *military value*). The Air Force retired the older F-16 from Selfridge and combined the two fighter units into one squadron at Selfridge to retain trained and skilled Michigan ANG Airmen from both locations.³ (*italics added*)

It is the finding of this report that the large difference in military value between Selfridge and Kellogg cannot be supported by the data gathered in the WIDGET process.

Second, it is very unlikely that the Air Force’s expectation of retaining trained and skilled ANG Airmen, especially its current A-10 pilots based at Kellogg, will hold true. It is likely that approximately 50 percent of the A-10 pilots will be dismissed in order for Selfridge’s F-16 pilots to fill the transferred A-10 positions. This will force a mission ready squadron to be downgraded until its new pilots receive the necessary retraining and log-in the required flying hours. It could take up to five years before the transferred A-10 squadron would reach the same level of mission readiness it has today, at a cost of more than \$60 million to the Air Force.

The methodology used by the Air Force did not provide an accurate evaluation of the military value of the W.K. Kellogg Air Base nor did it adequately measure the cost of closing the facility. In short, the Air Force’s recommendation to close the W.K. Kellogg Air Guard Station cannot be supported by this analysis.

³ Ibid, page 141.

Appendix A - Data Used in Regression Analysis									
Base Name	Military Value	MCI Scores							
		SOF					CS2ISR	UAV	Space
		Fighter	CSAR	Bomber	tanker	airlift			
Andrews	21	64.83	55.23	57.19	68	62.05	74.6	75.8	53.96
Atlantic city	61	50.22	41.94	39.38	23.51	45.55	41.04	67.55	55.53
Bangor	123	34.47	31.77	31.45	42.68	43.83	52.05	52.64	40.33
Barksdale	33	61.49	49.81	60.74	84.14	72.43	87.27	78.15	84.01
Barnes	97	42.02	35.5	29.69	39.35	37.75	46.06	61.49	23.61
Birmingham	63	39.24	42.46	41.19	57.3	50.93	60.7	57.58	33.63
Bradley	98	40.1	35.4	27.43	48.55	37.83	51.78	54.51	12.77
Buckley	64	49.82	37.52	30.16	62.71	54.62	68.94	71.28	84.96
Cannon	50	55.22	41.03	45.7	56.18	45.43	61.46	68.91	66.56
Capital	115	38.18	32.43	30.83	51.84	36.96	55.95	56.07	39.12
Carswell	53	51.01	39.87	41.01	57.81	50.57	67.4	64.57	11.21
Channel Island	96	47.27	37.68	40.56	56.85	41.92	67.65	58.21	44.22
Charlotte	33	38.49	40.12	46.03	63.42	70.45	58.36	56.07	15.25
Dane-Truax	122	37.22	30.35	26.74	50.41	38.59	53.83	54.4	35.14
Dannelly	60	50.66	46.01	47.39	44.06	49.46	46.99	65.21	36.54
Des Moines	137	32.35	29.46	26.79	53.07	33.54	58.26	59.73	33.18
Dobbins	71	40.33	34.84	44.89	54.14	51.35	58.07	70.03	18.05
Duluth	136	32.55	24.68	23.75	40.43	30.43	44.87	55.85	4.24
Dyess	20	58.96	53.14	56.7	78.56	65.95	85.14	72.37	79.98
Eielson	11	69.09	53.27	52.12	57.97	67.34	69.62	77.36	82.5
Ellington	80	45.39	41.22	33.67	50.71	51.65	62.34	68.78	19.75
Ellsworth	39	58.06	43.91	50.81	83.73	59.4	87.72	69.73	84.12
Elmendorf	51	58.35	51.21	44.49	56.87	51.6	66.24	72.76	82.31
Fairfield	17	60.32	45.83	52.78	77.09	64.22	85.25	74.12	79.8
Forbes Field	35	46.55	40.95	43.47	66.07	51.93	74.73	60.48	37.88
Fort Smith	110	38.63	42.12	35.67	55.12	42.58	58.75	66.4	77.76
Fort Wayne	130	34.49	79.17	25.12	52.43	48.09	57.57	54.87	35.89
Fresno	87	43.09	46.99	40.71	51.39	46.12	51.51	66.19	35
General Mitchell	86	33.55	59.38	25.93	54	41.98	56.4	51.32	10.87
Great Falls	117	37.85	62.23	25.48	55.65	35.51	60.79	57.35	36.64
Hector	125	36.11	27.74	25.57	46.78	30.78	54.39	56.74	38.37
Hill	14	68.02	54.44	58.73	88.93	58.83	93.97	79.39	70.93
Homestead	31	59.17	50.71	51.44	57.34	48.15	70.3	74.95	20.62
Hulman	119	37.45	29.48	28.72	51.48	38.63	55.94	59.1	35.22
Jacksonville	24	61.8	55.66	52.71	48.21	45.79	53.81	75.01	14.96
Joe Foss	112	38.59	30.7	27.41	55.36	39.59	62.64	62.15	39.59
Kallogg	122	37.6	30.52	27.47	50.93	39.22	62.74	63.36	53.29
Key Field	92	42.66	41.96	43.24	52.83	56.39	63.66	61.23	36.53
Kirtland	16	66.44	50.63	55.27	74.73	55.47	79.11	79.62	82.93
Kulis	110	40.76	41.92	26.28	36.28	38.93	45.79	57.67	42.62

Appendix A - continued

	Military Value	MCI Scores							
		SOF					CS2ISR	UAV	Space
		Fighter	CSAR	Bomber	tanker	airlift			
Lambert St. Louis	47	55.79	45.78	44.03	58.3	47.44	67.2	63.92	37.23
Little Rock	17	60.78	53.81	55.78	79.98	63.25	86.18	78.75	82.99
Louisville	79	36.56	32.31	25.96	54.72	44.66	57.84	50.76	35.44
MacDill	36	75.6	61.04	61.87	65.67	60.12	75.34	87.68	45.34
March	16	64.84	54.41	58.79	77.38	59.86	81.72	80.41	37.22
Martin State	140	51.42	39.45	43.55	32.26	30.37	36.39	55.54	19.75
Maxwell	21	59.61	53.73	47.77	52.43	59.9	60.61	71.67	36.78
McConnell	15	56.47	45.17	56.28	77.69	54.65	81.48	74.09	51.76
McEntire	48	55.74	50.55	53.76	48.51	59.35	56.98	75.68	45.31
McGhee Tyson	74	37.24	35.93	37.15	55.32	48.32	64.42	56.22	53.26
Mountain Home	23	63.01	49.68	58.44	86.64	59.77	91.75	78.18	83.8
Nashville	104	41.1	35.61	35.06	54.26	39.77	60.09	55.89	12.69
Nellis	12	68.73	53.81	68.33	77.7	63.95	83.28	82.35	77.45
New Castle	120	44.4	34.12	36.34	41.41	36.96	43.48	53.6	11.26
New Orleans	49	45.54	43.96	35.59	47.42	41.65	54.47	68.17	36.9
Onizuka	124	3.72	2.92	3.46	3.31	3.09	3.94	2.29	21.43
Otis	88	42.83	34.97	28.25	43.12	38.95	57.17	64.68	63.83
Pease	105	40.83	33.89	27.84	50.62	46.65	57.86	55.73	47.03
Peoria	127	34.4	30.64	28.26	72.03	35.77	59	56.57	46.03
Phoenix	37	52.3	38.54	41.64	65.27	48.12	65.31	61.46	33.05
Portland	71	45.95	36.36	33.4	55.44	42.32	62.84	67.22	12.15
Quonset State	125	41.1	28.81	24.32	39.4	35.29	45.72	49.76	33.5
Reno	101	51.34	35.24	39.43	61.85	40.51	65.22	59.47	33.57
Richmond	49	55.34	51.8	51	45.32	42.64	51.81	68.08	13.74
Robins	18	59.13	61.64	66.62	75.6	63.89	82.86	86.43	77.9
Rosecrans	114	41.25	37.76	33.71	55.88	38.22	59.74	70.09	35.63
Savannah	77	57.8	49.54	49.22	47.07	45.1	55.75	67.27	38.52
Schenectady	117	33.59	27.74	27.35	34.42	37.72	34.25	49.44	37.17
Schriever	1	6.41	5.61	6.15	5.66	5.78	6.58	6.11	96.54
Scott	38	47.91	39.96	33.83	65.12	44.55	67.77	61.57	58.1
Selfridge	62	48.07	42.06	33.86	58.24	47.27	63.74	62.07	21.35
Seymour Johnson	25	83.24	71.86	78.41	71.7	78.03	80.64	93.59	56.51
Sioux Gateway	67	39.5	28.98	31	56.36	39.3	60.23	60.63	36.26
Springfield-Beckley	128	35.37	24.54	27.16	44.7	33.54	46.86	48.5	34.48
Tinker	4	58.47	42.61	60.4	84.08	68.62	89.52	73.31	33.51
Toledo	123	36.85	31.16	28.79	51.84	41.45	57.76	56.55	36.29
Tulsa	114	38.41	37.72	41.3	58.73	43.2	61.51	57.5	13.34
Vandenberg	2	46.05	43.54	43.19	54.38	44.16	58.32	71.94	90.49
Whiteman	28	58.18	50.93	56.03	81.45	57.82	87.7	75.06	50.56

Navy Reservists Host First-Ever NATO Joint Observer/Trainer Seminar in Battle Creek

By LCDR T. R. Shaw, USNR
SAC-T, Det. 113 Public Affairs Officer

Battle Creek Air National Guard Base, MI – NATO's transformation took a huge step forward recently with the help of Navy Reservists. Supreme Allied Command-Transformation, Det. 113 of Battle Creek, MI, hosted a seminar on 12-13 February designed to create a Reserve team of qualified observers/trainers to support upcoming NATO exercises and assist in the Global War on Terrorism.

This first-ever joint-coalition event proved to be an exciting and informative weekend of active duty and reserve force integration, marking a new era of joint interoperability and cooperation in NATO's transformation mission.

Navy Reservists assigned to NATO and other Navy commands from throughout the United States, along with other Army and Marine Corps officers and Air National Guardsmen desiring to improve their understanding of NATO, came together in Battle Creek to learn how to be effective observers and exercise trainers. Reservists will be taking on a much larger and more visible role in observing and evaluating exercises and improving doctrine and practices as NATO's transformation progresses.

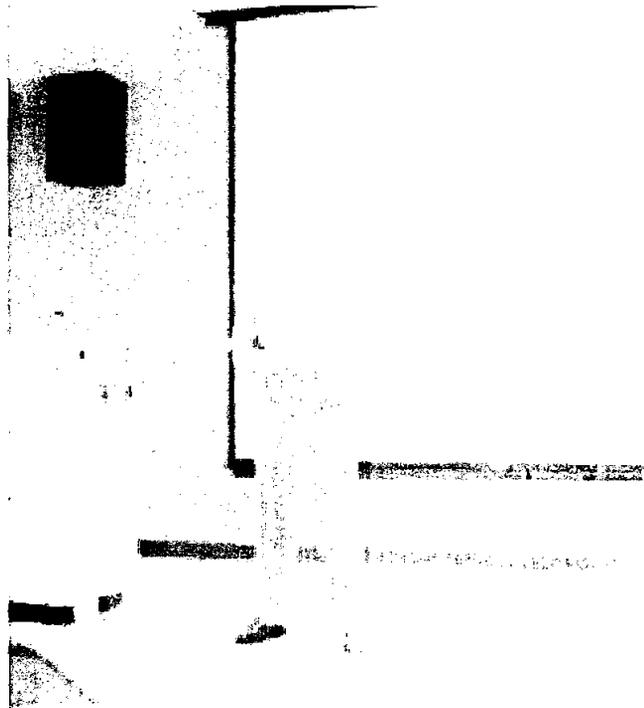
The Reservists joined with active duty and international officer instructors from SAC-T Headquarters and U.S. Joint Warfighting Center (JWFC) in Norfolk and NATO's Joint Warfare Centre (JWC) in Stavanger, Norway.

JWC annually hosts four major exercises which SAC-T Reservists support, the largest being a Europe-wide exercise certifying the NATO Response Force. Two of the four exercises provide specific training for NATO's International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) mission deploying to Afghanistan supporting the Global War on Terrorism.

"This is the Navy Reserve of the future, the way ahead if you will," remarked CDR Eric Jabs, SAC-T Exercise and Operational Support Officer in Norfolk. "I was floored by the integration, value, and professionalism of the observer/trainer training. It truly illustrates the future of our Navy Reserve – a joint/combined conference, held in an Air National Guard facility, training for a NATO mission. And all this was completely planned and executed by a drilling Reserve unit," he said.

Jabs presented an overview of NATO's mission to Iraq which included how to prepare yourself and your people for deployment to the Global War on Terrorism. "All Navy Reservists can expect to be called to serve in the next six years. Seminars like this are an excellent way to train everyone, and extremely beneficial to readiness," Jabs added.

Other instructors included staff officers of NATO's JWC in Stavanger, Norway: Royal Air Force Wing Commander John Turner, Chief of Concept Development and Experimentation,



CAPT Cal Bagby, USNR, Commanding Officer, Supreme Allied Command-Transformation, (SAC-T) Det. 113 welcomes students to NATO Observer/Trainer Training which was conducted at Air National Guard Base Battle Creek, MI, 12-13 Feb. 2005. The event brought together nearly 70 Reservists from seven SAC-T Dets from the U.S. and other Navy Reserve units from Joint Forces Command and Readiness Command Midwest as well as Army, Marine Corps, and Air National Guardsmen who support NATO. The first-ever event included instructors from NATO's U. S. Headquarters and Joint Warfighting Center in Norfolk, VA, and international officers from NATO's Joint Warfare Center in Stavanger, Norway. (Photo by LCDR T. R. Shaw, USNR, SAC-T Det. 113 Public Affairs Officer)

and Royal Air Force Squadron Leader Jeffrey Collier, Observer/Trainer and Operational Planning Process Specialist. They presented programs on specifics of NATO exercises, procedures and doctrine, and briefed Reservists on the role and function of the JWC. Army Lt. Col. Jim Wetzel, of the JWFC in Norfolk presented the majority of the instruction, focusing on specific exercise tools, techniques, and processes including the U.S. perspective on NATO exercises.

"I was pleased to see the Joint Warfighting Center and Joint Forces Command represented here. There are many differences in how the U.S. and NATO conduct exercises," Turner said. "In NATO, the basic difference is that doing anything takes the

Cont'd. on next page

BATTLE CREEK AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE COORDINATION
WITH THE CITY OF BATTLE CREEK EMERGENCY SERVICES
HOMELAND SECURITY

The City of Battle Creek Police, Fire, Emergency Services all coordinate with the Battle Creek Air National Guard Base on numerous projects on a regular basis. The following information outlines major coordination and cooperation between the City of Battle Creek Emergency Services / Homeland Security and the Battle Creek Air National Guard Security Forces, Fire Department and the Disaster Preparedness operation.

1983 – City Emergency Services and BCANG Readiness NCOIC began coordinating activities.

1987 – City Emergency Services authorized BCANG on the City's Direction, Control, and Warning radio system. This authorization developed interoperability between the base and the City's Emergency Services operation. It also provided direct radio contact between BCANG Security Forces, Fire, and Readiness with Central Dispatch.

1990 – The City and BCANG participated in a full-scale terrorism exercise at the base. Approximately 130 personnel participated in the all day exercise. This included base personnel, Battle Creek Police, ERT (SWAT) and 52 FBI agents brought in from around the state. This included the FBI negotiators and SWAT teams from Detroit. The exercise was a total success, and to this day I occasionally run into agents that talk about that exercise.

1991 – The BCANG Readiness NCOIC was instrumental in the selection and training of the City's volunteer Search and Rescue Team. The team is made up of approximately 30 volunteers from various backgrounds that volunteer their time day and night year around to search for missing persons at the request of law enforcement agencies. Since 1991, the Search and Rescue Team has been activated more than 100 times for searches.

1994 – As part of a countywide Enhanced 9-1-1, back up trunks were installed at the base. These trunks have been utilized in conjunction with our mobile command center to operate as a backup Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP). These backup trunks have been used at least 12 times since they were installed for tests, scheduled 9-1-1 outages, and system failures. Each time they were pressed into use, especially the 4 times due to system outages, they worked flawlessly. A lot of research went into the base being selected as a backup PSAP location. The biggest factor was that it provides a safe and secure environment to operate from. The relationships established over the years between base personnel and city staff has enhanced this operation.

1995 – The Battle Creek Air National Guard Readiness NCOIC was appointed by the City Commission as an Assistant Emergency Services Coordinator. This further enhanced our coordination and cooperation efforts between the base and the city.

1997 – The BCANG and the City jointly partnered to organize a Terrorism Task Force. The task force has representatives from Police, Fire, EMS, Emergency Management, Air National Guard, Army National Guard, Naval / Marine Reserve, Hospitals, HDI Federal Center, Public Health and Veterinarians. This task force continues to meet monthly and is currently planning a major Biological exercise in August 2005.

1999 – BCANG Security Forces, Fire, and Readiness NCOIC participated in our Y2K planning that took place in the city. Due to our cooperation, we had our Mobile Command Center hooked up to the backup 9-1-1 trunks at the base and was staffed with personnel to provide information citywide during the ushering in of the year 2000.

2000 & 2003 – BCANG Security Forces, Fire and Readiness NCOIC sat on the committee that assisted in the development of the city's 2000 and 2003 State Homeland Security assessment Strategy. The end result was over a 500-page document that brought in more than \$1.3 Million dollars in DOJ grants for the city.

2000 – The BCANG Readiness NCOIC, the Support Group Commander, and the City's Emergency Services / Homeland Security Director attended a weeklong counter terrorism school conducted by the National Inter-Agency Counter-terrorism Institute (NICI). This school provided an avenue for military and civilian public safety personnel to interact to deal with incidents of terrorism.

2001 – Coordination and communications were tested to the max during the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. Information and technical assistance was provided in October – December 2001 during the nationwide "Anthrax" scare.

+ BCANG and the City of Battle Creek have partnered in numerous exercises and joint training events over the years including a "Major Aircraft Accident Response exercise in 2000.

+ BCANG, Battle Creek Police, Emergency Services / Homeland Security has used the base as a staging area for numerous Presidential visits to southern Lower Michigan. The Battle Creek Air National Guard Base and a 10,000 foot runway that the City built in support of the base, makes it a desirable location for Air Force One to land and provides a secure environment for the President to stage visits from. In fact on an episode of the TV program "The West Wing" discussions took place about the President landing at the Battle Creek Air National Guard Base and motorcade to a destination in Michigan. BCANG is even mentioned in a television show.

+ The BCANG Readiness NCOIC and the City of Battle Creek Emergency Services / Homeland Security Director jointly sit on several state Regional Response Team WMD Committees.

The relationship between the Battle Creek Air National Guard Base and the City's Emergency Service program dates back 22 years. The base is considered a critical asset to the City's Emergency Services / Homeland Security strategy. I don't have to mention

the critical mission that the base serves the military. Pilots from the 110th Fighter Wing flew missions over Bosnia, participated in the 1991 Gulf War, and the Iraqi War. The 110th Fighter Wing stands poised to defend the United States against any aggressor. The A-10 Thunderbolts when observed flying over the city in formation while leaving or returning to the base proudly represents this great country and the dedication of all the personnel that work at the base to protect this countries freedom.

Respectfully Submitted,

James M. Zoss, P.E.M.
City of Battle Creek
Director, Emergency Services /
Homeland Security
TX: (269) 966-3550
FAX: (269) 966-3583
E-mail: jmzoss@ci.battle-creek.mi.us



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City 1: Battle Creek

you will need: \$51,007 in Mount Clemens.

State: Michigan

City 2: Mount Clemens

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City statistics	Battle Creek	Mount Clemens	National Average
Values worse than national average are displayed in red.			
Demographics			
Population	53,699	17,535	52,500
Population density	1,225.9	4,442.4	3,011.6
Population change	0.47%	-4.52%	11.26%
Income per capita	\$18,085	\$16,902	\$20,710
Median household income	\$35,115	\$36,253	\$43,014
Households	20,784	6,867	20,080
People per household	2.43	2.25	2.53
Median age	34.5	33.9	34.3
Median income	\$40,760	\$43,043	\$53,475
Cost of living indexes			
Overall	94.3	96.2	100.0
Housing	85.1	80.4	100.0
Food and groceries	107.8	106.4	100.0
Transportation	96.6	103.9	100.0
Utilities	83.3	108.3	100.0
Health care	99.1	108.8	100.0
Miscellaneous	98.6	99.7	100.0

Schools	Battle Creek	Mount Clemens	National Average
School ratings	3.60	3.50	4.80
Expenditure per student	\$6,012	\$6,591	\$5,700
Student/teacher ratio	17.7	21.0	17.9
High school graduates	80.19%	72.19%	78.50%

Degree holders			
College degree - 2 year	7.50%	9.26%	7.48%
College degree - 4 year	14.79%	8.52%	16.74%
Graduate degree	6.75%	4.21%	8.26%

Crime			
Violent crime	1,447.4	743.5	496.4
Property crime	7,673.5	5,227.4	4,532.5

Housing	Battle Creek	Mount Clemens	National Average
House median value	\$94,700	\$90,400	\$134,100
Home appreciation	-1.18%	-2.02%	4.83%
Property tax	\$17.50	\$23.80	\$16.40
Commute time	14.3	18.5	19.2
Commute by bus	1.35%	1.15%	2.74%
Commute by carpool	13.55%	10.82%	13.38%
Commute by own car	84.70%	80.75%	75.44%

Economy			
Unemployment rate	5.76%	4.65%	4.44%
Recent job growth	-1.43%	-0.62%	1.88%
Future job growth	14.88%	20.71%	18.32%
Sales tax	6.00%	6.00%	5.42%
Income tax rate	4.40%	4.40%	4.62%

Health			
Health cost index	99.1	108.8	100.0
Physicians available	168.0	163.5	225.8
Air quality	96.7	87.6	87.9
Water quality	73.3	46.7	50.0

Climate	Battle Creek	Mount Clemens	National Average
Comfort index	38	41	35
Altitude	707	766	770
Rainfall	32.0	32.0	34.5
Snowfall	77.0	39.0	23.8
Precipitation days	144	133	108
Sunny days	163	185	214
Days warmer than 90 degrees	11	11	34

Days colder than 32 degrees	149	139	82
Average temperature in July	83.3	83.4	86.0
Average temperature in January	16.0	17.3	27.2
Average wind speed	10	10	9

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CALHOUN COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

SCHOOL	PHONE	INFO SUMMARY	COMMENTS
Albion	517-629-9421	2004 Grads: 92 College: 75% Other: 22% Military: 3%	
Athens	616-729-5414		Data N/A.
BC Central Alt. Comm. Ed.* S.E. Jr. HS	616-965-9526 616-965-9671 616-965-9671	2004 Grads: 440 College: 67% Other: 28% Military: 5%	All info received from BC Central.
Lakeview Alt. Ed.* Operation Grad.	616-565-2412 616-694-2410		
Harper Creek	616-979-1121	2004 Grads: 119 College: 93% Other: 4% Military: 3%	
Lakeview	616-565-3700	2004 Grads: 203 College: 95% Other: 2.4% Military: 2.6%	
Pennfield	616-961-9770	2004 Grads: 140 College: 80% Other: 20%	
St. Phillip HS^	616-963-4503	2004 Grads: 36 College: 98% Military: 2%	
Homer Comm HS	517-568-4464	2004 Grads: 72 College: 74% Other: 19% Military: 7%	
Marshall	616-781-1252	2002 Grads: 216 College: 93% Other: 5% Military: 2%	Only data from 2002 available.
Tekonsha	517-767-4121		Data N/A.
College: two and four year universities, vocational, etc.		*denotes alternative education	
Military: U.S. Military Services		^ denotes parochial affiliation	
Other: employment, undecided, etc.			

STATISTIC COMPILATION:

AVAILABLE DATA FOR 2004

(Albion, Battle Creek Public, Harper Creek, Lakeview, Pennfield, St. Phillip, Homer and Marshall)

COLLEGE:		78.80%		868/1102				
OTHER:		17.70%		195/1102				
MILITARY:		3.50%		39/1102				

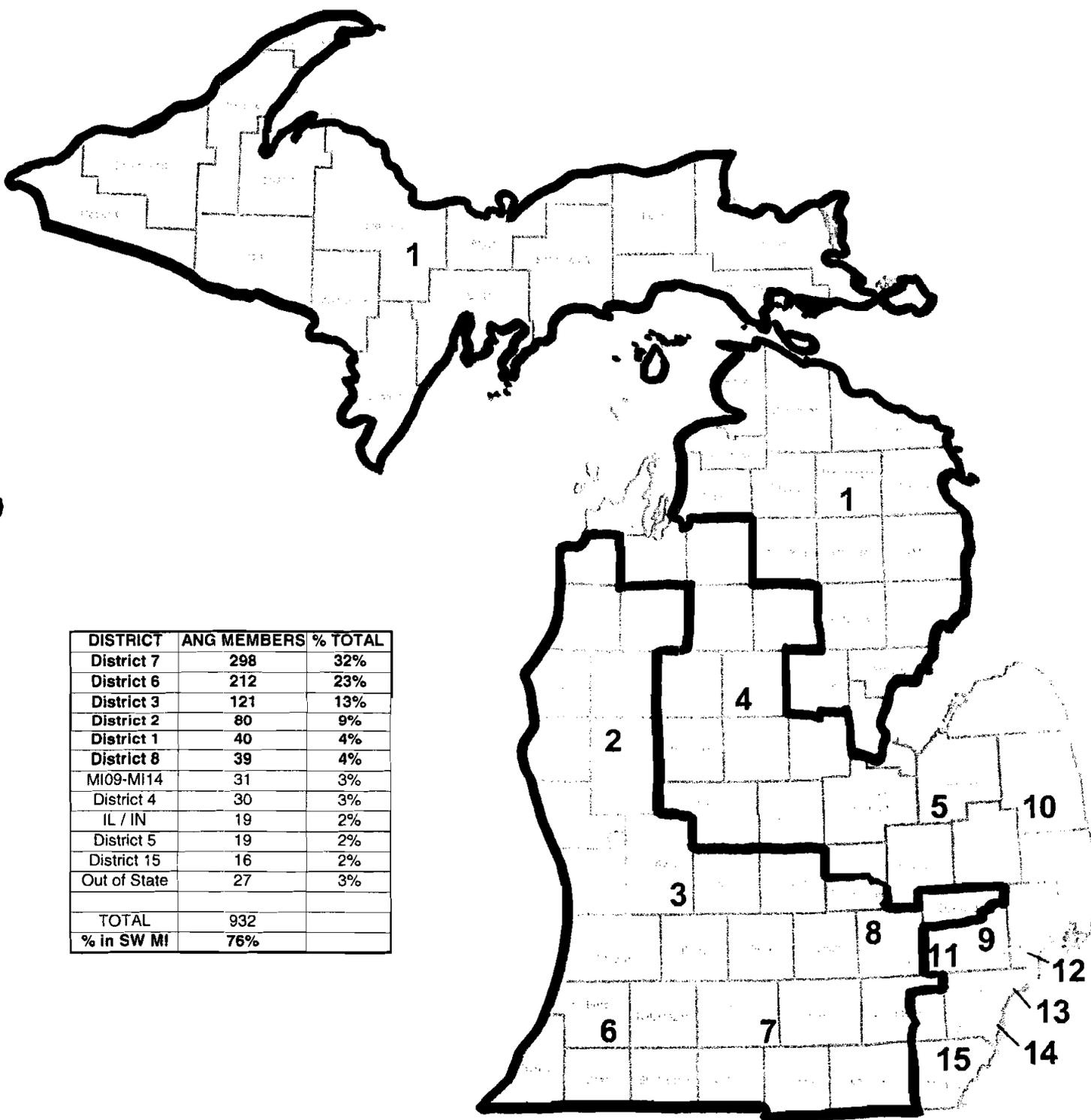
AVAILABLE DATA FOR 2002

(Marshall H.S.)

COLLEGE:		93%		201/216				
MILITARY:		2%		4/216				
OTHER:		5%		11/216				

MICHIGAN'S 15 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

2001 Apportionment Plan



DISTRICT	ANG MEMBERS	% TOTAL
District 7	298	32%
District 6	212	23%
District 3	121	13%
District 2	80	9%
District 1	40	4%
District 8	39	4%
MI09-MI14	31	3%
District 4	30	3%
IL / IN	19	2%
District 5	19	2%
District 15	16	2%
Out of State	27	3%
TOTAL	932	
% in SW MI	76%	



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
LANSING

JOHN D. CHERRY, JR.
LT. GOVERNOR

June 10, 2005

The Honorable Anthony Principi
Chairman
Defense Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark St., Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi:

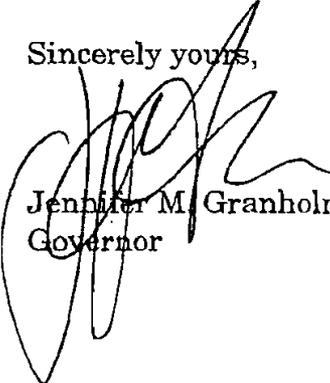
I would like to begin by thanking you for allowing Michigan to participate in the BRAC regional hearing in St. Louis June 20, 2005. This will provide two Michigan facilities, the Army Garrison at Selfridge Air National Guard base and Kellogg Air National Guard base in Battle Creek, an opportunity to make their case for why they should remain open and retain the 574 jobs they are slated to lose.

Even with an opportunity to participate in the regional hearing, it nonetheless critical that BRAC Commissioners visit both the Army Garrison at Selfridge Air National Guard base and Kellogg Air National Guard base. Only by visiting these facilities will the BRAC Commission be able to fulfill its mandate to make an independent review and analysis of the Department of Defense's BRAC recommendations. Therefore, I strongly request that both facilities receive a visit by a Commission member.

I would also like to request an opportunity to meet with you personally to discuss the affects of the BRAC recommendations on Michigan's facilities.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,



Jennifer M. Granholm
Governor

JMG:JB/sah

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Anthony Principi
Chairman
Defense Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark St., Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi:

As representatives of nearly 800 members of the 110th Fighter Wing from Battle Creek Air National Guard Base (BCANGB), we would like to thank you for allowing Michigan to present its case at the BRAC regional hearing in St. Louis on June 20th and we respectfully request a site visit as a follow-on to the hearing. In addition, we write to express our concern over DoD's recommendation to transfer the 110th Fighter Wing to Selfridge and close BCANGB.

On October 14, 2004, Undersecretary of Defense Mike Wynne wrote to the Service Secretaries and the Chairman of the Joint Cross-Service Groups responsible for compiling DoD's BRAC recommendations. In this letter, he outlined seven key principles to guide DoD in order to ensure, "military value is the primary consideration in making closure and realignment recommendations." We think these principles were not fully considered when the decision to close BCANGB was made. Specifically, there are four criteria ("recruit and train", "quality of life", "organize", and "deploy and employ") which appear to be overlooked by this decision.

Secretary Wynne writes, "The Department must attract, develop, and retain personnel who are highly skilled and have access to effective, diverse, and sustainable training space." BCANGB is a state of the art facility that in addition to the 110th Fighter Wing provides training space for the Navy Reserve, conducts NATO joint training exercises, is co-located with Fort Custer Army Reserve Training Center, and has the only secure 10,000' runway in the state of Michigan capable of receiving any aircraft in the military inventory including Air Force One. If BCANGB is closed, this effective, diverse and sustainable training space will be lost to the service.

The second criterion states, "The Department must provide a quality work place that supports recruitment and enhances retention." If the DoD recommendations stands, it effectively dismantles a unit that has been manned at 100% since the attacks of 9/11. To continue serving, more than 700 Air National Guard members who live in far Western Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin will have to commute to Selfridge in far Eastern Michigan. This will add a minimum of five additional hours of driving time for each drill weekend. We believe an all volunteer military must be connected to its community and be given opportunity to serve within a reasonable distance of their home. We believe the decision to close Battle Creek does not take this criterion into account.

"Organize", states, "The Department needs force structure sized and located to match the demands of the National Military Strategy effectively and efficiently...and that takes advantage of joint basing." BCANGB and its facilities are the most modern in the Air National Guard. In the past ten

years, over \$37 million has been spent to upgrade and expand the capabilities of the installation. The base has been a staging point for numerous deployments of the Army and Air National Guard and Marine Corps and Navy Reserve. Being co-located with Fort Custer gives the members of the Air National Guard immediate access to Army firing ranges, and over 8,000 acres of federally owned training space. The Defense Logistics Agency at the Hart-Doyle-Inouye Federal Center in Battle Creek uses the base as an alternate operating site in the event of an emergency or natural disaster. Closing Battle Creek will end what has been an efficient joint operation.

"Deploy and Employ," reads, "The Department needs secure installations that are optimally located for mission accomplishment and sustain the capability to mobilize and surge." As noted before, the 10,000' runway can accommodate all military aircraft and provides a secure staging point to support mobilization and surge operations. In addition, the base has no encroachment issues as it is bordered by thousands of acres belonging to Fort Custer. Airspace in Battle Creek is not crowded because the facility is not located near metropolitan areas. The apron on the runway can easily bed-down two fighter wings. From an operational perspective, Battle Creek provides an optimal facility and location for deploying and employing troops.

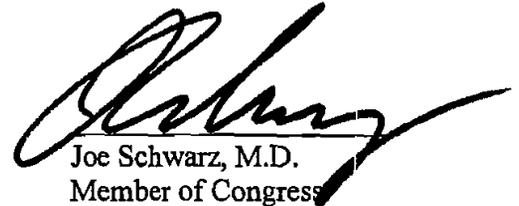
Most importantly, closing BCANGB and relocating the 110FW will effectively remove a proven combat capability from the force as it will take time to retrain and reconstitute the unit. We are concerned that this is a poor decision during a time of war. We see no evidence that DoD took this into account when the decision to close Battle Creek was made. If there are savings from closing Battle Creek, they will be offset by the lost combat capability and the cost of retraining and reconstituting the unit in a new location.

We respectively ask for a careful examination of the military value and cost effectiveness of the recommendation to move the 110FW and close the Battle Creek facility. After the hearing on June 20, we welcome you to come to Battle Creek and see for yourself the military value of the base and the strong support the surrounding area provides to the military. Thank you for your attention and consideration of this matter. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



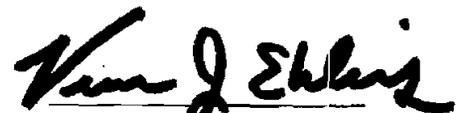
Fred Upton
Member of Congress



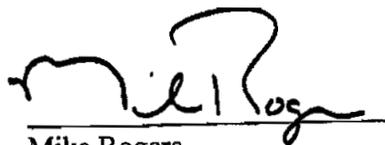
Joe Schwarz, M.D.
Member of Congress



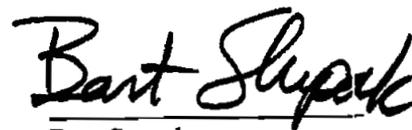
Peter Hoekstra
Member of Congress



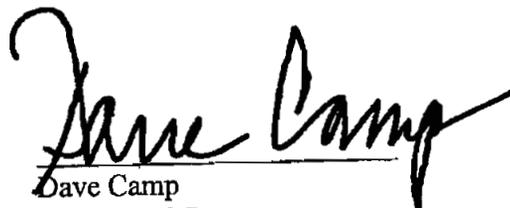
Vernon Ehlers
Member of Congress



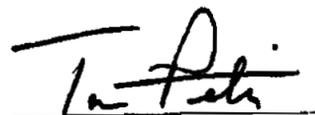
Mike Rogers
Member of Congress



Bart Stupak
Member of Congress



Dave Camp
Member of Congress



Thomas Petri
Member of Congress



THE SENATE
STATE OF MICHIGAN
MARK H. SCHAUER
19TH DISTRICT
DEMOCRATIC FLOOR LEADER

Mr. Anthony Principi, Chair
2005 Defense Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 S. Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Mr. Principi:

I write to express my deep disappointment with the recommendation of the Secretary of Defense to close the Battle Creek's Kellogg Air National Guard Base and move the assets of the 110th Fighter Wing to Selfridge Air National Guard Base. I urge the Base Closure and Realignment Commission to carefully examine this recommendation. Upon review, it will become clear that this recommendation is unwarranted, that the Battle Creek's Kellogg ANGB should remain open, and that the 110th remain based in Battle Creek.

The 110th is an active and distinguished unit with over 50 years of service. In the last ten years alone, they have served in Kosovo, Afghanistan, and Iraq, and have been deployed here in the U.S. on homeland defense missions. Not only has the 110th been deployed frequently, they have done so with distinction. Members of the 110th were awarded a total of 10 Distinguished Flying Crosses and 14 Bronze Stars in 2004 alone. The men and women of 110th are nothing short of citizen soldier heroes.

These honors underscore the high level of readiness and training that the 110th maintains. They are among the most deployed National Guard units in the military. Truly, these members of our community are ready, willing and able to drop everything and serve when the nation calls. Most of the nearly 1000 members of this unit live in close proximity to the base. To move this unit over 100 miles away will surely result in many members discontinuing their service, undermining the training and readiness of the unit.

Financially, these recommendations are likewise ill-advised. To replicate the Battle Creek base's infrastructure elsewhere would be inefficient and costly. In the last ten years, the Federal Government has invested over \$37 million dollars in Battle Creek's Kellogg Air National Guard Base to create the most state-of-the-art A-10 maintenance and support facility in America. It would take years and tens of millions of dollars to develop this capability at another base eroding the unit's readiness.

We appreciate the opportunity to present this case before the commission at its St. Louis hearing. A thorough examination of this recommendation would be further elucidated by a visit by the Commission to the base. Such an examination will make clear that moving the 110th would weaken our nation's defense by disrupting a unit of this skill and readiness, and would cost the nation's taxpayers millions of dollars.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important decision.

Sincerely,

Mark Schauer
State Senator
District 19





Lorence Wenke
Michigan House of Representatives
63rd District

N-997 House Office Building
P.O. Box 30014
Lansing, MI 48909-7514
Phone: 517-373-1787
Fax: 517-373-9119
Toll-free: 1-877-686-1787
lorencewenke@house.mi.gov

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Preparation, Chair
Commerce
Education
Transportation

June 9, 2005

Mr. Anthony Principi, Chair
2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
2521 S. Clark St., Ste. 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Mr. Principi:

The state of Michigan has been hit hard with rising unemployment. State Farm is closing in Marshall and Pfizer has downsized its operations in Kalamazoo. In March, General Motors announced it would be closing a plant in May, displacing 3,500 workers.

Battle Creek and its surrounding communities have long supported our military. Over the years the Department of Defense has become the largest employer in the area; nine percent of workers in the city of Battle Creek are employed by the D.O.D.

I, along with the two-county Citizens Base Retention Committee, support the continuing presence and growth of the Battle Creek Air National Guard Base and the 110th Fighter Wing at W.K. Kellogg Airport.

Local military installations contribute substantially to deployments around the world. The 110th Fighter Wing is one of only three Air National Guard fighter units mobilized during the past two combat contingency operations.

In short, the community of Battle Creek and its local military partners are closely integrated and the services provided to the United States and its armed services are served very well by the men and women, both military and civilian, who serve their nation at one of these installations.

To replicate what is here in southern Michigan in another part of Michigan would be an ineffective and costly. Along with other elected officials and local residents, I strongly urge the BRAC Commission to keep the 110th Fighter Wing operations in the greater Battle Creek area.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lorence Wenke".

Lorence Wenke
State Representative 63rd District

cc: Honorable Jennifer Granholm, Governor
Honorable Carl Levin
Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Honorable Fred Upton
Honorable Joe J. H. Schwarz, M.D.

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT
OF THE 110TH FIGHTER WING AND
REQUEST FOR THE BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE (BRAC) COMMISSION
TO VISIT THE W.K. KELLOGG AIRPORT AIR GUARD BASE FOR THE PURPOSE
OF OBJECTIVELY DETERMINING WHETHER THE BASE SHOULD BE CLOSED.**

WHEREAS, the U.S. Congress established the 2005 BRAC Commission to ensure the integrity of the base closure and realignment process by providing an objective, nonpartisan, and independent review and analysis of the list of military installation recommendations issued by the Department of Defense (DoD) on May 13, 2005; and

WHEREAS, the BRAC Commission has a mission to assess whether the DoD recommendations substantially deviated from the Congressional criteria used to evaluate each military base; and

WHEREAS, while the priority is for the criteria of military value, the BRAC Commission will also take into account the human impact of the base closures and will consider the possible economic, environmental, and other effects on the surrounding communities; and

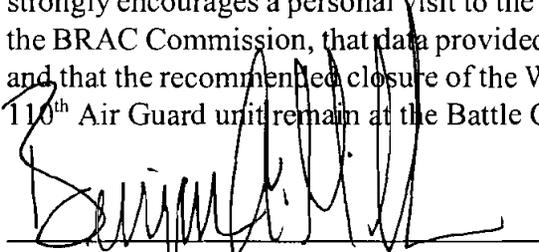
WHEREAS, the DoD has recommended the closing of the W.K. Kellogg Airport Air Guard Station and the movement of the 110th Fighter Wing to the 127th Wing, Selfridge Air National Guard Base; and

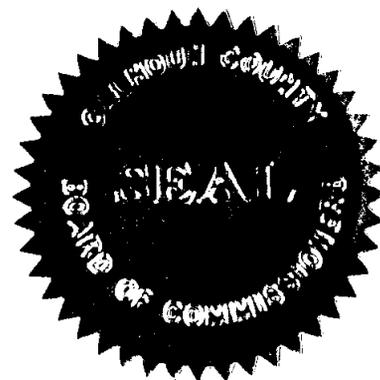
WHEREAS, the DoD has chosen to close numerous Air National Guard bases with disregard for the tradition of local security by local people and without input from the Air National Guard; and

WHEREAS, the DoD has chosen to close a state of the art facility which has substantial capability to support the United States military during a time of war and is centrally located to the men and women serving or interested in serving in the military in the Midwest; and

WHEREAS, the closure of this base was recommended without sufficient regard to its military value and the transfer of the 110th Fighter Wing to Selfridge does not produce a significant savings to the military and merely transfers the costs of operation between branches of the service.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners strongly encourages a personal visit to the W.K. Kellogg Airport Air Guard Station by members of the BRAC Commission, that data provided by representatives of the local community be reviewed, and that the recommended closure of the W.K. Kellogg Airport Guard Station be rescinded and the 110th Air Guard unit remain at the Battle Creek facility.


Benjamin A. Miller, Chairman
Calhoun County Board of Commissioners
June 16, 2005



**NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN****NGAM**

300 Elvin Court, Lansing, MI 48913-5103
(517) 484-1644 1 (800) 477-1644 Fax (517) 484-1680
www.ngam.org E-Mail: ngam@voyager.net

June 22, 2005

The Honorable Anthony Principi
Defense Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark St., Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

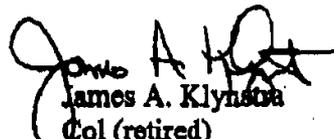
Dear Chairman Principi

On behalf of the 11,000 members of the Michigan National Guard, we want to express our sincere thanks for your efforts to review the recent BRAC proposal. Our Association opposes the BRAC because we believe it is not good for the Michigan National Guard and not good for America.

Specifically, we are opposed to the transfer of the 110th Fighter Wing caused by the proposed closing of the Kellogg Air National Guard Base in Battle Creek and also the potential loss of the F-16 unit at Selfridge ANB Base. Our first concern is for the almost certain loss of highly skilled, experienced aircrews, maintenance and flying support personnel. The second is the failure to consider the overwhelmingly superior safety and combat records of these flying units. In a time when recruiting goals are not being met across the country and combat readiness is at a high premium, we should not be causing trained members to leave the National Guard and combat readiness to decline. We do not feel that the loss of flying experience and training dollar investments have been adequately considered in this BRAC proposal.

I will not go into any further detail, because you are already aware of the BRAC proposals and the bases/units involved. Again, thank you for your service and the important role you play in defense of this great nation.

Sincerely,


James A. Klynstra
Col (retired)
Executive Director



NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN

NGAM

300 Elvin Court, Lansing, MI 48913-5103
(517) 484-1644 1 (800) 477-1644 Fax (517) 484-1680
www.ngam.org E-Mail: ngam@voyager.net

June 22, 2005

Congressman Frederick S. Upton
2183 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, D. C. 20515

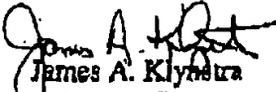
Dear Congressman:

On behalf of the 11,000 members of the Michigan National Guard, we want to express our sincere thanks for your efforts to oppose the recent BRAC proposal. Our Association also opposes the BRAC because we believe it is not good for the Michigan National Guard and not good for America.

Specifically, we are opposed to the transfer of the 110th Fighter Wing caused by the proposed closing of the Kellogg Air National Guard Base in Battle Creek and also the potential loss of the F-16 unit at Selfridge ANB Base. Our first concern is for the almost certain loss of highly skilled, experienced aircrews, maintenance and flying support personnel. The second is the failure to consider the overwhelmingly superior safety and combat records of these flying units. In a time when recruiting goals are not being met across the country and combat readiness is at a high premium, we should not be causing trained members to leave the National Guard and combat readiness to decline. We do not feel that the loss of flying experience and training dollar investments have been adequately considered in this BRAC proposal.

I will not go into any further detail, because you are already aware of the situation and you are in agreement with us. Again, thank you for your support. Hopefully we can work together to overturn this BRAC proposal.

Sincerely,


James A. Klyndra
Col (retired)
Executive Director



BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

201 WEST KALAMAZOO AVENUE • KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN 49007-3777

PHONE: (269) 384-8111

FAX: (269) 384-8032

June 10, 2005

Mr. Anthony Principi, Chair
2005 Defense Base Closure & Realignment Commission
2521 S. Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Mr. Principi:

This letter represents the full and unqualified support of the Kalamazoo County Michigan Board of Commissioners in opposition of the proposed realignment of the 110th Fighter Wing and closure of the Battle Creek Air National Guard Base. Kalamazoo County, like our neighboring Calhoun County to the East has historically been strong supporters of the defense of our nation.

Since early in the last century Kalamazoo County gave up thousands of acres of land to the military as they prepared to fight the conflicts of the last century. Kalamazoo County joins with Battle Creek and Calhoun County to proudly play its role in the war on terrorism.

The Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld has recommended a list of military facilities be closed and/or realigned which included the 110th Fighter Wing as part of the BRAC process. Kalamazoo County believes that there must have been some type of mis-interpretation in the evaluation criteria that resulted in the 110th even appearing on the BRAC list.

As we understand the criteria Military Value, Military Essentiality and Military Readiness were highly valued with taxpayer cost, being relevant, but not as highly valued. To state the obvious, the Federal Government has invested over \$37 million dollars into the Battle Creek Air National Guard base in the last decade to make it the most state-of-the-art A-10 maintenance and support facility in America. The unique and specialized facilities are not realignable and therefore they will

need to be recreated at whatever facility the A-10's ultimately call home, at great costs.

There is not an A-10 squadron in the National Guard in this country that is more combat ready than the 110th. They have been activated and served with distinction in Operation Noble Eagle, Southern Watch, Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. During two deployments in 2004 alone, a total of 10 Distinguished Flying Crosses and 14 Bronze Stars were awarded to members of the 110th. If military readiness is valued by the Defense Department the 110th cannot fulfill its mission for several years if it is realigned. Many of the 932 full- and part-time National Guard members will not be transferred to the 110th's proposed new home because there are already military personnel there that have first option in servicing these unique aircraft. However those individuals are not qualified in the service, maintenance and operation of A-10's. It will take years and millions of dollars to regain the razor sharp efficiency and skill in the A-10's that exist in Battle Creek. Military readiness is priceless in this time of terrorist threats.

Kalamazoo County Implores the BRAC Commission to carefully examine the military value, readiness and cost effectiveness of the Pentagon recommendation to realign the 110th Fighter Wing. Kalamazoo County believes the value of the 110th Fighter Wing is clear and compelling. We ask this for the good of the Air Force readiness, the national defense, the Southwest Michigan community and especially for the 932 Guards men and women who have so proudly served every time they have been ask and with great distinction.

Sincerely,



Robert Brink, Chair
Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners

c: Honorable Jennifer Granholm, Governor
Honorable Carl Levin
Honorable Debbie Stabenow
Honorable Fred Upton
Honorable Joe J.H. Schwartz, M.D.

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RESOLUTION

APPROVED

NO. 246/Added

A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR REQUESTING A SITE VISIT BY THE BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE COMMISSION TO THE W.K. KELLOGG AIRPORT AIR GUARD BASE FOR THE PURPOSE OF DEVELOPING A CASE FOR RECONSIDERING A DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE RECOMMENDATION FOR BASE CLOSURE.

BATTLE CREEK MICH. June 7, 2005

Resolved by the Commission of the City of Battle Creek:

WHEREAS, the U.S. Congress established the 2005 BRAC Commission to ensure the integrity of the base closure and realignment process by providing an objective, non-partisan, and independent review and analysis of the list of military installation recommendations issued by the Department of Defense (DoD) on May 13, 2005; and

WHEREAS, the BRAC Commission's mission is to assess whether the DoD recommendations substantially deviated from the Congressional criteria used to evaluate each military base; and

WHEREAS, while giving priority to the criteria of military value, the Commission will also take into account the human impact of the base closures and will consider the possible economic, environmental, and other effects on the surrounding communities; and

WHEREAS, the DoD has recommended the closure of the W.K. Kellogg Airport Air Guard Station and the movement of the 110th Fighter Wing to the 127th Wing, Selfridge Air National Guard Base; and

WHEREAS, the DoD has chosen to close numerous Air National Guard bases with disregard for the tradition of local security by local people and without input from the Air National Guard; and

WHEREAS, the DoD has chosen to close a state-of-the-art facility that has substantial capability to support the United States military during a time of war and is centrally located to the men and women soldiers of the Midwest; and

WHEREAS, the closure of this base was recommended without true regard to its military value and the transfer of the 110th Fighter Wing to Selfridge does not produce a savings to the military but merely transfers the cost of operations; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the BRAC Commission is strongly encouraged to visit the W.K. Kellogg Airport Air Guard Station, review the data provided, and reconsider the importance of this installation for national security and the wartime efforts of our country.



June 6, 2005

R E S O L U T I O N

No. 25-05

WHEREAS, The United States has commissioned an agency to review military bases throughout the Country; and

WHEREAS, the commission has recommended the closure of the Michigan Air National Guard and move the 110th Fighter Wing; and

WHEREAS, the commission has chosen to close numerous National Guard bases with disregard for the tradition of local security by local people; and

WHEREAS, the commission has chosen to close a base which has substantial capability and is centrally located to the men and women soldiers of the Midwest; and

WHEREAS, the closure of this base was recommended without regard to its value to FEMA as a homeland security site; and

WHEREAS, the closure of this base is bad for Springfield, bad for Battle Creek, bad for Michigan, and really bad for the Country.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SPRINGFIELD to encourage the commission to visit the site, review the data provided, and reconsider the importance of this location of the Michigan Air National Guard.

MOVED: Council Member Agne

SECONDED: Entire Council

All ayes. Resolution adopted.

June 16, 2005

The Honorable Anthony Principi
Chairman
Defense Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark St
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

David G. Mengobier
Senior Vice President
Governmental and Public Affairs/
Community Services

Dear Chairman Principi:

I am writing to voice Consumers Energy's support for retaining the Kellogg Air National Guard (ANG) base located in Battle Creek, Michigan as an active installation in the defense of the United States. The 110th Fighter Wing, which is stationed at the base, makes an invaluable contribution to the nation's security. In the last decade alone, the unit has served with distinction in areas of conflict that include Kosovo, Afghanistan and Iraq.

As the principal electricity supplier to this region of Michigan, we can tell you from firsthand experience that the base's economic contribution to Battle Creek and surrounding communities is every bit as critical as its contribution as a military force. The \$28 million a year revenue loss from closing the base would be a devastating blow for these communities, which already face the burdens of Michigan's struggling economy.

Furthermore, the unit's nearly 1,000 employees are valuable contributors to their local communities, and their training greatly enhances their value to those of us who employ them. A number of our own employees, past and present, have served proudly with the 110th – in fact, our former chief pilot was an A-10 pilot with the unit.

More than \$37 million has been invested in the base in the last 10 years. Relocating the unit to another facility over 100 miles away, with the likelihood of requiring significant investments for new facilities and training, makes little economic sense. It's likely that many of the unit's members will find the new distance too great to continue service; replacing them will be a difficult challenge in the current recruiting environment.

As a major corporate citizen of Michigan, we urge the Commission to remove the Kellogg ANG facility from the list of potential base closures so that the 110th Fighter Wing can continue with its mission of supporting the defense of the United States of America, which it has done so capably in the past. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,



cc: The Honorable Jennifer Granholm, Governor
The Honorable Carl Levin
The Honorable Debbie Stabenow
The Honorable Joe J.H. Scharz, M.D.
The Honorable Mark Schauer
The Honorable Mike Nofs
The Honorable Lorence Wenke



77 East Michigan Avenue, Commerce Pointe • Suite 80, Battle Creek, MI 49017 • 269.962.4076 • fax 269.962.6309 • www.battlecreek.org

June 13, 2005

Mr. Anthony Principi, Chair
2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Ste. 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Mr. Principi:

The Battle Creek Area Chamber of Commerce, along with the two-county Citizens Base Retention Committee, supports the continuing presence and growth of the Battle Creek Air National Guard Base and the 110th Fighter Wing at W.K. Kellogg Airport.

Battle Creek and the Chamber have long supported our military. Over the years, they have become the largest employer in the area; approximately nine percent of the Battle Creek workforce is employed by the military.

Local, highly skilled military installations contribute substantially to deployments around the world. The 110th Fighter Wing is one of only three Air National Guard fighter units mobilized during the past two combat contingency operations. Additionally, we have spacious facilities that contribute to the current military goals of jointness. To replicate these Battle Creek facilities elsewhere in Michigan would be ineffective and costly.

As the largest business advocacy organization in Calhoun County, representing approximately 800 members, we strongly urge the BRAC Commission to keep the 110th Fighter Wing operations in the greater Battle Creek area.

Sincerely,

Kathleen L. Mechem
President and CEO

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Article published Jun 26, 2005

Closing B.C. Air National Guard Base is a mistake

Brig. Gen. Thomas N. Edmonds

The Air Force has proposed to the federal Base Realignment And Closure (BRAC) Commission that the 110th Air National Guard (ANG) Fighter Wing at Battle Creek be eliminated, the base closed and the A-10 fighter jets from Battle Creek transferred to the ANG base in Macomb County near Detroit. Only a few of the members of the 110th are likely to be offered and accept positions across the state in the Macomb County unit.

As the recently retired vice commander of the Michigan Air National Guard, I am certain that this move doesn't make sense from a military perspective, doesn't serve the purpose of BRAC (to save money) and DOES a great disservice to the 930 members of the 110th Fighter Wing, most of whom come from west Michigan, and who have served their country so ably.

From a military perspective, does it make sense to do away with a unit that flies a critical, war-proven aircraft during a war? A unit that has had seven highly successful combat deployments in the last 10 years? A unit that occupies the best developed (\$41 million in improvements since 1991) A-10 base in the ANG? A unit that the Air Force has rated as "outstanding" by Air Force standards? A unit whose members have earned 10 Bronze Stars and 14 Distinguished Flying Crosses in combat in Iraqi Freedom? A unit that is always at or over 100 percent of its authorized personnel strength at a time when all active services are struggling to address serious recruiting and retention problems? A unit that is fully qualified and trained to fly and maintain the A-10 and give their aircraft to a unit that will take three to five years to cross-train and be ready to fly in combat?

Simply put, the answer is a resounding "no."

Does the "cost savings" to the Air Force override all of the foregoing considerations? Again, the answer is "no."

Independent review of the methodology used by the military to evaluate the viability of the Battle Creek base and to calculate the cost savings from its closure shows the methodology to be fatally flawed. Staff from congressional offices, Battle Creek Unlimited, the W.E. Upjohn Institute, as well as military experts, have documented that there are little or no savings that will actually result from the closure. They have made their case to the BRAC Commission and anyone else who will listen.

So if logic and/or cost savings aren't driving the Air Force recommendations to close the 110th, what is?
Politics!

On a grand scale, the Air Force has suddenly sold out its critical wartime partner, the Air National Guard. Across the nation, the Air Force has proposed massive cuts in the Air National Guard behind the smokescreen of the BRAC process. Why? Because it needs to generate money to pay for the new and expensive aircraft it wants to purchase in the near future.

On a local scale, west Michigan is losing a base and a unit that it has supported and nurtured since 1947, and hundreds and hundreds of west Michigan citizen-airmen are being told that their loyal and dedicated service is no longer necessary to the defense of their country. Why? So that the 110th Fighter Wing's A-10 aircraft can be given to a unit in the Detroit area. Why? So that the other unit can replace aircraft that the Air Force is taking away and thus protect that base from future closure.

The politicians who have pressed for, and perhaps engineered, this result are from the districts that benefit from this scheme. A short-sighted approach; Michigan should be fighting a united front to save all of our ANG

aircraft and missions.

The presidentially appointed BRAC commissioners are experienced, dedicated citizen-volunteers trying to sort out many situations like this and determine just which bases should be closed. I urge my fellow citizens to contact the commission:

The Honorable Anthony Principi

Chairman

Defense Base Realignment and Closure Commission

2521 S. Clark St., Suite 600

Arlington, VA 22202

Please urge them to give close attention to the strong factual case before them in support of saving the 110th Fighter Wing and the Battle Creek ANG Base. Urge them to make a site visit to the 110th. Most importantly, urge them to spare the 110th for sound military reasons, and reject the political manipulation that has put the 110th on the chopping block!

Brig. Gen. Thomas N. Edmonds, MIANG, is retired vice commander of the Michigan Air National Guard.

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Article published Jun 25, 2005
CAPITOL CONNECTION

Political potshots demean everyone

Eric J. Greene

The latest comedy of absurdity in Washington, D.C. — the place where, you know, they're supposed to portray a vision for America's future — is as maddening as it is amusing.

Presidential adviser Karl Rove this week said liberals were pantywaists on national security. Democrats were "outraged" and called for him to apologize, as if that would solve anything.

Last week, Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., compared American military prison tactics to those employed in Soviet gulags. Republicans were "outraged" and called for an apology, which he issued.

Watching flocks of politicians, who normally take pleasure in zinging each other, pretend to search for the high road while assuming the public cares deeply about the words they use is more than a little silly.

It's plain pathetic.

To paraphrase Shakespeare, they're idiots, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing.

It's no surprise that Rove, a political operative whose job is to needle Democrats, would poke at the Democratic base using a topic that also energizes the Republicans.

Feathers are easily ruffled in this post-Sept. 11 world when Republicans, who often come across as pro-war, call into question the patriotism of Democrats, who tend to be more touchy-feely.

"Liberals saw the savagery of the 9/11 attacks and wanted to prepare indictments and offer therapy and understanding for our attackers," Rove was widely quoted as saying in a speech.

Rove's assertion was broad, sound-biteish, only somewhat accurate and spoken with intent to divide.

Yeah, like that's never happened in national politics.

Still, high-profile Democrats, desperate to look tough for fear of looking yellow, called on Rove to apologize, resign and retract his statement. In their quest to get air time to express "outrage" with a stern face, those Democrats may have forgotten that Rove has a constitutionally protected right to speak his mind, and that they should adopt more meaningful priorities.

Alas, leading Republicans were equally shallow last week when, on the Senate floor, Durbin read a federal agent's report that described conditions of prisoners at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

The agent had observed prisoners chained to the floor, without food or water, who had urinated and defecated on themselves. The agent also saw a detainee who had pulled out his hair, suffering variously from hot and cold room temperatures.

"If I read this to you and did not tell you that it was an FBI agent describing what Americans had done to prisoners in their control, you would most certainly believe this must have been done by Nazis, Soviets in their gulags, or some mad regime — Pol Pot or others — that had no concern for human beings," Durbin said.

Republicans, angry that someone dared question America's questionable anti-terrorism tactics, seized on the Nazi reference so they could divert attention from the Guantanamo problem and classify Durbin as a traitor.

Once again, the people lose part of their future to fruitless chest-thumping in Washington.

American politicians have acted this way since the Revolution. But one would think that, two centuries later, they would have found a way to build a country without the selfish bickering, name-calling and childish attitudes.

Sadly, they haven't.

Now that's an outrage.

Eric J. Greene covers politics and legislative issues. He can be reached at 966-0687 or egreene@battlecr.gannett.com. Read his blog in the News Extras area at battlecreekenquirer.com.

THE EXECUTIVE

Air Guard leaders feel left out on BRAC

By Roxana Tiron

Air National Guard adjutants general say the Air Force's failure to include their input in the Pentagon's base realignment and closure (BRAC) recommendations has led to a disproportionate loss to Guard units.

Maj. Gen. Francis Vavala, the Delaware Air National Guard adjutant general, said yesterday that he agrees with several adjutants general who said the guardsmen were not included in the BRAC process.

He noted that, under the Pentagon's recommendations released May 13, Delaware's New Castle County Airport Air National Guard eight-unit C-130 wing is scheduled to transfer to Charleston, S.C., and Savannah, Ga.

"I already told my colleagues that they are not getting them," Vavala joked at a meeting of the Minuteman Institute for National Defense Studies.

He called the "realignment" of the units a "misnomer" because the Pentagon's decision would take the only flying unit out of Delaware. The transfer of those units "will take the 'Air' out of the Air National Guard," he said.

Sen. Joe Biden (D-Del.) said that he was "deeply disappointed that some parts of the Delaware Air National Guard mission are being sent elsewhere." When the Pentagon's recommendations came out, Biden said he would continue to "make the case that the New Castle County Air Guard facility is an integral part of our national defense infrastructure."

Biden has dedicated staff working on the BRAC issue together with the Air National Guard, Vavala said.

In a letter to the independent BRAC Commission's chairman, Anthony Principi, the Adjutants General Association of the United States (AGAUS) said the contention of Defense Department officials implying that "we were involved and concurrent with the recently released BRAC recommendations is incorrect."

While the adjutants general support the BRAC process as legislated by Congress, they expected to be included in a process "that would give the infrastructure and forces under our responsibility fair and accurate consideration," Maj. Gen. Roger Lempke, president of AGAUS, said in the letter.

Vavala said he was confused about the BRAC proposal to keep bases that are losing flying operations open under a so-called "enclave" concept to support homeland security needs and serve as placeholders for future Air Force missions. "I would like to be enlightened," he said.

AGAUS called the enclaves an “ill-defined” concept that “may likely be only a precursor to actual base closure in many cases.”

Delaware serves as an example of the behind-the-scenes efforts to gain the attention of the nine-member BRAC Commission and change the Pentagon’s decisions. Since the BRAC list announcement, a Delaware team with strong congressional support has been working to draw attention to the importance of the Delaware Air National Guard units.

Noting that a BRAC analyst working with the commission visited the Delaware base, Vavala said, “We were not scheduled for visitation ... but we managed to get a visit,” and the team made a presentation that “concentrated on the facts in a professional manner.”

The Air Force is also looking into concepts beyond airplanes, such as unmanned aerial vehicles, said Daniel Else of the Congressional Research Service. However, because the Air Force did not include it in the BRAC recommendations, the Air National Guard did not get a chance to define its role in potentially new missions, Else said.

Meanwhile, AGAUS is asking the commission for a chance to present some “helpful alternatives that will meet BRAC objectives without taking the nation down risky paths,” Lempke wrote.

Demands of war, domestic fronts thinning ranks of National Guard

BY DAVID WOOD and HARRY ESTEVE

NEWHOUSE NEWS SERVICE

June 13, 2005

Thrown into a fast-paced new era of fighting insurgents abroad and protecting neighbors from terrorists at home, the Army National Guard is hanging on by its fingertips.

It provides half the Army's combat power and is the country's primary terrorism response team. But its battalions struggle to scrape up enough soldiers and hand-me-down equipment for overseas deployments. Recruiting has dropped, and seasoned soldiers are quitting.

Today, the Guard is barely able to meet the Pentagon's demands for manpower overseas. Its units are exhausted. Internal Guard documents tell the story: All 10 of its Special Forces units, all 147 military police units, 97 of 101 infantry units and 73 of 75 armor units cannot go to war without outside reinforcements.

The Guard needs a staggering \$20 billion worth of equipment to sustain its operations, a bill Washington may balk at paying.

In Michigan, 2,000 Army and Air National Guard soldiers from the state's 11,000 National Guard troops are deployed in Iraq. About 60% of the National Guard troops in Michigan have been deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan in the last three years, most for 12 to 14 months, said Capt. Aaron Jenkins, spokesman for the Army National Guard. He said the Guard members in Michigan are ready for any state or local emergency that might come up.

Yet any new crisis -- an escalation overseas or major terrorist attacks -- could find the Guard unable to respond and the United States at risk.

The Guard is losing soldiers and cannot attract enough recruits to replace them. And the normally dependable flow of soldiers moving from active duty into the National Guard has slowed dramatically.

"One can conclude," said Brig. Gen. Bill Libby, commander of the Maine National Guard, "that we're going to run out of soldiers."

Although the Pentagon puts a positive face on these realities, the nation's senior military commanders are worried.

"My concern is that the National Guard will not be a ready force next time it's needed, whether here at home or abroad," Lt. Gen. Steven Blum, the National Guard's chief, acknowledged in an interview last month in his Pentagon office.

From interviews across the country with dozens of Guard soldiers and families, Pentagon officials, congressmen, governors, recruiters, military analysts and other experts, a picture of the Army National Guard emerges as one of hard work and honorable service against mounting difficulties.

But the crushing personal and family demands of overseas deployments threaten a citizen-soldier tradition enshrined in the Constitution and rooted in 350 years of American history.

Against some expectations, the Guard has fought well in Iraq and Afghanistan and has moved smartly to meet terrorist threats at home. That success is due largely to soldiers like Jay Medved, a 35-year-old Pennsylvania National Guard sergeant who volunteered for an 18-month Iraq tour.

"My squad is going. I am their squad leader. How could I not go?" said Medved, an accountant from Glassport, Pa.

But that esprit is a perishable resource. Guard officers fear an exodus of veterans this summer as the latest deployments in Iraq end.

Waning support

Rooted in 2,700 communities and neighborhoods across the country and commanded by the states' governors, the Army National Guard is one of the most direct channels for ordinary Americans to influence Washington's war-making decisions.

Some military experts view the Guard as a counterweight against a president who might launch a risky foreign war: Mobilizing the Guard has an immediate political impact..

Many Guard families, fed up with long, unanticipated combat tours, are opting out. Employers are pressed to hold jobs open for deployed Guardsmen, as the law requires. Recruiters are coming up against a new impediment: Parents who once encouraged their kids to join the Guard are growling at recruiters to stay away.

The Army National Guard's 331,019 soldiers -- the most recent count -- are full-time civilians who serve part-time in uniform. For many of them, the Guard was a comfortable dodge from the more dangerous, go-to-war active-duty military.

Guard units typically met one weekend a month and two weeks in the summer, using worn-out gear the Army no longer wanted. Their wartime mission, as reinforcements for World War III, seemed remote.

"My first drill" weekend, "at lunch they brought out the kegs. People ate, drank beer and then went home," recalled Capt. Al Smith, a staff officer with the Pennsylvania National Guard.

But the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks sent the Guard into a frenzy. Guardsmen were on New York streets within hours of the collapse of the World Trade Center towers. Three days later, President George W. Bush began mobilizing Guard units for the maximum of 24 months of federal service. They fanned out to guard airports and nuclear power plants, and then began to be sent into combat in Afghanistan and Iraq.

They have met those missions, but at a cost.

To fully equip troops in Iraq, the Pentagon has stripped local Guard units of about 24,000 pieces of

equipment. That has left Guard units at home, already seriously short of gear.

Recruitment shortfalls

The Guard's more fundamental shortage is people.

Internal National Guard documents show that last December, there was a pool of 86,455 soldiers available for duty. By the end of April, the pool had shrunk to 74,519 soldiers available for global deployments. The current need for National Guard soldiers in Iraq alone is 32,000, and tens of thousands of others are required for missions in 83 countries worldwide.

Two reasons for the squeeze: a shortfall in recruiting new trainees, and a dramatic drop in the number of active-duty soldiers who are switching into the Guard. In October and November, the Guard missed its monthly recruiting goals by big margins, gaining only two-thirds the enlistees it needed.

Over the winter, the Guard boosted its recruiting force to 5,100 by adding 1,400 new recruiters. It launched a new ad campaign, authorized bonuses of up to \$10,000 and held out other enticements like free college tuition in some states.

Still, recruiters came up short in January by 1,803 soldiers, in February by 1,709, in March by 730, in April by 1,533 and in May by 1,720.

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Jenkins said the Michigan Guard hasn't had the recruiting problems of late that other states have experienced. In April, the Army National Guard exceeded its recruiting goal by 200 soldiers, he said, and May was another month that exceeded expectations.

"But one thing that hasn't helped in our recruiting is that 50% of our recruits come from the active military, and that's where we're experiencing shortfalls," said Jenkins.

Another reason may be the danger. Fifty-three members of the military from Michigan, including four Guard members, have been killed in Iraq since the start of the war.

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"It's pretty much guaranteed you're going to get deployed again, maybe not to Iraq but to the next hot spot," said MacGlashin, who has two children and another on the way. "That was the gamble I was looking at. I didn't want to roll the dice."

National Guard leaders criticize Pentagon base closing proposals

By Megan Scully, CongressDaily

In an unusual move, New Hampshire's adjutant general, who stands to gain from this round of base closings, on Wednesday criticized the Pentagon's decision to strip a significant number of airframes from 28 Air National Guard facilities.

For many lawmakers and communities, the Defense Department's base closure and realignment process has spurred a defend-at-all-costs mentality as they fight to save local bases deemed by the Pentagon to be irrelevant to future missions.

However, the National Guard has railed against Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld's decisions on Air National Guard units in part because of a growing fear that the Air Guard could evolve into a grounded force.

Adjutants general across the country also have criticized the Air Force for shutting them out of base-closure discussions, which Rumsfeld eventually adopted in the BRAC list he released last month. In contrast, the Army National Guard took part in several of the Army's BRAC deliberations, sources have said.

"I don't believe the New Hampshire gain is in the best interests of the Air Force," Maj. Gen. Kenneth Clark said Wednesday at a Heritage Foundation event.

Under Rumsfeld's recommendations, New Hampshire would receive four KC-135 aerial refueling tankers from Southern California. Clark later said the Air Guard's trust in the Air Force had plummeted when it was not consulted during more than two years of base-closure reviews within the Air Force and the Pentagon.

"You maybe don't have the partnership you thought," he said.

Clark was joined by Delaware Adjutant General Maj. Gen. Francis Vavala, who could lose his fleet of C-130 aircraft should the independent BRAC commission endorse the Pentagon recommendations. National Guard leaders in all U.S. states and territories voted last month to unite against the recommendations -- whether they were winners or losers in the BRAC round -- said Vavala, a vice president of the Adjutants General Association of the United States.

"This is the message coming from all 54 of us," Vavala said.

Retired Brig. Gen. Stephen Koper, president of the National Guard Association of the United States, said he does not oppose the BRAC process in general, but believes the Air Guard was the victim of a "drive-by shooting." Koper added his organization is "going after a flaw and that flaw is in the Air Force."

Daniel Else, a national defense specialist at Congressional Research Service, said the principal

objection raised by the Air National Guard appears to be the Air Force's BRAC process, rather than its ultimate decisions.

"The nub of it, the core of it, is they were not in on the process and that is where all the power lies," Else said.

The National Guard now has turned its attention to the BRAC commission in an attempt to persuade it to alter the Pentagon's recommendations before it submits its own list of base closures to the White House by Sept. 8.

This document is located at <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/0605/061505cdpm1.htm>

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Demands of war, domestic fronts thinning ranks of National Guard

BY DAVID WOOD and HARRY ESTEVE

NEWHOUSE NEWS SERVICE

June 13, 2005

Thrown into a fast-paced new era of fighting insurgents abroad and protecting neighbors from terrorists at home, the Army National Guard is hanging on by its fingertips.

It provides half the Army's combat power and is the country's primary terrorism response team. But its battalions struggle to scrape up enough soldiers and hand-me-down equipment for overseas deployments. Recruiting has dropped, and seasoned soldiers are quitting.

Today, the Guard is barely able to meet the Pentagon's demands for manpower overseas. Its units are exhausted. Internal Guard documents tell the story: All 10 of its Special Forces units, all 147 military police units, 97 of 101 infantry units and 73 of 75 armor units cannot go to war without outside reinforcements.

The Guard needs a staggering \$20 billion worth of equipment to sustain its operations, a bill Washington may balk at paying.

In Michigan, 2,000 Army and Air National Guard soldiers from the state's 11,000 National Guard troops are deployed in Iraq. About 60% of the National Guard troops in Michigan have been deployed to Iraq or Afghanistan in the last three years, most for 12 to 14 months, said Capt. Aaron Jenkins, spokesman for the Army National Guard. He said the Guard members in Michigan are ready for any state or local emergency that might come up.

Yet any new crisis -- an escalation overseas or major terrorist attacks -- could find the Guard unable to respond and the United States at risk.

The Guard is losing soldiers and cannot attract enough recruits to replace them. And the normally dependable flow of soldiers moving from active duty into the National Guard has slowed dramatically.

"One can conclude," said Brig. Gen. Bill Libby, commander of the Maine National Guard, "that we're going to run out of soldiers."

Although the Pentagon puts a positive face on these realities, the nation's senior military commanders are worried.

"My concern is that the National Guard will not be a ready force next time it's needed, whether here at home or abroad," Lt. Gen. Steven Blum, the National Guard's chief, acknowledged in an interview last month in his Pentagon office.

From interviews across the country with dozens of Guard soldiers and families, Pentagon officials, congressmen, governors, recruiters, military analysts and other experts, a picture of the Army National Guard emerges as one of hard work and honorable service against mounting difficulties.

But the crushing personal and family demands of overseas deployments threaten a citizen-soldier tradition enshrined in the Constitution and rooted in 350 years of American history.

Against some expectations, the Guard has fought well in Iraq and Afghanistan and has moved smartly to meet terrorist threats at home. That success is due largely to soldiers like Jay Medved, a 35-year-old Pennsylvania National Guard sergeant who volunteered for an 18-month Iraq tour.

"My squad is going. I am their squad leader. How could I not go?" said Medved, an accountant from Glassport, Pa.

But that esprit is a perishable resource. Guard officers fear an exodus of veterans this summer as the latest deployments in Iraq end.

Waning support

Rooted in 2,700 communities and neighborhoods across the country and commanded by the states' governors, the Army National Guard is one of the most direct channels for ordinary Americans to influence Washington's war-making decisions.

Some military experts view the Guard as a counterweight against a president who might launch a risky foreign war: Mobilizing the Guard has an immediate political impact..

Many Guard families, fed up with long, unanticipated combat tours, are opting out. Employers are pressed to hold jobs open for deployed Guardsmen, as the law requires. Recruiters are coming up against a new impediment: Parents who once encouraged their kids to join the Guard are growling at recruiters to stay away.

The Army National Guard's 331,019 soldiers -- the most recent count -- are full-time civilians who serve part-time in uniform. For many of them, the Guard was a comfortable dodge from the more dangerous, go-to-war active-duty military.

Guard units typically met one weekend a month and two weeks in the summer, using worn-out gear the Army no longer wanted. Their wartime mission, as reinforcements for World War III, seemed remote.

"My first drill" weekend, "at lunch they brought out the kegs. People ate, drank beer and then went home," recalled Capt. Al Smith, a staff officer with the Pennsylvania National Guard.

But the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks sent the Guard into a frenzy. Guardsmen were on New York streets within hours of the collapse of the World Trade Center towers. Three days later, President George W. Bush began mobilizing Guard units for the maximum of 24 months of federal service. They fanned out to guard airports and nuclear power plants, and then began to be sent into combat in Afghanistan and Iraq.

They have met those missions, but at a cost.

To fully equip troops in Iraq, the Pentagon has stripped local Guard units of about 24,000 pieces of

equipment. That has left Guard units at home, already seriously short of gear.

Recruitment shortfalls

The Guard's more fundamental shortage is people.

Internal National Guard documents show that last December, there was a pool of 86,455 soldiers available for duty. By the end of April, the pool had shrunk to 74,519 soldiers available for global deployments. The current need for National Guard soldiers in Iraq alone is 32,000, and tens of thousands of others are required for missions in 83 countries worldwide.

Two reasons for the squeeze: a shortfall in recruiting new trainees, and a dramatic drop in the number of active-duty soldiers who are switching into the Guard. In October and November, the Guard missed its monthly recruiting goals by big margins, gaining only two-thirds the enlistees it needed.

Over the winter, the Guard boosted its recruiting force to 5,100 by adding 1,400 new recruiters. It launched a new ad campaign, authorized bonuses of up to \$10,000 and held out other enticements like free college tuition in some states.

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Published May 31, 2005

Critics fear base closures will split U.S.

Pentagon plan to expand in South raises concerns

By Katherine Hutt Scott
State Journal correspondent

WASHINGTON - The Pentagon's recommendations for the next round of military base closings show a clear regional trend, cutting operations in the Northeast and Midwest, while further enhancing the South as a bastion of the nation's defense and military culture.

Some military experts and politicians say they're worried the process could create an unhealthy concentration of the military in the South, at the expense of the Northeast and Midwest, where the nation's bases and personnel already are underrepresented.

Representatives of the losing regions are calling for more consideration of the regional impact of military base closings.

They say the military could have more trouble recruiting in places where there is less military presence and less support to fund the military. Some officials who represent areas whose bases are in jeopardy of closing worry that concentrating the armed forces in one region might make them more attractive terrorist targets.

"Homeland security does require a (military) presence to protect all regions of the country," said John Burchett, director of the Michigan state government's office in Washington.

Others point out that concentrating more military presence in the South could further divide the country culturally and militarily.

John Pike, of defense analysis firm GlobalSecurity.org, says that while there are logical reasons for the move from the solidly Democratic Northeastern states to the mostly Republican Southern states, the trend could produce undesirable results.

"My concern is it would further polarize the country culturally into heavily militarized red states and demilitarized blue states," Pike said. "It's creating a situation where military bases are normal in states like Alabama and Texas and abnormal in states like Michigan and Wisconsin."

The Pentagon denies any regional favoritism in the latest round of base closings.

Advertisement

In Michigan

- Michigan would gain 125 military jobs under the plan. But W.K. Kellogg Airport Air Guard Station in Battle Creek would close, taking 274 jobs. Selfridge Air National Guard Base in Harrison Township would lose 216 jobs. In Lansing, the Stanley Parisian Army Reserve Center at 810 Marshall St. would close, costing the city 25 military jobs.

"It was not done by region," Pentagon spokesman Glenn Flood said. "The No. 1 criteria was military value (of a base) and that's what we based the recommendations on."

Under the Pentagon's recommendations, the Northeast, which has 14 percent of the nation's Defense Department personnel, would lose more than 14,000 jobs, according to a study by the Northeast-Midwest Institute, a nonpartisan Washington, D.C., research group.

The Midwest, which has 10 percent of the defense jobs, would lose 736 jobs. The South, which has almost half of the current defense jobs, would gain more than 10,000 jobs.

During the four previous rounds of military base closings since 1988, Michigan lost just under half its military jobs with the shuttering of Wurtsmith Air Force Base, K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base and the Warren Tank Arsenal.

On May 13, the Pentagon recommended closing 33 major bases and realigning 29 others. An independent Base Realignment and Closure commission will review the list.

Contact Katherine Hutt Scott at (202) 906-8132 or kscott@gns.gannett.com.

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NEWS

Critics: BRAC closings could hurt recruiting

By Roxana Tiron

After weighing the initial impact of the Defense Department's base realignment and closure (BRAC) recommendations over the weekend, several members of the independent BRAC Commission yesterday urged the Pentagon to release quickly the certified data and justification sheets that influenced the decisions.

That information is key in filling some major gaps in the commission's ability to assess the Defense Department's recommendations, several members indicated during a presentation of the Pentagon's BRAC recommendations and methodology.

According to Michael Wynne, the undersecretary of defense for acquisition, technology and logistics, the certified data should be released to the commission by the end of this week. Also present at the hearing were Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld; Gen. Richard Myers, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff; and Phillip Grone, the deputy undersecretary of defense for installations and environment.

Several members of the commission have been vocal about the potentially adverse effect the Pentagon's BRAC decision will have on National Guard and Reserve recruitment and retention. The Defense Department decided to close hundreds of National Guard and Reserve facilities to consolidate facilities into 125 "armed forces reserve centers," slated for both Guard and Reserve members.

"When I look at the Guard and Reserve units ... you are going to have a serious enlistment problem," said James Bilbray, one of the commissioners. The consolidation would make it even harder for the National Guard and Reserve to retain their forces if members have to travel more than 50 miles to report to their bases. The Guard and Reserve already are under high operational stress.

For example, the Hulman Regional Airport Air Guard Station in Indiana, slated for realignment, will lose all of its air assets, said retired Air National Guard Brig. Gen. Steven Koper, who is with the National Guard Association in Washington.

Some of the airplanes will go to Fort Wayne, Ind., some 210 miles away, he said. One justification for the move was the proximity to Fort Wayne, but a 210-mile commute will weigh heavily in members of the Guard's decisions to reenlist, Koper said. Leaving the Hulman base only with support units but no aircraft to support is also going to play a role into members' considerations, he said.

The Defense Department "skewed the findings against the Air National Guard," Koper added.

The consolidation of the Guard and Reserve units was meant to bring the units to

the right size, Myers explained. Right now, in the Air National Guard, for example, there are only "small pockets," with small force numbers, which makes it "unwieldy" when trying to access these disparate units for missions, he said during the commission's hearing yesterday. The Defense Department is trying to bring those units to the right size so as not to have to go to five or six units to find enough aircraft to satisfy a mission.

Commissioner Phillip Coyle, meanwhile, expressed concern that the Pentagon's BRAC recommendations only account for 15,000 service members out of the approximately 70,000 that are supposed to return to the United States from overseas bases. The commission has to deal with "55,000 unaccounted for" and an additional troop increase in the Army, Coyle said.

It is important to get that data and justification sheets, said commissioner Harold Gehman, a retired Navy admiral. The commission was asking its questions without a "deck of cards," he said at the hearing. "We are scratching our heads over some issues," he added.

The chairman of the commission, Anthony Principi, questioned whether the Defense Department synchronized its decisions with the ongoing quadrennial defense review, the overseas basing commission's report and several studies, including an air mobility study.

"Is BRAC the cart before the horse?" he asked. Rumsfeld, however, assured Principi that the decisions were informed by previous BRAC rounds, previous quadrennial review and information from the ongoing quadrennial review. If the stops to take all studies into consideration, "nothing will ever happen," Rumsfeld said.

Sunday, May 15, 2005

Selfridge changes may open up land

Loss of unit may spur development on 520 acres of prime real estate.

By Gene Schabath / The Detroit News

HARRISON TOWNSHIP - U.S. Rep Candice Miller laments the pending demise of the 300-member Army garrison unit at Selfridge Air National Guard Base in her home community, but she says the loss could be more than offset by a lucrative private residential development along Lake St. Clair on property now owned by the military.

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld announced Friday that the Army facility at Selfridge would be phased out as part of \$48 billion in military cuts over the next two decades across the nation. Selfridge itself was spared major cuts, and in fact picked up several aviation units. It will lose its fighter squadron and refueling wing but will gain more tankers and A-10 Warthogs.

If the Selfridge garrison unit goes, the Army would have 520 acres of prime real estate on its hands on the base and another 102 acres a mile north along Jefferson in Chesterfield Township that could be sold for several millions or more, Miller said.

"I would have to say that's the most valuable piece of property in the state," Miller said. "People have been gnashing their teeth over the closing of the garrison, but look at what they have there -- 520 acres along 2.2 miles of Lake St. Clair shoreline -- and another 102 acres in Chesterfield.

"I would think developing that property and putting it on the tax rolls is a very good thing."

Miller said the Michigan National Guard would have the first chance to buy it.

"The first option would be to the National Guard if they need it for security," Miller said. "But if that's not the case it could be sold. I would think if it were developed you could make the case that it would make the base more secure because there are some open spots on the base along the lake."

Maj. Gen. Thomas Cutler, Adjutant General for the Michigan Air National Guard, said it's premature to muse over the possibility of the guard taking the garrison property.

"That would be part of the analysis that would be done in the next few months," when the Base Realignment and Closure Commission visits the base, Cutler said.

The commission will visit military installations during the next few months to see if commission members agree with the recommendations by the Defense Department for closing facilities.

"There's no question" the property is valuable, Cutler said. "But we have to make sure that it is in the best interest of the base and the community," if the property is sold to developers.

As for developing the property into an upscale lakeside community, Cutler said: "It would be important to see what they specifically had in mind."

Selling the Army property to private developers is not a new idea. Harrison Township Supervisor Anthony Forlini had said that if Selfridge were to close and developers bought the property, it would be a big financial boost for the community.

Forlini said Friday he was unaware the garrison property could be available for a private development.

"That's interesting," Forlini said. "I'll have to take a tough look at that Monday."

927th Air Refueling Wing to leave Selfridge

Nearly 1,000 personnel will be affected by realignment.

PUBLISHED: May 14, 2005

By Tom Watts
Macomb Daily Staff Writer

The 927th Air Refueling Wing at Selfridge Air National Guard Base -- made up of nearly 1,000 full-time, civilian and air reserve personnel -- will realign with the 6th Air Mobility Wing at MacDill Air Force Base in Florida by 2007.

Selfridge commander Col. Kenneth Suggs said the decision by the Department of Defense to realign the 927th Air Refueling Wing came as a "surprise."

"First, we support Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC), but we were taken by surprise," Col. Suggs said Friday at Selfridge. "We had no pre-warning. The initial word that Selfridge Air National Guard Base went unscathed was not true. Nearly 1,000 air reserve employees are directly affected."

Suggs said the new association from Selfridge ANGB to MacDill AFB will "capture reserve experience in the Tampa region and enhance MacDill's unit capability with Selfridge's experienced tanker manpower,"

The 927th is the U.S. Air Force Reserve Command contingent at Selfridge Air National Guard Base. The 927th reports to 4th Air Force, located at March Air Reserve Base, Calif. Nearly 1,000 personnel are assigned to the 927th with 128 officers and 838 enlisted reservists, including 237 Air Reserve Technicians and 60 civilian employees. "We are in shock at this point. The entire unit is moving to MacDill," Col. Suggs said. "We will take everything but the airplanes. By 2009 there will not be an Air Force on this base."

Suggs said any personnel in the 927th Wing who choose to move to MacDill Air Force Base will be allowed to do so. Other wing personnel will have to prepare for changes, he said.

"The disruption of families will be hard," Suggs said. "The move really won't start until 2007 to help folks get through the initial turmoil. There is a chance they could find positions with the Air National Guard."

The mission of the 927th is to organize, equip and train to provide air refueling support to fighter, bomber and airlift aircraft under widely varying situations ranging from small movements in battle to large movements over long distances. The mission also encompasses the movement of cargo and support of aeromedical and special support operations.

The eight KC-135R aircraft assigned to the 927 Air Refueling Wing are flown by the 63rd Air Refueling Squadron -- one of the Wing's 17 subordinate units. The KC-135s provide support to all major commands of the Air Force, as well as the Navy, Marine Corps, and allied nations.

"It is aerial refueling which makes our nation's vision of global reach and global power a reality," according to a statement released Friday by the 927th Air Refueling Wing.

Among the 927th Air Refueling Wing's 17 subordinate units at Selfridge ANGB are: Aeromedical Staging Squadron; Aerospace Medicine Flight; 63rd Air Refueling Squadron; Operations Support Flight; Maintenance Operations Flight; Aircraft Maintenance Squadron; Maintenance Squadron; Civil Engineering

Squadron; Communications Flight; Logistics Readiness Squadron; Security Forces Squadron; Aerial Port Flight; Mission Support; and Services Flight.

Suggs noted the realignment of the 927th Wing and the BRAC committee's recommendation to close the 300-member U.S. Army Garrison on the base also opens the door for the realignment of other units moving to Selfridge.

For example, Selfridge will receive 15 A-10 aircraft from W.K. Kellogg Airport in Battle Creek, and three A-10 aircraft from Willow Grove Airport in Hatboro, Pa. Selfridge will also receive four KC-135R aircraft from Beale Air Force Base, Calif., and transfer eight KC-135 Air Force Reserve Command aircraft at Selfridge to the Air National Guard Wing at Selfridge. Suggs said the plan is to also retire 15 F-16 aircraft and eight C-130Es.

"The Air Force will combine two Michigan fighter units into one squadron at Selfridge to retain trained and skilled Michigan Air National Guard Airmen at both locations," he said. "The plan is consistent with the Air Force desires to consolidate the A-10 fleet."

Suggs said Selfridge will "still have a vital mission" with the A-10 aircraft, which is under the 110th Fighter Wing.

The fighter wing provides air support, anti-terrorism and hijacking response training.

"It's an overall plus-up for the local area," Suggs said. "They'll be sad to see us leave. Like any changes there will be a little turnover and turmoil. (But) we still have Air Force commitments. I don't see any cutbacks. I think we're all going to do well."

**ROA Says BRAC Recommendation Raises Serious Concerns on Reserve Component,
National Security**
posted 5/13/2005

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Washington (May 13, 2005)—Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld's announcement this morning on Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) raises serious concerns on its impact on the Reserve Component in the U.S. Armed Forces.

While the announcement shows 33 major bases recommended for closure and 29 others for realignment, it does not provide details on more than 400 National Guard and Reserve installations and facilities included on the list. For example, the information that DoD provided gave no indication on the number of Guardsmen and Reservists that the recommendations would affect if they are approved by the president and Congress later this year. The number of installations and facilities affected, however, indicates thousands of Guardsmen and Reservists will be displaced.

The Reserve Officers Association supports efficiencies and savings that Congress envisioned when the first BRAC legislation was passed for the 1988 commission. However, the association has serious concerns about the nation maintaining the appropriate number of Reserve Forces that are trained and ready to defend the nation in time of war.

One of the most serious concerns is the impact on retention and future recruiting. By closing so many facilities, Reservists and Guardsmen may be required to travel hundreds of miles to drill every month. Many of these servicemen and women will not be able to afford the additional time and travel expense incurred and may choose to leave the military. The result could be a loss of skills and experience the military desperately needs.

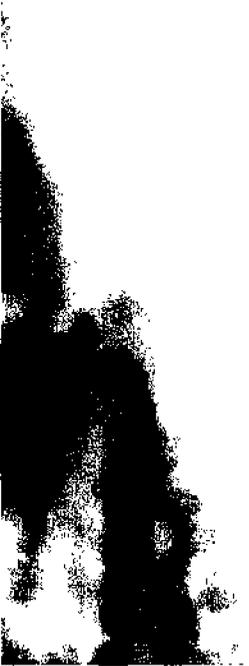
Another concern is that the BRAC recommendations would lead to a severe impact on Reserve Forces if input from the recently formed Commission on the National Guard and Reserve is not considered. ROA strongly urges that input from this commission be reviewed before making far ranging decisions, especially when thousands of Guardsmen and reservists, local economies, and national defense are affected.

ROA will continue to monitor the BRAC recommendations and acquire more details, especially in how they affect the Reserve Component.

-ROA-

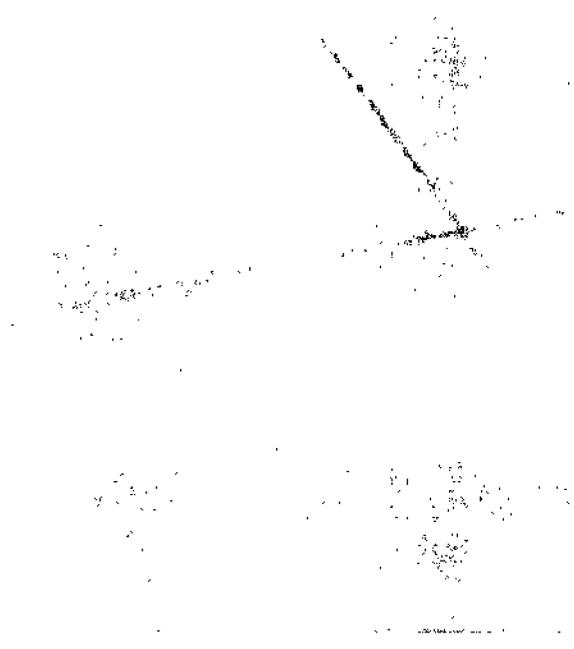


**Navigating The
“BRAC”ish Waters of
BRAC**



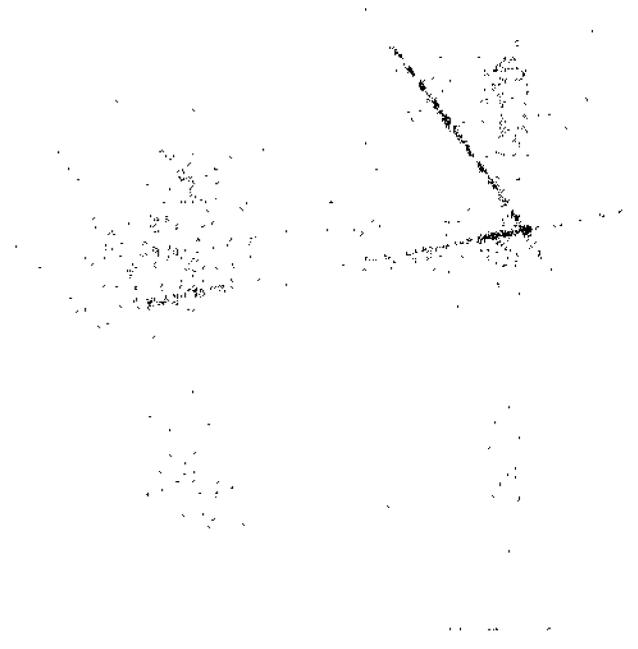


Overview

- Understanding the BRAC Plan
 - The BRAC Process
 - BRAC Implementation
 - The DATA – Terms Defined
 - Comparative Analysis
 - Concerns
 - Conclusions
- 



The BRAC Plan

- **BRAC Report Anatomy**
 - **Purpose and Goals**
 - **Basic Process**
 - **Criteria**
 - **Implementation**
- 

Plan Anatomy

- Volume I:
 - Describes overall BRAC selection process
 - Unclassified version of Force Structure Plan
 - Details DoD's closure and realignment recommendations and justifications
- Volume II:
 - Classified Force Structure Plan
- Volumes III – XII:
 - Detailed description of analytical processes and recommendations of each DoD proponent Organization
 - Includes 3 Military Depts (USAF – Vol V) and 7 Joint Cross Service Organizations (JCSGs)

Purpose and Goals

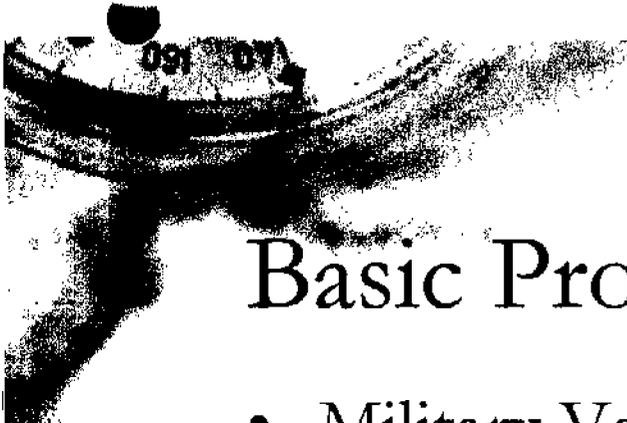
- Secretary of Defense – Align Base structure with expected force structure over the next 20 years (By Law – PL101-510 – required to base recommendations on a 20 year Force Structure Plan)
- Goals
 - Transformation
 - Eliminate excess physical capacity
 - Rationalizing the base infrastructure with new Defense Strategy
 - Maximize both war fighting capability and efficiency
 - Examine opportunities for Joint Activities

Basic Process

- I. Capacity Analysis
- II. Military Value Analysis
- III. Scenario Development
- IV. Scenario Analysis
- V. Results Analysis
 - Determining Payback
 - Determining Economic Impact
 - Assessing Community Infrastructure
 - Environmental Impact

Basic Process

- Capacity Analysis
 - Determine Physical and Operational capacity of an installation
 - Determine if “Surge” capabilities meet contingency needs (Note: neither “surge” nor “contingency needs” are defined)



Basic Process

- Military Value
 - Primary Area utilized for determining reapportionment
 - Criteria 1 – 4
 - Current and Future Missions
 - Condition of Infrastructure
 - Contingency, Mobilization, Future Forces
 - Cost of Ops / Manpower
 - Quantitative and Qualitative Components



Basic Process

- Scenario Development
 - Following completion of Capacity and Military Value analysis
 - Iterative process to identify potential closure/realignment scenarios
 - JCSG developed scenarios (created outside the numerical process, subjective?)
- Scenario Analysis
 - Evaluated against selection criteria 5 – 8 with a review of Military Value (Criteria 1 – 4)
 - Decision Makers applied military judgment and experience to Military value of a proposal

Basic Process

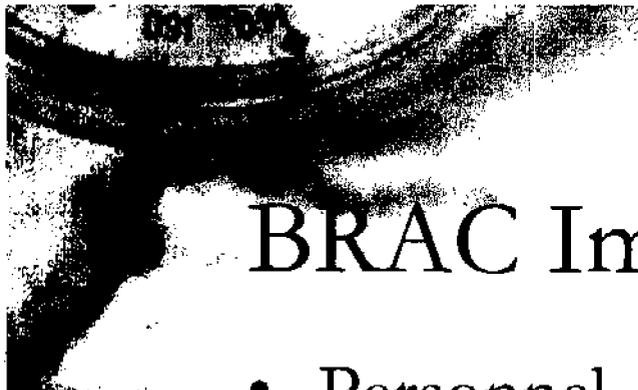
- Results Analysis
 - Determine Payback (Criterion 5)
 - COBRA applied
 - Determine Economic Impact (Criterion 6)
 - Economic Impact Tool (EIT): measures total potential job change (direct and indirect) in the economic region or Region of Influence
 - Assessing Community Infrastructure (Criterion 7)
 - Ability to support incoming personnel
 - Evaluation of 10 Attributes

Basic Process

- Results Analysis (con't)
 - Environmental Impact (Criterion 8)
 - Cost relative to potential environmental restoration, waste management and environmental compliance activities
 - Environmental Resource Impact
 - 10 Areas
 - Note: Costs associated with Environmental Restoration are not included in payback calculations
- Overall Criteria for Comparisons
 - Military Value
 - Cost Savings
 - Economic Impact
 - Local Communities
 - Community Support Infrastructure
 - Environmental Impact

BRAC Implementation

- Guiding Principles for Facilities and Land
 - Act Expeditiously
 - Fully utilize all appropriate means to transfer property
 - Rely on leverage market forces
 - Collaborate effectively (with local community)
 - Speak with One Voice (local community speaks singly on desires)



BRAC Implementation

- Personnel Assistance
 - Priority Placement Program (PPP)
 - Voluntary Early Retirement Authority (VERA)
 - Voluntary Separation Incentive Program (VSI)
 - Homeowners Assistance Program
 - US Dept of Labor Funding
 - JFTR Authorizations – Dislocation Allowance

The DATA – Terms Defined

- Military Value
 - Criteria 1 – 4 (WIDGET): Generate Bulk of Military Value Score
 - Current and Future Missions (46%)
 - Infrastructure Availability and Condition (41.5%)
 - Contingency, Mobilization, Surge and Future Force Requirements (10%)
 - Cost of Operations and Manpower (2.5%)

- Missions 1 – 8
 - CSAR/SOF
 - Fighter
 - Bomber
 - Airlift
 - Tanker
 - C2ISR
 - UAV
 - Space

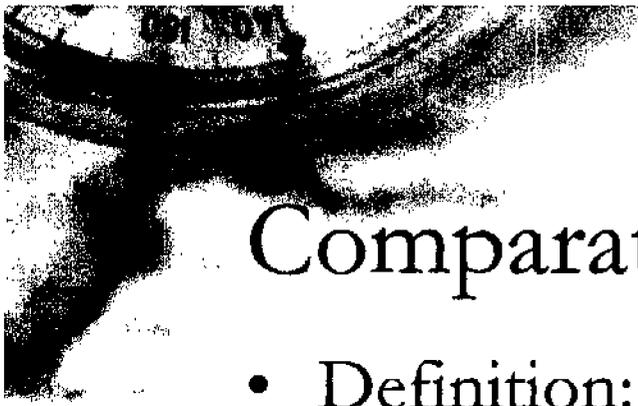
The DATA – Terms Defined

- Mission Capabilities Indices (MCI):
 - Transmogrified Data for each Criteria 1 – 4
 - Overall MCI rating for all bases
 - “Objective” installation comparison for military value
 - “BIG” is good
- Data Collection through WIDGET
 - Weighted averages throughout
- Final Score for Military Value
 - “Small” is good
 - ??? To get from MCI score to MV score
 - No table of comparison values between installations



Comparative Analysis

- BRAC stated Purpose
 - Transformation
 - Military Value
 - Cost Savings



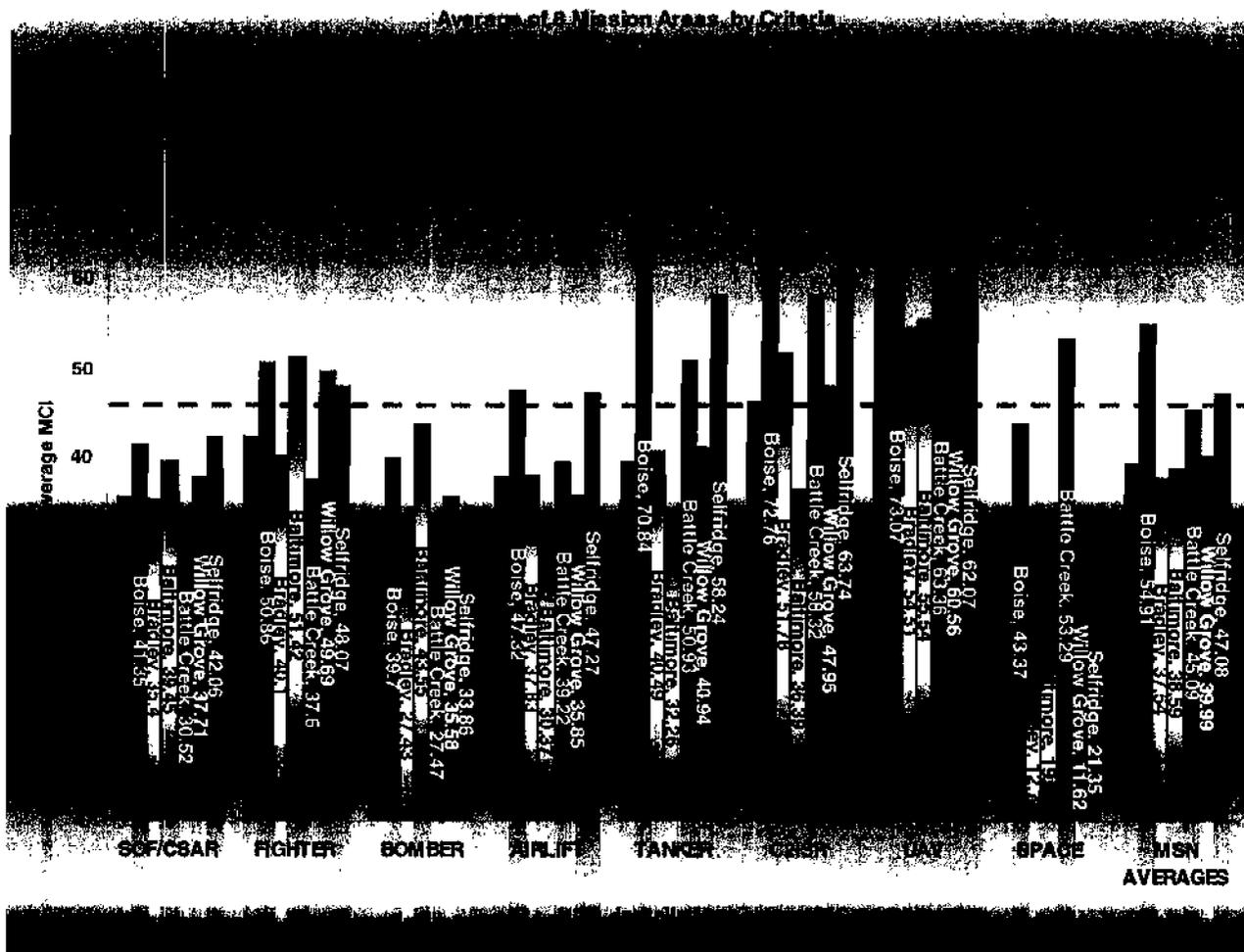
Comparative Analysis: Transformation

- Definition: a process by which the Air Force achieves and maintains advantage through changes in Operational Concepts, Organizations and/or Technologies that significantly improve its war fighting capabilities or ability to meet the demands of a changing security environment
- Take-Away
 - Ability to accept new missions is important
 - Rating “HI” in more missions should be better than just one.

Comparative Analysis: Transformation

- Battle Creek scored better than the 4 of 5 other ANG A-10 bases on 5 of 8 missions
- Battle Creek's overall MCI was better than 4 out of the 5 other ANG A-10 units
- Bottom Line: Looking at Future Capability, BC better suited for more missions than 4 of the other 5 ANG A-10 bases.

Comparative Analysis: Transformation



Comparative Analysis: Transformation

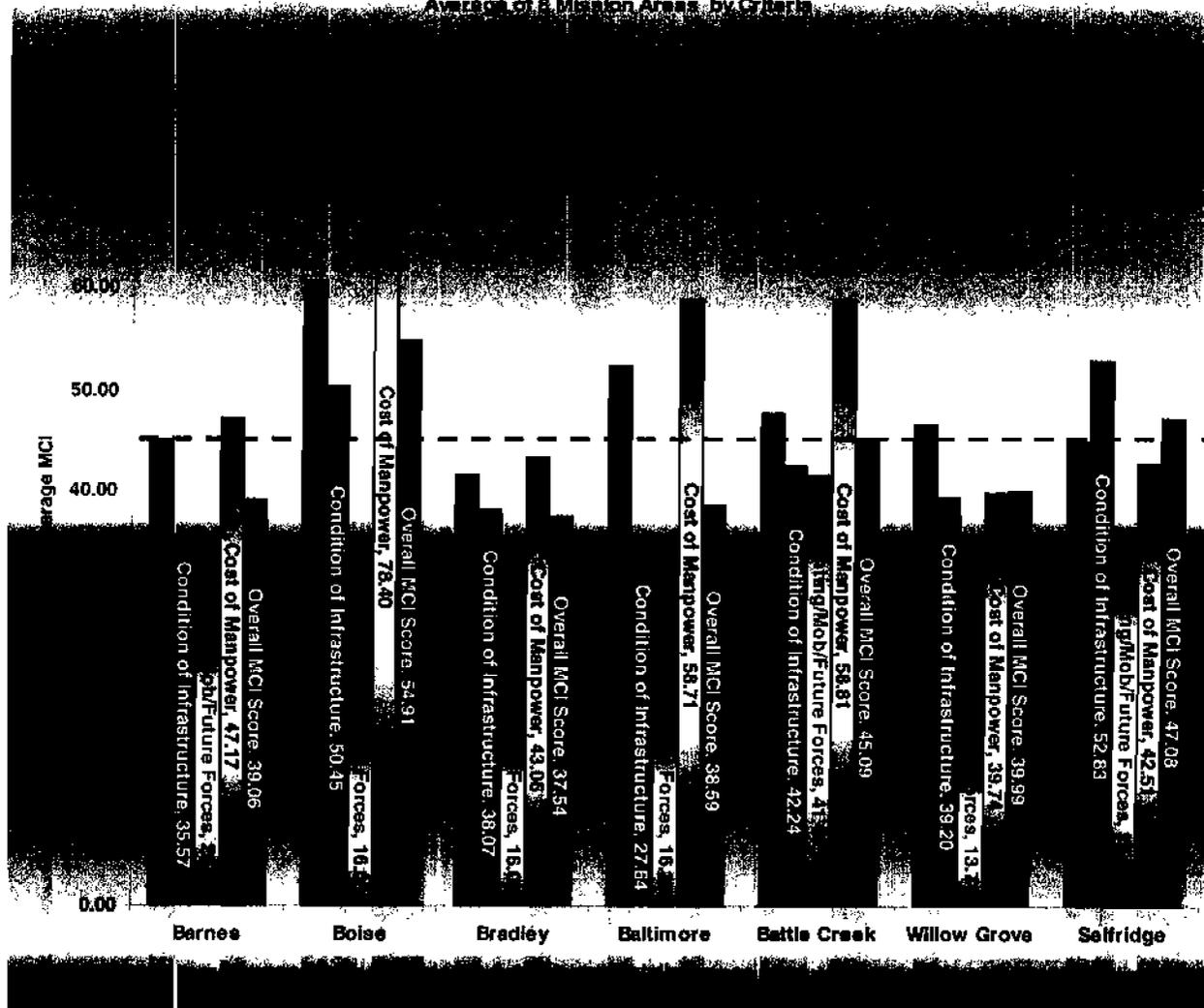
- Raw Data

Overall MCI by Mission Area

<u>BASE</u>	<u>SOF/CSAR</u>	<u>FIGHTER</u>	<u>BOMBER</u>	<u>AIRLIFT</u>	<u>TANKER</u>	<u>C2ISR</u>	<u>UAV</u>	<u>SPACE</u>	<u>MSN AVERAGES</u>
Barnes	35.5	42.02	29.69	37.75	39.35	46.06	61.49	23.61	39.43
Boise	41.35	50.86	39.7	47.32	70.84	72.76	73.07	43.37	54.91
Bradley	35.4	40.1	27.43	37.83	40.49	51.78	54.51	12.77	37.54
Baltimore	39.45	51.42	43.55	30.37	32.26	36.39	55.54	19.75	38.59
Battle Creek	30.52	37.6	27.47	39.22	50.93	62.74	63.36	53.29	45.64
Willow Grove	37.71	49.69	35.58	35.85	40.94	47.95	60.56	11.62	39.99
Selfridge	42.06	48.07	33.86	47.27	58.24	63.74	62.07	21.35	47.08

Comparative Analysis: Transformation

Average of 8 Mission Areas, by Criteria

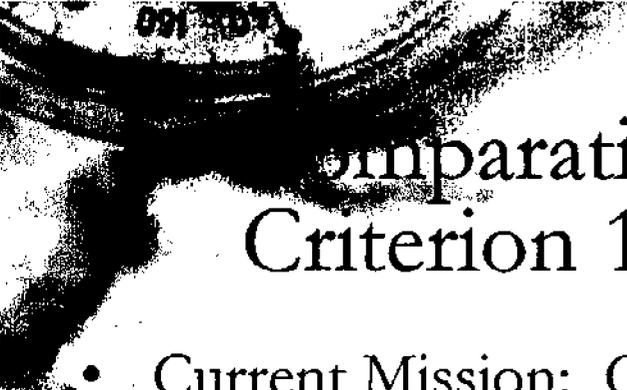


Comparative Analysis: Transformation

- Raw Data

Criteria 1 - 4 Averages Across 8 Mission Areas

<u>BASE</u>	Current and Future Msns	Condition of Infrastructure	Conting/Mob/Future Forces	Cost of Manpower	Overall MCI Score
Barnes	44.93	35.57	28.18	47.17	39.43
Boise	60.70	50.45	16.08	78.40	54.91
Bradley	41.41	38.07	16.08	43.06	37.54
Baltimore	52.30	27.64	16.30	58.71	38.59
Battle Creek	47.73	42.24	41.40	58.81	45.64
Willow Grove	46.43	39.20	13.71	39.74	39.99
Selfridge	44.78	52.83	35.00	42.51	47.08

A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft in flight, showing the wings and tail section. The aircraft is dark in color, possibly black or dark grey, and is flying against a light background. The tail section is visible on the left side of the image, with the number '091' and '307' visible on the tail fin.

Comparative Analysis: Military Value

Criterion 1 – Current and Future Missions

- Current Mission: Combat Proven Superior Performing A-10 Fighter Wing
 - Only ANG A-10 unit to Receive an “OUTSTANDING” rating on an Air Combat Command (ACC) Operational Readiness Inspection (ORI) in the last 9 years.
 - 1 of 3 ANG Fighter Units to Support 3 Combat Operations in the Last 8 Years
 - Only ANG unit to Deploy to Operation Southern Watch – return home – within 3 weeks return to Southwest Asia for Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) – Deployed twice the personnel and equipment
 - 466 Combat Sorties and over 1164 Combat hrs flown in support of OIF by 110th A-10s
 - Unit Selected to Deploy into Iraq (Tallil Airfield) within 1 week of initiation hostilities in OIF
 - 110 FW has supported 39 Deployments with over 3,000 personnel and nearly 1000 short tons of cargo in the last 10 yrs

Comparative Analysis: Military Value

Criterion 1 – Current and Future Missions

- Current Readiness = Future Mission Capability
- COMBAT Experienced Force
 - From OIF: 14 Distinguished Flying Crosses and 10 Bronze Stars
 - Avg A-10 Time per Pilot (Full Time) = 2340hrs
 - Avg Combat Time per Pilot (Full Time) = 191hrs
 - Avg Pilot has served a minimum of 2 Combat Tours
- Highly Qualified Pilot Force
 - Special Qualifications: Flight Leads – 93%; Instructors 55%; Forward Air Controllers – 86%; Night Vision Goggle – 100%; Joint Air Attack Team – 69%; Targeting POD – 80%; Combat Search and Rescue – 79% Combat Experience – 80%

Comparative Analysis: Military Value

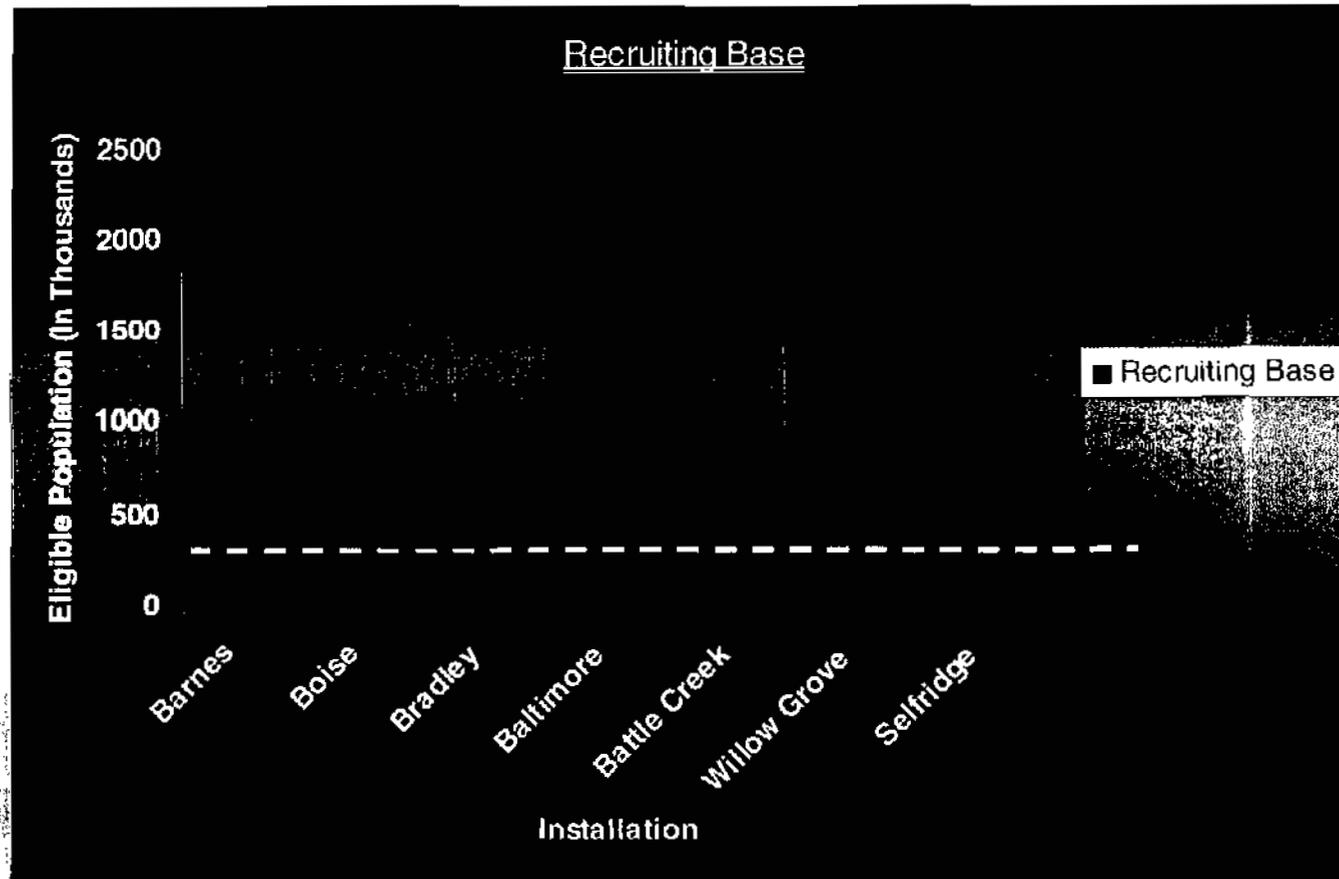
Criterion 1 – Current and Future Missions

- Only ANG A-10 Unit with 0 Class A or B Mishaps since 1995
- Current Readiness = Future Mission Capability
 - Maintenance Personnel 1,039 yrs combined A-10 experience - 11yrs Avg for each Maintainer
 - Top Average “Fully Mission Capable” (FMC) Rate for A-10 aircraft out of all ANG A-10 Units for last 10 yrs
 - 110th A-10 Fleet has flown more hours than any other ANG A-10 unit over the last 8 yrs
 - Full Partner in Total Force: 110 FW has fulfilled ALL Air Expeditionary Force (AEF) and Expeditionary Combat Support (ECS) Taskings levied – 0 Shortfalls
 - ECS Support of Operations Allied Force, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom

Comparative Analysis: Military Value

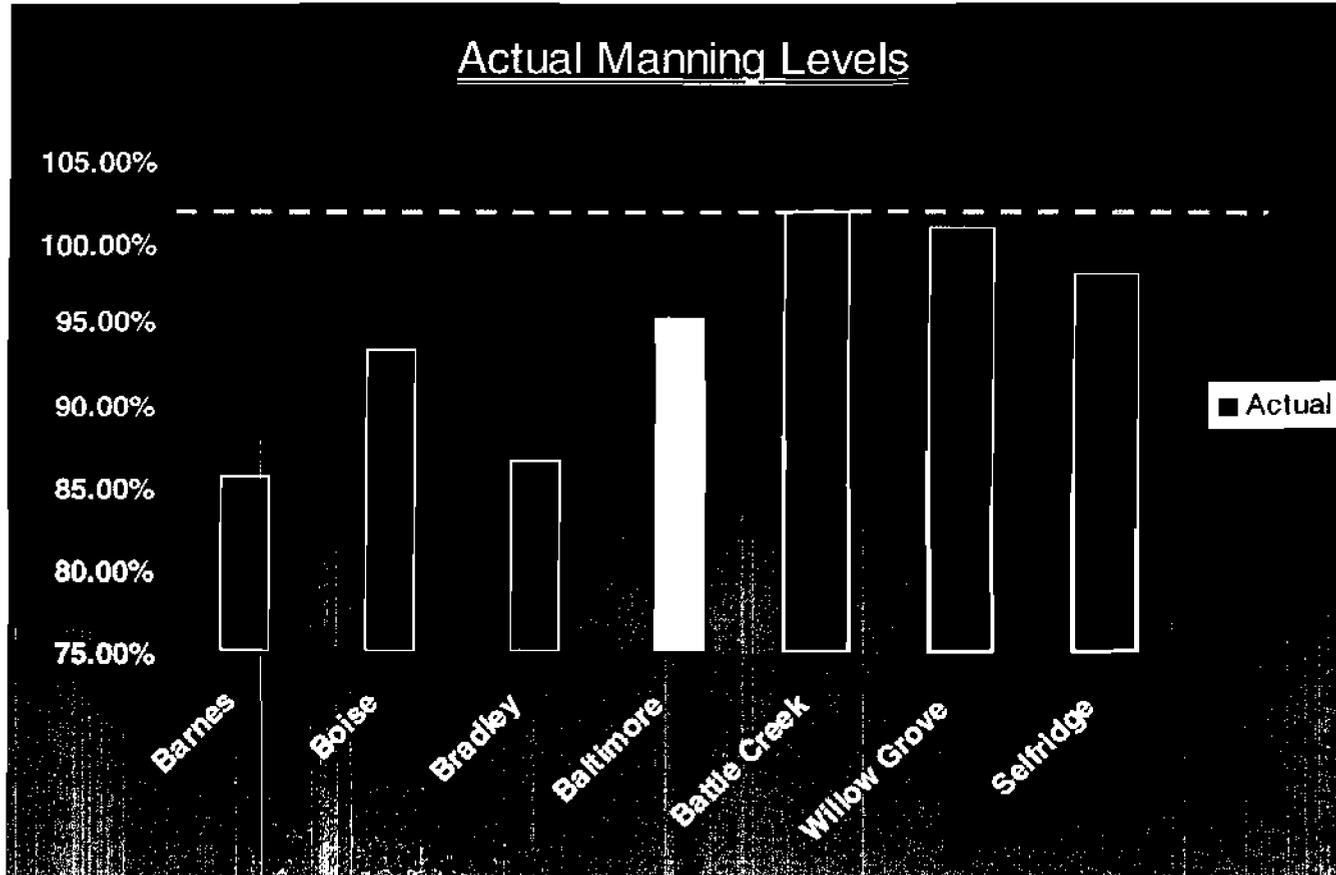
Criterion 1 – Current and Future Missions

- Unfailing Support for Combat Ops from Smallest Recruiting Base



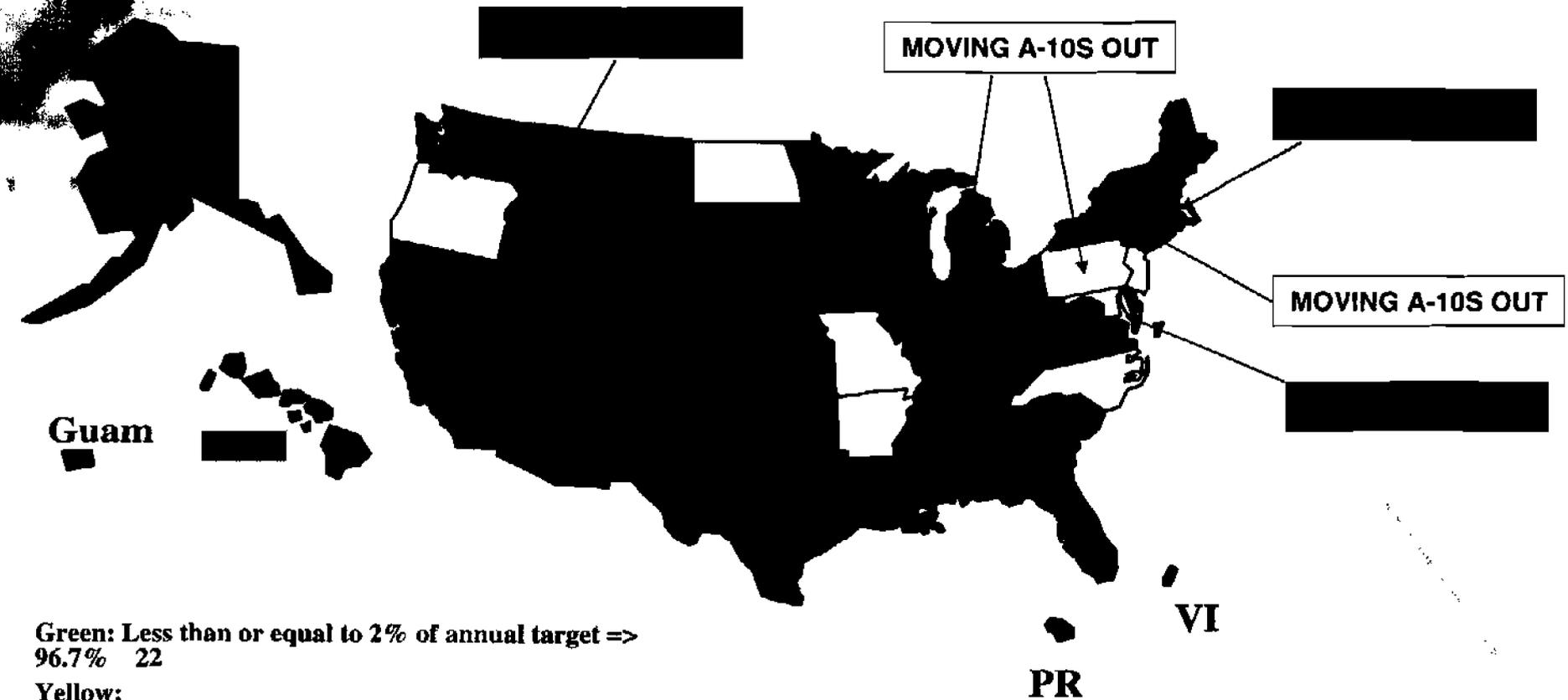
Comparative Analysis: Military Value Criterion 1 – Current and Future Missions

- Highest Manning Levels of ALL ANG A-10 Units since 2001



ANG End Strength

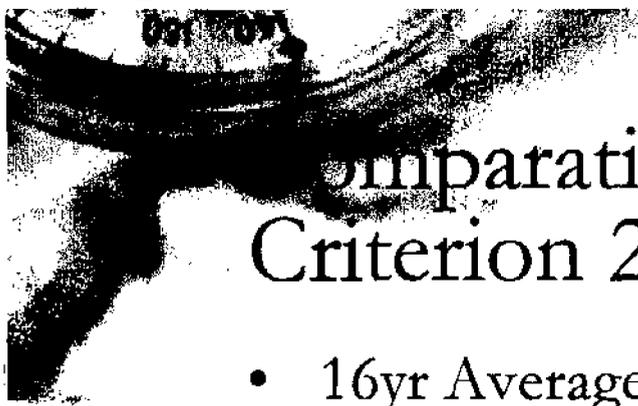
As of 31 March 2005



Green: Less than or equal to 2% of annual target =>
96.7% 22

Yellow:
94.7-96.6% 8

Red: Greater than or equal to 2% of annual target
<=94.6% 24

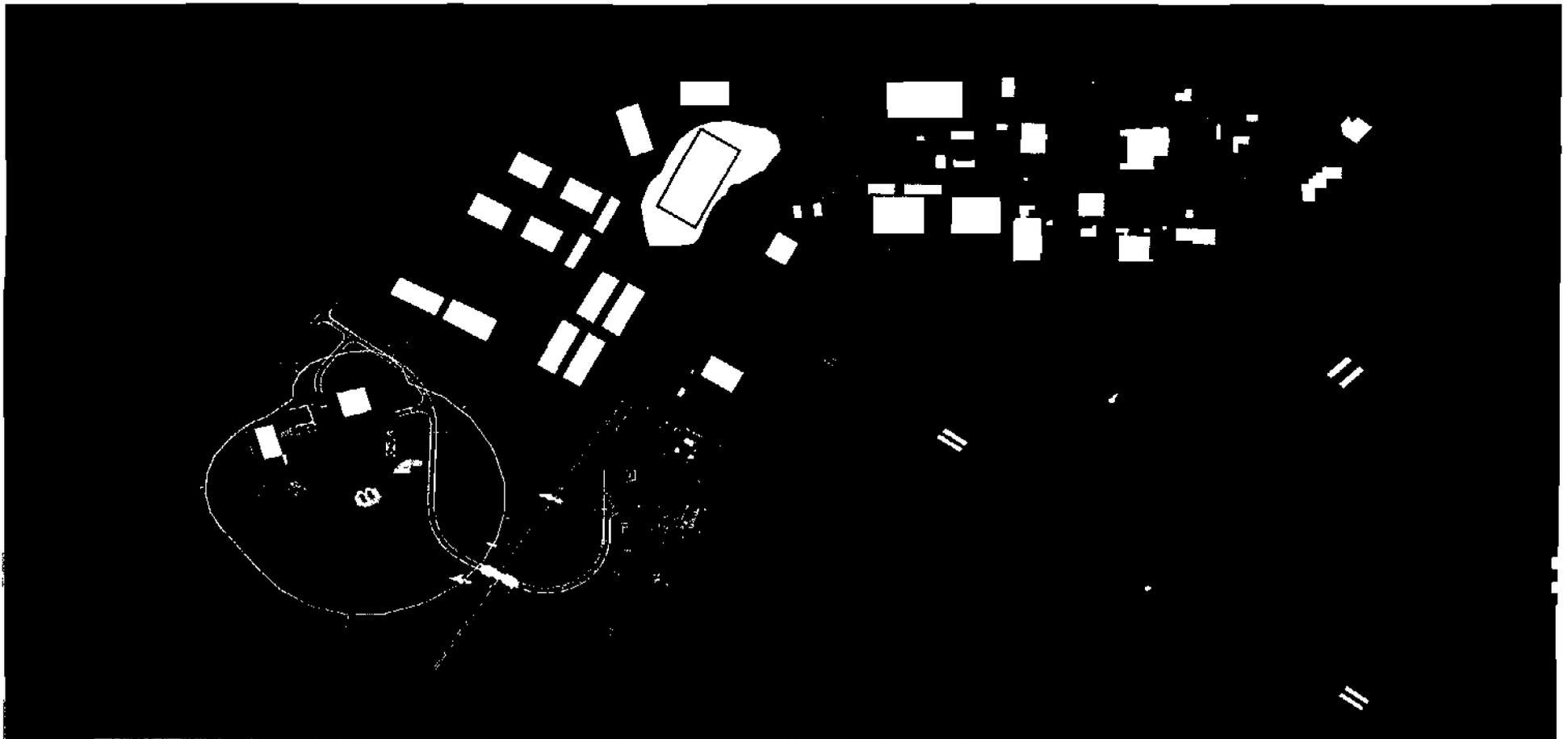


Comparative Analysis: Military Value Criterion 2 – Condition of Infrastructure

- 16yr Average Age of Facilities
 - 80% Built after 1991 – focused on A-10 mission
- No Encroachment Challenges
- 10,000' Runway – Alternate Shuttle Landing Site, Utilized by Air Force One
- Largest Most Modern Munitions Storage Facility in Southwest MI
- Room for Growth
 - Over 41,000 sq ft available in authorized square footage for new facilities
 - Over 45 acres available for building

Comparative Analysis: Military Value

Criterion 2 – Condition of Infrastructure



Comparative Analysis: Military Value

Criterion 2 – Condition of Infrastructure

- Prime Training Location
 - Access to 3 Air-to-Surface Ranges – 2 Allow LIVE weapons within 200nm
 - Access to 6 Military Operating Areas (MOA) within 200nm
 - 2 Army Maneuver Areas within 200nm

Comparative Analysis: Military Value
Criterion 3 – Contingency, Mobilization & Future Forces

- Supporting 39 AF Deployments with over 3,000 personnel, nearly 1000 short tons of cargo in the last 10 yrs
- Since 2002, 110 FW provided deployment support for multiple Non-AF Units – 10 deployments, 1076 PAX & 245 short tons cargo
- Primary Deployment center for 51st Civil Support Team – Regional Disaster Response Team

Comparative Analysis: Military Value

Criterion 3 – Contingency, Mobilization & Future Forces

- Raw Deployment Data

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	Totals
Personnel	211	160	44	0	225	446	143	750	1035	469	3483
Cargo	77.4	18.6	0	0	166	84.7	42.6	205.2	242.4	81.5	918.4
Deployments	2	3	2	0	3	4	1	12	8	4	39

Non-AF	2002	2003	2004	2005	Total
PAX	360	372	245	99	1076
Cargo	16.1	102.6	24.5	102.1	245.3
# Deps	2	3	2	3	10

Comparative Analysis: Military Value

Criterion 4 – Cost of Operations & Manpower

- BRAC Report States
 - \$8.3 Million one time cost to Close W.K. Kellogg
 - Save \$13 million annually during implementation period
 - \$167 million in savings over 20 years”
- The REAL Numbers – Over \$76.5 million in COSTS not savings
 - What’s Included
 - Assumptions
 - Hidden Costs

Comparative Analysis: Military Value

Criterion 4 – Cost of Operations & Manpower

- ACTUAL Cost to Operate W.K. Kellogg
 - \$650,000 Annually in facility operating and maintenance
 - \$0 property lease
 - \$0 personnel cost – TRANSFERRED
 - \$0 equipment cost – TRANSFERRED
 - \$57,000 Airfield support costs (snow removal, etc.)
- Savings over 20 years = \$13 million
- Bottom Line = W.K. Kellogg is cheap to operate and maintain

Comparative Analysis: Military Value

Criterion 4 – Cost of Operations & Manpower

- The REAL cost of the closure and move
 - FACILITIES – construction of new buildings, modification of existing facilities at new location as they do not accommodate the A-10 Operations= \$Unknown
 - Selfridge Facilities Average Age >35yrs
 - Most Selfridge Maintenance Facilities built in 1932
 - Note: Many facilities included in BRAC analysis will be “moth balled” or demolished – inaccurate collection
 - New Simulator Building / Fire Station Upgrade
 - PERSONNEL
 - PCS Moves
 - 206 GS Employees = \$7,821,138
 - 66 AGR Employees = \$846,994
 - TRAINING
 - Increase in Annual Training (AT) and Drill Costs
 - \$1,023,276/yr (\$20,465,520/20yr)
 - Retraining Costs

Comparative Analysis: Military Value

Criterion 4 – Cost of Operations & Manpower

- TRAINING

- PILOT TX/B COURSES

- B Course \$1.5 Million per pilot
- TX Course \$990,000 per pilot
- 50% Unit Retraining: Cost for 14 TX and 4 B Courses = \$19,860,000
- 100% Unit Retraining: 32 TX and 4 B Courses = \$37,680,000

- 5 Years A-10 Flying (IOC)

- 18 Pilots = \$36,548,442
- 36 Pilots = \$73,096,884

- Additional Sorties over 5 Years to regain Qualifications (Based on Current Qual Levels)

- Flying Cost to regain Quals (18 pilots) = \$3,926,821
- Flying Cost to regain Quals (36 pilots) = \$6,326,112

- TOTAL Pilot Retraining (Over 5 Years)

- \$60,335,233 to \$117,102,996

Comparative Analysis: Military Value

Criterion 4 – Cost of Operations & Manpower

- Bottom Line Cost Analysis

- Savings Over 20 years = \$13 million

- Costs over 20 Years

- Personnel Movement = \$8.7 million

- Retraining Costs = \$60.3 million - \$117.1 million

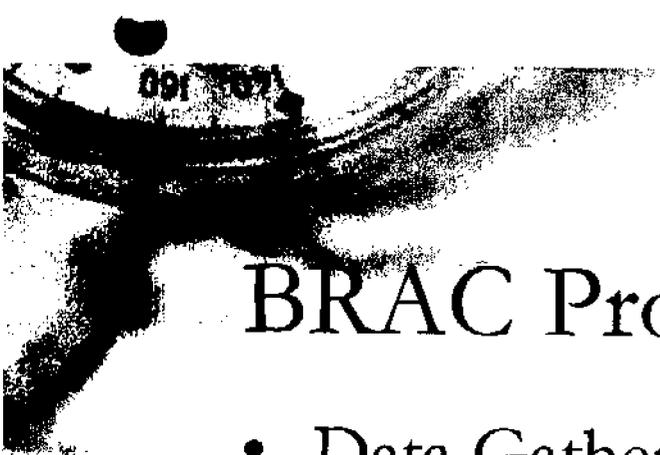
- Increased AT/Drill Cost = \$20.5 million

- NET:

- Savings \$13,000,000

- Costs \$89,468,915 - \$133,300,000

Bottom Line \$76.5 - \$120 MILLION in Costs



BRAC Process – Concerns

- Data Gathering
- Data Analysis

BRAC Process – Concerns

- Data Gathering – Consistency
 - Installations being credited with facilities not owned or slated for removal (Army Garrison)
- Data Gathering – Criteria (re: Fighter / SOF-CSAR Missions)
 - Favoring Large Active Duty Locations
 - Formulas 1232, 1241, 1214 and 1233
 - Logical Concerns
 - Formulas 1245, 1246, 1266, 1270, 1271, 1241

091 701

MCI Process – Concerns

Flight Formula Discrepancy Analysis

	Description	% Of Overall MCI Score	Selfridge	Battle Creek	Adjusted Selfridge Score	Adjusted Battle Creek Score	Cumulative Selfridge	Cumulative Battle Creek
			Starting Ftr Score		48.07	37.6		
1245	Proximity to Airspace Supporting Mission	22.08%	3.42	3.13	44.65	34.47	44.65	34.47
1246	Proximity to Low Level Routes	7.25%	0.87	0.85	47.2	36.75	43.78	33.62
1271	Prevailing Weather Conditions	5.52%	3.64	0	44.43	37.6	40.14	33.62
1205.2	Buildable Acres for Growth	1.96%	0.76	0.31	47.31	37.29	39.38	33.31
	Total % Effected	36.81%						

SOF/CSAR MCI Formula Discrepancy Analysis

Formula	Description	% Of Overall MCI Score	Selfridge Score	Battle Creek Score	Adjusted Selfridge Score	Adjusted Battle Creek Score	Cumulative Selfridge	Cumulative Battle Creek
			Starting SOF Score		48.07	37.6		
1248	Proximity to DZ/LZ	14.72%	7.06	1.47	41.01	36.13	41.01	36.13
1245	Proximity to Airspace Supporting Mission	14.72%	2.5	2.64	45.57	34.96	38.51	33.49
1246	Proximity to Low Level Routes	3.68%	0.34	0.28	47.73	37.32	38.17	33.21
1271	Prevailing Weather Conditions	5.06%	3.34	0	44.73	37.6	34.83	33.21
1205.2	Buildable Acres for Growth	1.96%	0.76	0.31	47.31	37.29	34.07	32.9
1243	Airfield Elevation	3.68%	2.92	2.43	45.15	35.17	31.15	30.47
1249	Airspace Attributes to DZ/LZ	7.99%	2.46	0.8	45.61	36.8	28.69	29.67
	Total % Effected	51.81%						

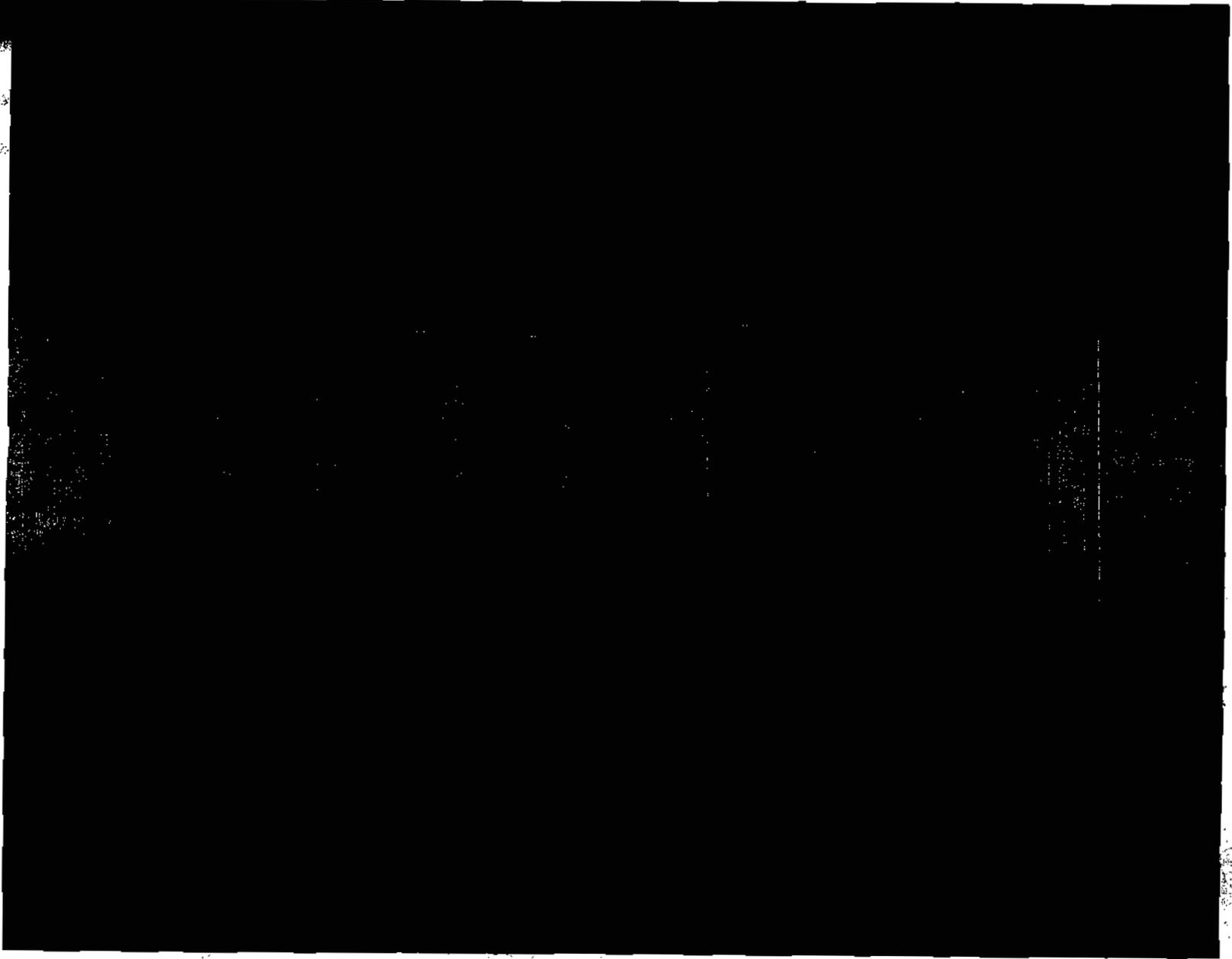
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C Process – Concerns



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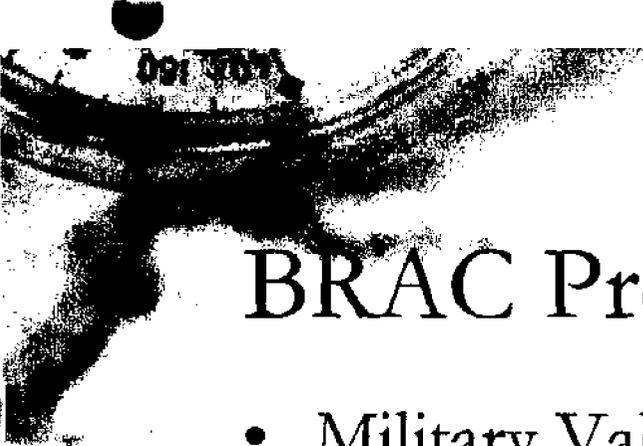
Process – Concerns



10/1/2001
10/1/2001

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10/1/2001



BRAC Process – Concerns

- Military Value Determination
- Readiness
 - AEF Schedules
- Removal of the Citizen Soldier



BOTTOM LINE

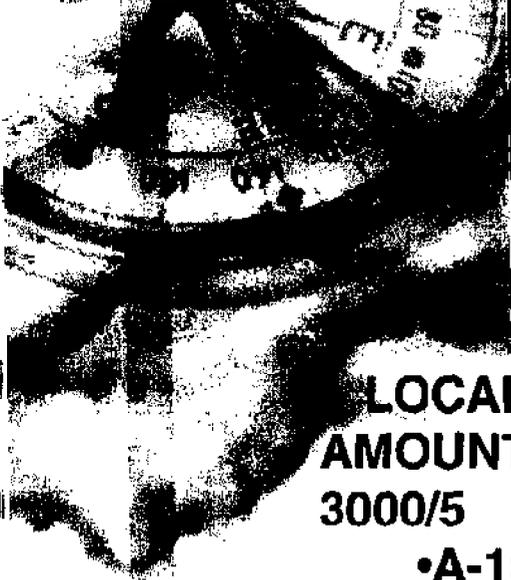
- W.K. Kellogg & 110 FW have much to offer within the AF Transformation Plan
- Cost Savings are a Myth – It will cost more than \$74 - \$120 million under the current plan
- Loss of Combat capability, during a WAR, lasting half a decade; Cost – immeasurable
- Damage to Military Recruiting Base – Loss of “Citizen Soldier” – “Home Front” support for military operations



REALITY POINTS **DEMONSTRATED CAPABILITY** **PROVEN VALUE**

THE DATA BASE USED TO DETERMINE THE MILITARY VALUE OF THE
BATTLE CREEK AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE WAS FLAWED:

- **DESPITE HAVING THREE LIVE DROP RANGES AND THREE MOAS WITHIN 170 MILES, BCANGB RECEIVED LOW SCORES**
 - **ONLY A-10 UNIT TO HAVE TWO LIVE DROP AREAS WITHIN 170 MILES**
 - **CREDIT ONLY GIVEN TO UNITS WITH RANGES WITHIN 50 AND 100 MILES... WITH MODERN JETS, THESE DISTANCES ARE IRRELEVANT**
- **POSSESSES NEWEST MUNITIONS STORAGE FACILITY IN ANG, BUT RECEIVED LOW SCORE**
 - **SIZE OF STORAGE FACILITY LIMITED BY HHQ DIRECTIVES NOT FACILITY CAPABILITY**
 - **DESIGN USED AS A STANDARD FOR ANG**
- **OF ALL SIX A-10 ANG BASES AND SELFRIDGE, BCANGB IS LEAST THREATENED BY ENCROACHMENT ISSUES**



REALITY POINTS

DEMONSTRATED CAPABILITY

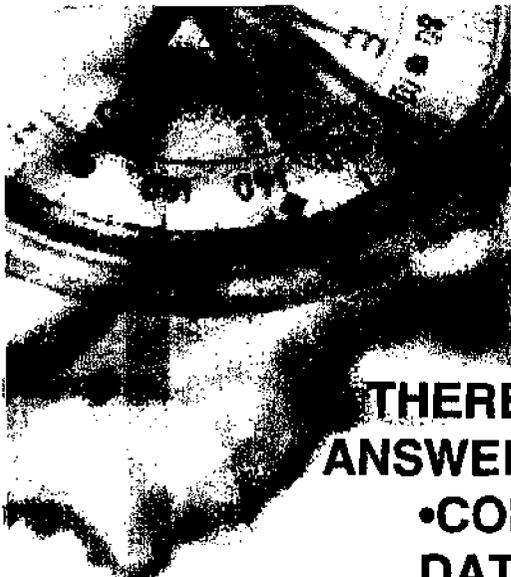
PROVEN VALUE

**LOCAL WEATHER : UNITS EVALUATED BASED UPON
AMOUNT OF DAYS IN WHICH WEATHER WAS LESS THAN
3000/5**

- A-10S ROUTINELY FLY IN WEATHER CONDITIONS LESS
THAN 2000/3.**
- ALL- WEATHER SYSTEMS AND RUNWAY
INSTRUMENTATION MAKE THIS ITEM IRRELEVANT AND
SERVE ONLY TO FAVOR SOUTHERN AND WESTERN
BASES**

**•UNITS WERE DIRECTED TO PROVIDE RAW DATA ON
FACILITIES AND NOT ASKED TO PROJECT CAPABILITIES
BASED UPON HYPOTHETICAL SCENARIOS..IE..SURGE
CAPABILITIES**

**•IN REFERNECE TO "SURGE OPERATIONS," RAW DATA
DOES NOT REFLECT THE AVAILABILITY OF FUEL
STORED AND READY FOR PURCHASE AT LOCAL FBOs
and DUNCAN AVIATION**



HEALTH POINTS
DEMONSTRATED CAPABILITY
PROVEN VALUE

THERE WAS NO METHOD OF QUALITY CONTROL FOR ANSWERS PROVIDED BY UNITS.

- **COMMANDERS WERE ASKED TO VALIDATE INPUT DATA, BUT VALIDATION WAS DEPENDENT UPON EACH COMMANDER'S INTERPRETATION OF THE DATA REQUESTED**

- **IE: WHAT DETERMINES "CLOSE PROXIMITY"**
- **IE: CAN CREDIT FOR STORAGE BE GIVEN IF FACILITY IS NOT SITED FOR SAME**

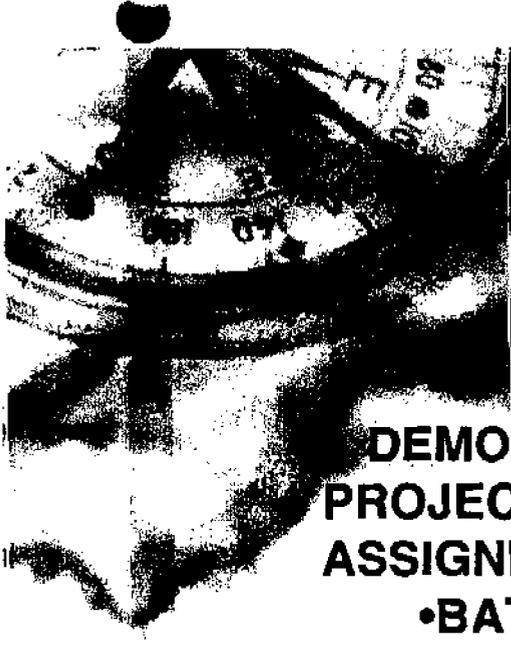


MAINTAIN POINTS DEMONSTRATED CAPABILITY PROVEN VALUE

DEMONSTRATED CAPABILITY VS HYPOTHETICAL PROJECTIONS. REALITY NOT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT WHEN ASSIGNING UNIT VALUE

•BATTLE CREEK ANGB RECEIVED ONE OF THE POOREST MVI (122) DESPITE:

- MAINTAINING HIGHEST MISSION READY RATE AMONG ALL A-10 UNITS AND F-16S AT SELFRIDGE**
- POSSESSING THE NEWEST FACILITIES IN THE ANG
 - 80 % OF THE BUILDINGS LESS THAN 15 YEARS OLD****
- OPERATING OFF OF A 10,000FT RUNWAY**
- EXPERIENCING A ZERO PERCENT ATC DELAY RATE**
- POSSESSING ONE OF THE LOWEST SAFETY MISHAP RATES WHILE FLYING ONE OF THE HIGHEST FLYING HOUR PROGRAMS IN THE ANG FIGHTER FORCE**
- PROVIDING UPGRADE SORTIES FOR 20 ACTIVE DUTY PILOTS OVER THE PAST 8 YEARS**



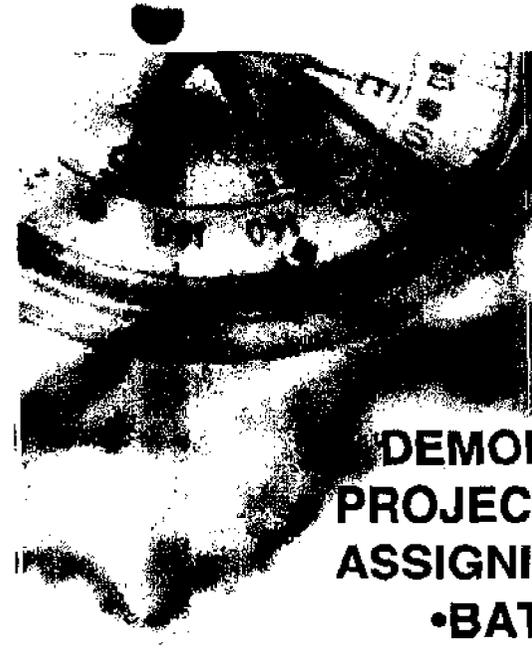
MANNING POINTS **DEMONSTRATED CAPABILITY** **PROVEN VALUE**

DEMONSTRATED CAPABILITY VS HYPOTHETICAL PROJECTIONS. REALITY NOT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT WHEN ASSIGNING UNIT VALUE

- **BATTLE CREEK ANGB RECEIVED ONE OF THE POOREST MVI (122) DESPITE:**

- **ATTAINING AND MAINTAINING ONE OF THE HIGHEST MANNING LEVELS (102%) IN THE ANG**
 - **HIGHER RATE THAN THE OTHER 4 ANG A-10 UNITS THAT ARE RECEIVING MORE A-10S**
 - **MANNING LEVELS ACHIEVED DESPITE BEING LOCATED IN LOWEST RECRUITING "BASE" AMONG ALL A-10 UNITS THUS DEEMING THIS DATA IRRELEVANT**

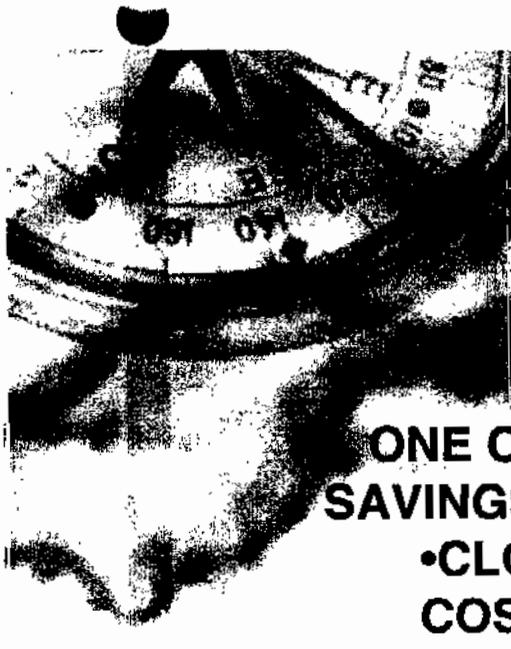
- **BEING ONE OF ONLY THREE ANG FIGHTER UNITS CALLED TO COMBAT IN THE LAST TWO MAJOR COMBAT OPERATIONS (ALLIED FORCE AND IRAQI FREEDOM)**



REALITY POINTS
DEMONSTRATED CAPABILITY
PROVEN VALUE

DEMONSTRATED CAPABILITY VS HYPOTHETICAL PROJECTIONS. REALITY NOT TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT WHEN ASSIGNING UNIT VALUE

- **BATTLE CREEK ANGB RECEIVED ONE OF THE POOREST MVI (122) DESPITE:**
 - **BEING ONE OF THE HIGHEST DECORATED FIGHTER UNITS IN THE AIR FORCE**
 - **FOUR OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARDS, THE LAST ONE FOR VALOR**
 - **10 BRONZE STAR AND 14 DFC WINNERS**
 - **RECEIVING THE SPAATZ TROPHY IN 1999 IN RECOGNITION OF BEING NAMED THE BEST FIGHTER WING IN THE ANG**
 - **AUGMENTING EVERY OTHER ANG A-10 UNIT DURING THEIR DEPLOYMENTS TO SWA**



KEY POINTS
DEMONSTRATED CAPABILITY
PROVEN VALUE

ONE OF KEY TENANTS OF BRAC IS TO PROVIDE FOR COST SAVINGS.

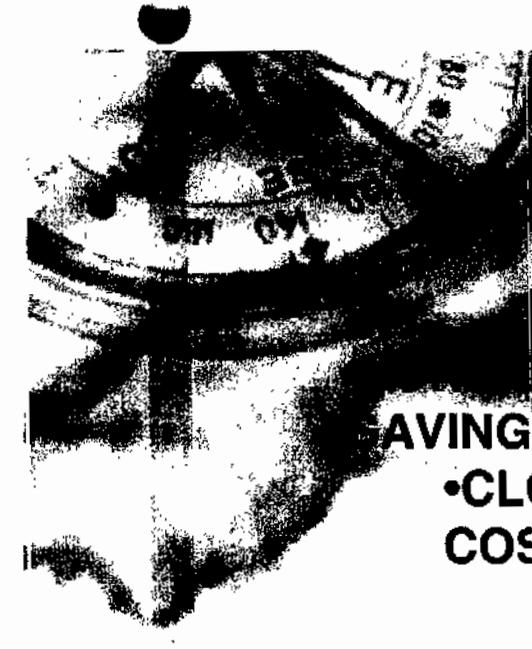
- **CLOSING BCANGB AND TRANSFERING A-10S WILL COST, NOT SAVE MONEY**

- **PROCESS FAILED TO ACCOUNT FOR TECHNICIAN EMPLOYMENT RULES WHICH MAY RESULT IN FEW BCANGB PILOTS RECEIVING JOBS WHEN THE A-10S MOVE TO SELFRIDGE**

- **ACTIVE DUTY TRANSFERS PERSONNEL WHEN A BASE IS CLOSED THEREFORE LITTLE EXPERIENCE IS LOST. THIS DOES NOT HOLD TRUE FOR ANG UNITS**

- **POSSIBLE LOSS OF OVER 50% OF BCANGB PILOTS AND 60% OF BCANGB MAINTENANCE WILL RESULT IN TRAINING COSTS EXCEEDING OVER \$50 MILLION DOLLARS OVER THE NEXT 5 YEARS**

- **(ACTUAL NUMBER LOST WILL BE DEPENDENT UPON HIRING LAWS)**



KEY POINTS **DEMONSTRATED CAPABILITY** **PROVEN VALUE**

• ONE OF THE KEY TENANTS OF BRAC IS TO PROVIDE FOR COST SAVINGS.

• CLOSING BCANGB AND TRANSFERRING A-10S WILL COST, NOT SAVE MONEY

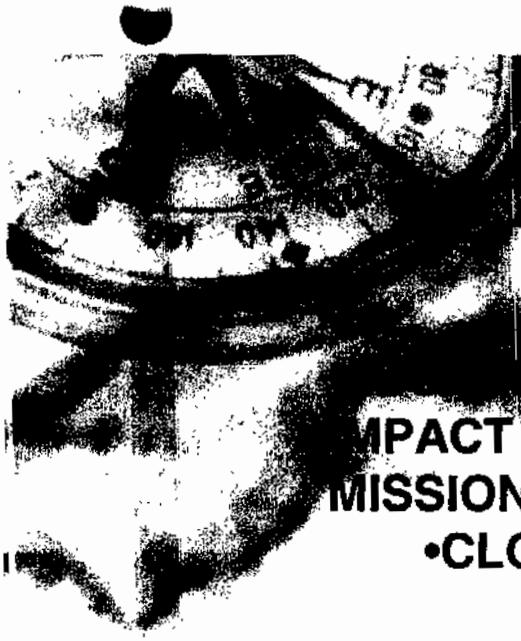
• FACILITIES AT BCANGB WERE BUILT TO SUPPORT THE A-10 MISSION

• TRANSFER TO SELFRIDGE WILL REQUIRE MODERNIZATION OF SELFRIDGE FACILITIES TO PROVIDE THE SAME DEGREE OF CAPABILITY AS THAT AVAILABLE AT BCANGB

• IE..A-10 FUEL CELL – REQUIRES SPECIAL VENTILATION SYSTEM NOT AVAILABLE AT MTC

• FACILITIES AT BCANGB CONTRIBUTED TO THE UNIT ATTAINING HIGHEST MISSION READY RATES AMONG ALL ANG A-10 UNITS

• SELFRIDGE WILL HAVE TO DEAL WITH LOSS OF ARMY GARRISON WHICH MAY RESULT IN LOSS OF PROPERTY ADJACENT TO RUNWAY..ENCROACHMENT CHALLENGES



HEALTHY POINTS

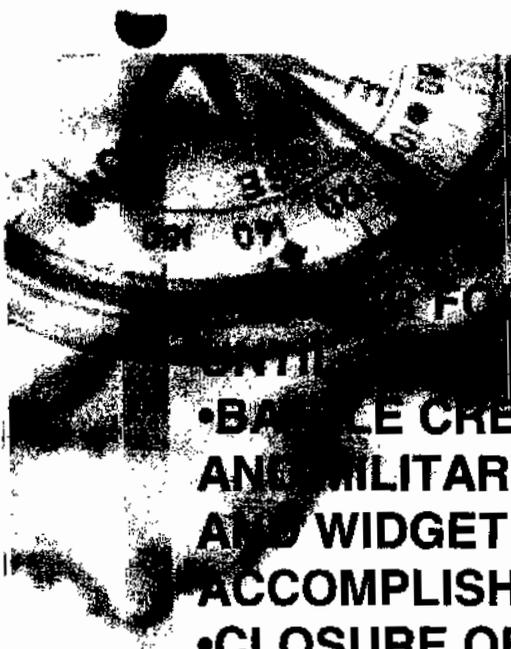
DEMONSTRATED CAPABILITY

PROVEN VALUE

**IN A TIME OF WAR, BRAC FAILED TO FACTOR IN
IMPACT OF RECOMMENDED CLOSURES UPON TODAY'S
MISSION CAPABILITY**

•CLOSURE OF 110TH WILL:

- REDUCE NUMBER OF COMBAT READY ANG A-10
UNITS TO FOUR (BRADLEY AND WILLOW GROVE
ARE SCHEDULED TO CLOSE ALSO)**
- REDUCE OVERALL A-10 COMBAT READY POOL FOR
THE NEXT FIVE YEARS AS CONVERTING F-16 PILOTS
ARE TRAINED**
- PREVENT THE ANG FROM FILLING IT'S A-10 AEF
ROTATIONS FOR THE NEXT FIVE YEARS**
- REMOVE 30 COMBAT VETERANS FROM THE A-10
FORCE POOL IN THE ANG**



CLOSING COMMENTS

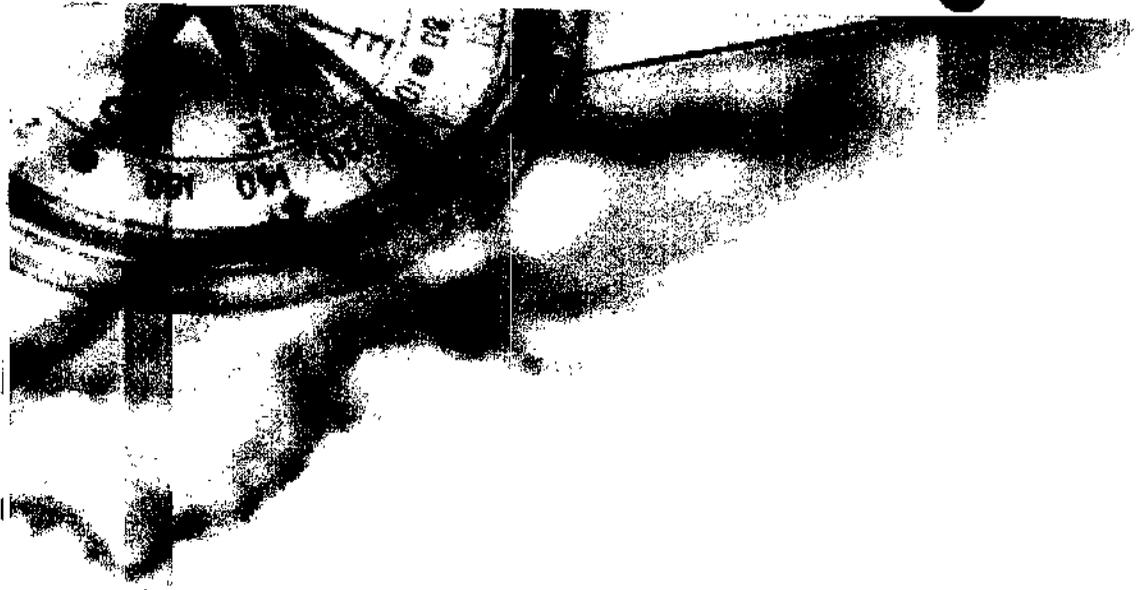
THE AIR FORCE HAS IDENTIFIED THE A-10 AS BEING RELEVANT UNTIL 2024

• BATTLE CREEK IS AN A-10 BASE WITH DEMONSTRATED CAPABILITY AND MILITARY VALUE NOT ACCURATELY PROTRAYED BY COBRA AND WIDGET BUT ACCURATELY DISPLAYED BY ACTUAL UNIT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

• CLOSURE OF THE 110TH WILL REMOVE AIR GUARD PRESENCE FROM SW MICHIGAN AND REMOVE ANOTHER MILITARY FACILITY FROM A STATE WITH NO ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY AIR BASE

• KEEPING THE A-10 AT BATTLE CREEK IS MORE COST EFFECTIVE THAN IF TRANSFERRED AND WILL PROVIDE THE USAF WITH A COMBAT READY, COMBAT PROVEN CAPABILITY UNTIL 2024

• ON THE MORNING OF 27 MARCH 2003, 12 A-10S LAUNCHED INTO THE NIGHT AND FLEW TO COMBAT OVER IRAQ. ALONG WITH OVER 300 OTHER 110TH MEMBERS, THESE BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN SERVED WITHOUT HESITATION AND IN THE BEST TRADITIONS OF THE USAF. THESE WERE ALL CITIZEN SOLDIERS. THIS COUNTRY OWES THEM THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONTINUE TO SERVE THIS GREAT NATION. ANYTHING LESS WOULD BE A TRAGEDY. I WOULD ASK THAT YOU ALLOW THE 110TH AND BCANGB TO REMAIN READY, RELIABLE AND RELEVANT



Questions & Comments

U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow
St. Louis, Missouri
June 20, 2005

Testimony Submitted to Base Realignment and Closure Commission

Chairman Principi, Commissioners and members of the staff of the BRAC Commission, thank you for allowing Michigan's key leaders to provide testimony on the 2005 base closure and realignment recommendations submitted by the Secretary of Defense. I want to thank the people from Michigan that have made the trip to St. Louis to advocate on behalf of the military facilities in their communities. I also want to thank Senator Carl Levin for his guidance and advocacy for Michigan's military facilities and the men and women in uniform.

When the Secretary of Defense announced his base realignment and closure recommendations, I was very pleased to see that the Department of Defense had recognized the many important contributions that the military facilities in Michigan make to the men and women of the United States armed forces.

I was pleased to read that the Secretary suggested consolidating the Department's expertise in ground vehicle development and acquisition at the Detroit Arsenal. As the Secretary noted, the recommendation "promotes jointness, enables technical synergy, and positions the Department of Defense to exploit a center-of-mass of scientific, technical, and acquisition expertise with the personnel involved in ground vehicle Research, Development and Acquisition that currently resides at Detroit Arsenal." Commissioners, I couldn't agree more.

Southeast Michigan is the epicenter of automotive research and development, and the Secretary correctly noted that the "synergies gained from having a critical mass located in southeastern Michigan, and being able to leverage the world's intellectual capital for automotive/ground vehicle Research and Development and Acquisition, will ensure that the Department is prepared to meet future demands." Adding the functions to the Detroit Arsenal that the Secretary recommended will strengthen the capability of the Tank-Automotive and Armaments Command (TACOM) and the Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center (TARDEC) to create the next generation of combat vehicles for our men and women in uniform.

While pleased with the Secretary's recommendations mentioned above, I am very concerned about the recommendation to move the 110th Fighter Wing in Battle Creek to Selfridge Air National Guard Base, and to close the Battle Creek Air National Guard Base. I would ask that you carefully examine the military value, readiness and cost effectiveness of the Pentagon's recommendation to realign the 110th fighter wing. I think that you will find that the value of the 110th is clear and compelling.

The Battle Creek Air National Guard Base is one of the most modern and capable in Air National Guard bases in the United States. Over the past decade Congress and the Department of Defense have allocated significant resources to upgrade the base into a modern facility. Further, I think that it would be difficult for you to find an A-10 squadron in the National Guard that is more capable than the 110th Fighter Wing. The wing has been activated and has served

with distinction in Operation Noble Eagle, Southern Watch, Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

I am concerned that the realignment of the 110th would hurt the readiness of the 110th at a time when we are relying heavily on the Air National Guard. While the Secretary's recommendation is only to move the 110th to the other side of the state, the majority of the members of the 110th are located in southwest Michigan. Moving the base would make it difficult for them to continue to serve because they would face an increased sacrifice and commitment to travel the extra distance.

There is another aspect of the Secretary's recommendation to realign the Wing and close the Battle Creek Air National Guard Base that I believe you should consider. The realignment of the 110th could further hamper the military's ability to recruit and retain reserve and a National Guard unit member at a time when the military is falling short of its recruiting targets. The Wing will certainly lose highly skilled pilots, flight crew members, mechanics, and support staff if it is moved, and it will cost millions of dollars and years of training to replace them. At a time when over 40 percent of the troops serving in Iraq are from the National Guard and reserves, we must be very careful about the impact any closures and realignments will have on the retention of skilled personnel and the difficulty of recruiting replacements.

The Secretary of Defense also recommended closing the U.S. Army Garrison at Selfridge Air National Guard Base. As you can imagine, there are deep feelings and concerns in the community about closing the Garrison given the important housing, retail, medical care and pharmacy, recreational, and other support and services to military personnel of all branches and their dependents in the local area. If the Commission does agree with the Secretary that the Garrison should be closed, it is my hope that the land utilized by the Garrison is transferred to the Department of the Air Force, and that it is utilized in a manner that ensures the long-term viability of a thriving military air base that serves the best interests of the men and women in uniform serving at the base and the local community.

I want to again thank the Commission for hearing Michigan's views on the Secretary's base realignment and closure recommendations. I am very proud of the men and women in uniform in Michigan that serve our country and believe that they fill a unique and valuable role for our nation's military. I ask you to carefully review the recommendations for Michigan and hear the concerns of those from Michigan that are here to testify before you today.

side. We look very forward very much to getting the other side of the story. This is a part of that process. We invite you to continue to work with us as we try and answer some of these questions. I know that your staff has already been in contact with ours at Crystal City and as we try and seek truth here, we will look forward to a continued dialogue with your staff to sort this out. We thank you very much for your presentation.

LT. GOVERNOR SKILLMAN: We look forward to being your partner.

COMMISSIONER GEHMAN: Good afternoon. We're pleased to have you join us. As required by the BRAC statute, it is necessary to swear you in. We can only consider certified data and sworn testimony, so I'll ask you to please stand and raise your right hand and our official here will swear you in.

(Panel return)

COMMISSIONER GEHMAN: Thank you very much, gentlemen. We are -- I have to be mindful of the time because there is another state delegation following you, but we do have a little bit of flexibility. So the floor is yours, and to whom may I start? Senator Levin, I assume.

SENATOR LEVIN: Mr. Chairman, thank you, and

BRAC Commissioners, thank you all for your willingness to serve in a very, very difficult job. And thank you for giving us the opportunity to speak with you today. Jennifer Grantholm and Senator Stabenow cannot be with us today but they ask me to extend their appreciation and to offer their support for my remarks. And also will be submitting Senator Stabenow's statement for the record.

COMMISSIONER GEHMAN: Absolutely.

SENATOR LEVIN: My focus today is on the Pentagon's recommendations for the Detroit arsenal. I will also touch upon the Selfridge Air National Guard Base and then after I take about half of our time, you will hear from Congressman Schwartz and other representatives from Battle Creek. And he will introduce them. I think Senator Schauer will be introducing the representatives from Battle Creek. And that conversation will be regarding the Kellogg Air National Guard Base in Battle Creek.

I believe there is overwhelming logic to the Pentagon's recommendations to consolidate certain additional functions at the Detroit arsenal. This is the Department of Defense's center of excellence for ground vehicle development and acquisition. So I'm here to support those recommendations of the

Department of Defense relative to that Detroit arsenal. And one line from the Department of Defense's Base Closure Report really says it all. Which are that the synergies from having a critical mass located in southeast Michigan and being able to leverage the world's capital for automotive ground vehicle research and development and acquisition, will ensure the Department of Defense is prepared to meet its future demands.

So the department has recognized that the world's capital is right where the Detroit arsenals in southeast Michigan for automotive and ground vehicle research development and acquisition.

Let me just share with you briefly some thoughts about why those recommendations make so much sense. The Detroit arsenal first of all, includes the headquarters for the Tank and Automotive and Armaments Command known as TACOM, the Tank Automotive Research and Development Center, known as TARDEC, and the National Automotive Center known as the NAC. And they combine the Army's ground vehicle acquisition development and maintenance functions in one central location. Because of their strategic location in the world's automotive hub, TACOM, TARDEC and the NAC are able to take advantage of the investments in the area

that have been made by General Motors, Ford, Chrysler, Toyota, Nissan and Hyundai, and many other companies as well as academia in advanced vehicle research. And because the individuals who work at the Detroit arsenal have deep relationships, professional relationships with their commercial counterparts, they are able to secure the most advanced and effective technologies for the Army. In short, the Detroit arsenal allows the Army to develop the highest performance vehicles at the lowest cost.

Let me just give you a few examples. TACOM, TARDEC and the Society For Automotive Engineers recently developed a common on-vehicle computer that allows the Army to more easily incorporate advanced commercial automotive technologies from the commercial automotive industry into the Army's ground vehicle fleet. Today those computers are being installed in the entire family of medium tactical vehicles, enabling the Army to modernize its current fleet of ground vehicles.

One example of the improvement that on-vehicle computer has enabled is the installation of a common commercial device called antilock brakes, and to do that to integrate that safety device on the Army's existing ground vehicle fleet. Many of those

vehicles were manufactured long before computers were even placed on the vehicles. Today they're commonplace on both commercial and military vehicles. The Detroit arsenal took the Army striker combat vehicle from concept to production in record time. It developed new slat armor -- and this is with the commercial world for the striker, in a matter of weeks, to meet the operations of Iraqi Freedom.

It deployed new crew protection armor kits for the M-939 vehicle, and months after the concept originated. It responds to calls from the field both in Iraq and Afghanistan on a daily basis. And the harsh operational conditions in both locations have demanded that arsenal engineers find ways to push the Army's ground vehicle fleet to the next level.

Southeast Michigan is helping to develop the Army of the future. The engineers at TARDEC and the National Automotive Center are improving the Army's ground vehicle fleet by leveraging the research already completed in the auto industry, and that research is critical to reducing fuel consumption in the Army's ground vehicles. Together the commercial and military are exploring ways to create a mobile electrical grid. They are developing the use of artificial intelligence together and nanotechnology

for the next generation of vehicles. They are moving forward with the advanced development of deployment of a generation of vehicles powered by hybrid and by fuel cells.

Now, with the BRAC recommendations, the development of defense has recognized that greater efficiency and innovation will be possible through a greater concentration or clustering of related functions at the Detroit arsenal. That center of excellence at the Detroit Arsenal will take on additional tasks that are closely related to the arsenal's core mission which is ground vehicle development and acquisition. The Department of Defense's recommendations before you, which we support relative to the Detroit arsenal, proposes to cluster related functions.

And specifically I'm going to talk about three of those functions to support them because you, I think, will be hearing some opposition to the moving of these functions to the Detroit arsenal from other states and so I want to spend a few minutes that I have to say why it makes so much common sense that these functions be clustered where the Department of Defense proposes to cluster them at the Detroit arsenal.

First, they recommend relocating the Marine Corps Program Manager Advanced Amphibious assault facility from Woodbridge, Virginia to the Detroit arsenal. Many of the issues facing amphibious assault vehicles are similar to those facing ground vehicles. They needed improved maintenance and reliability. They need more efficient propulsion systems. They need better ballistic protection and blast protection. The Marines will directly benefit from the similar research and development being conducted by the Army and the commercial automotive sector.

Likewise, transferring the ground vehicle armament acquisition position from the Rock Island Arsenal in Illinois to the Detroit arsenal will increase efficiency. Those positions that we'll be moving or proposed to be moved are mostly logistics acquisition and technology experts who are responsible for armament parts and equipment that the Army has retained active design control over. From weapon systems to on-vehicle weapon control systems, these specialists work closely with the engineers at TARDEC right now. They have to regularly meet with, talk to, work with those engineers that are at the Detroit arsenal, to insure that those systems continue to operate successfully. At the same time, TARDEC

engineers find ways to improve the Army's ground vehicle fleet. They need to work together. Again, this move is driven by the Defense Department's sensible efforts to consolidate related development and acquisition functions in one place.

Now, the expert on this subject is not me. It's General Laniers, who is the commander of TACOM. And this is what he said recently. The positions at Rock Island are TACOM positions. It's a piece of TACOM at Rock Island. And this is what General Lanier says. He's the overall commander of TACOM, whether it's Rock Island, whether it's the Detroit arsenal or the other parts. "General Lanier: It's all about speed and agility now, rapidly changing your systems to meet the current needs in the field. There's a lot more communications with the acquisition guys and the logistic guys and the engineers can all sit face to face and discuss things and get back out and work on it. I think there will be a lot of improvements," he said. He has the firsthand day-to-day on-hand -- hands-on experience. His judgment, I believe, should have great weight with this Commission.

Finally, the Pentagon has recommended moving the unmanned ground vehicle system's joint project office from the Army Aviation and Missile Command in

Huntsville, Alabama to Michigan. There are compelling reasons to do so. There are advanced technology efforts already going on in Michigan. Both commercial and university are working with TARDEC to interview -- integrate the new technology such as artificial intelligence, sensors, based on nanotechnology, advanced computer vision systems, into robotic vehicles. All of the department's science and technology developmental -- development objectives in ground vehicles and robotic technologies, all of those development objectives are already led by TARDEC and most of the agencies that the joint project office at Huntsville reports to and collaborates with are located in southeastern Michigan. Moving that ground vehicle robotics mission to the Detroit arsenal just makes common sense.

Now, Mr. Chairman and members of the Commission, the Detroit arsenal is losing some functions under the proposal of the Department of Defense. It's not just gaining the functions I've outlined. It's also losing some functions. They recommend that the sea vehicle development and acquisition be consolidated into one center of excellence for satisfy vehicles in the Washington, D.C. area. Those gains in the Washington areas are

slated to come from the Army's sea vehicle development acquisition program in Detroit and go to Virginia. We are not protesting the move. We don't object to it. It's so inherently logical under the very same logic which I just outlined. The Detroit arsenal is slated to lose about 100 positions to the Defense Logistics Agency in Columbus. While we're obviously concerned about any job loss in Michigan, shifting those jobs is consistent with the department's attempt to leverage the advantages of collocation. That's what this is all about. So the same logic which we believe compels the move of the Marine Corps program manager, the ground vehicle armament acquisition positions, and the unmanned ground vehicle project office to the Detroit arsenal, moves us to accept the move from the Detroit arsenal of sea vehicle development and acquisition and of certain acquisition experts for commercially available items that can be bought through the DLA.

Now, as to the Army Garrison at Selfridge, the Department of Defense has recommended closing that facility. I wanted to submit for the record several letters that I've received from the community expressing deep concerns about that proposed closure.

The garrison's proposed closure could mean many of the support services that the military

personnel in the greater Detroit area have relied on since World War II. They would be closed. The letters which I'm going to submit for the record make different arguments. But where they agree is on one critical point. Should the Army garrison at Selfridge be closed, it is essential that the Army land and support functions be transferred to the Air Force. For two reasons. One is the land is essential to the Air Force. And, two, the -- some of the critical services will continue to need to be performed, including the commissary, the base exchange and the pharmacy.

So that is what I would urge the Commission look at as a common position of the community at Selfridge. While they don't see precisely eye to eye on every aspect of this, and the letters will speak relative to that, when it comes to if you close that garrison, what should be done with the land and the essential -- the necessity that the Air Force take over the services, particularly relative to the commissary base exchange and the pharmacy, are something which there is agreement and consensus upon.

Again, thank you very much for your service as well as for the opportunity to be with you today. And with that, I'll turn the matter over to

representatives from Battle Creek. We've difficult sided to divide our time in this way.

Congressman Joe Schwartz is here with the other representatives of Battle Creek and I would turn the microphone over to them at this point.

COMMISSIONER GEHMAN: Thank you very much sir. Go ahead, sir.

CONGRESSMAN SCHWARTZ: First speaking for the City of Battle Creek and the 110th will be State Senator Mark Schauer who in fact is from Battle Creek. I've turned the mike over to Senator Schauer and others and I'll bat ninth in the group, which is about where I ought to be.

SENATOR LEVIN: They'll clean up in the Senate.

CONGRESSMAN SCHWARTZ: In the days when they didn't have a designated hitter.

SENATOR SCHAUER: Thank you, Congressman. Thank you, Senator Levin. It's an honor to share this panel with you to talk about Michigan's role in our national security.

Commissioners, thank you for the opportunity to testify. I am Mark Schauer, Michigan State Senator from Battle Creek, proud home of the 110th Fighter Wing and of the Battle Creek Air National Guard Base

at Kellogg Field. I do want to acknowledge a group of weary yet very supportive and enthusiastic people from the Battle Creek and Kalamazoo community that boarded a bus at about 5:30 this morning adorned in their T-shirts, and we're very proud to have their support and to demonstrate that for you. Do you want to stand up or wave or something? They have the blue T-shirts on. Thanks for being with us. I think they hop on the bus as soon as we're done. So maybe they get to stay, I don't know.

COMMISSIONER GEHMAN: We're pleased to have you. If you weren't in the room there wouldn't be anybody in the room here except us.

SENATOR SCHAEFER: We're glad they're here, too. Commissioner, our goal today is to raise in your minds serious questions as to the wisdom of moving the 110th Fighter Wing, closure of the Air National Guard Base in Battle Creek and ending the air Guard's 60-year association with west Michigan. In doing so we hope the Commission will grant our request to conduct a site visit ultimately leading to a decision to retain the 110th in Battle Creek and to remove the Air National Guard base from the closure list.

The four speakers to follow will clearly and

succinctly demonstrate that the methodology and analysis used to calculate the cost savings of moving the 110th and to calculate military value for A-10s in Battle Creek were seriously flawed. They will further demonstrate the serious consequences of this recommendation to our militaries air deployability and combat capability.

First, George Erickcek of the Upjohn Institute for Employment Research will present his analysis of the flaws in the DoD's widget and COBRA methodology. George.

MR. ERICKCEK: Thank you. I am the Senior Regional Analyst with the Upjohn Institute For Employment Research. With the sole exception of travel expenses, neither I nor the institute will have or will receive any compensation for the analysis I'm summarizing today. In fact, we've been here before because I headed a team from the Upjohn Institute 12 years ago to analyze the COBRA results being used to propose closing of the then named Battle Creek Federal Center.

Fortunately, through our analysis and other work, that center was saved. It is my professional opinion that the methodologies used in determining the military value of the WK Kellogg Air Base and in

estimating the cost savings of closing the base are indeed seriously flawed.

I will first address the serious methodology problems that occur in calculating the missions, capabilities, indexes, the MCIs, which were used to determine the facility's military value. Then I will turn to the COBRA model, which is used to estimate cost savings. The question in the widget gathering data effort to determine the MCIs, did not yield the appropriate information necessary to develop a proper military value score for this facility. I only have time to highlight three major problems. One, the MCI for special operation forces is partially based on factors that do not even apply to A-10 aircraft. It asks about landing zones for helicopters and drop zones for paratroopers. These do not apply to A-10 operations.

Two, regarding weather conditions, the questions were mostly irrelevant. They asked questions about elevation, but there was no question regarding dew points, daily temperature, or the length of a runway. Another question asked how many days allowed for visibility of 3,000 feet for three miles. This is not a relevant question to the A-10, which can fly in conditions of 300 feet for one mile.

And, finally, the third point I'd like to make, the questions did not properly address the capacity of the facility to handle the surge operations.

Indeed, the questions were heavily biased toward larger bases by not allowing for readily available shared ramp space to be counted. For smaller bases like the WK Kellogg that has successfully executed surge activities, including a double deployment to Iraq. This is an unnecessary restriction and it's not cost effective. Indeed, looking at surge potential, questions of encroachment must be asked that were not. In proximity to the civilian Air Force, complex that can interfere with mission operations was not addressed. Nor noise mitigation procedures.

Now I'd like to turn to the COBRA model analysis. The COBRA model analysis stated that the Air Force would save \$167 million over a 20-year period. I believe that these savings are overstated and do not take into account the following four factors that will likely more than offset the expected cost savings.

One, the COBRA model overinflates the expected cost savings of closing the Kellogg facility.

It estimates that Air Force will save \$5.7 million annually by eliminating the base's overhead cost. Now, currently the Kellogg field incurs an annual maintenance and operating cost of \$707,000.

Therefore, we feel that there could be as much as a \$5 million difference in the COBRA estimates than the actual incurred costs of operating the facility.

Two, the Air Force ignores the military construction costs that will be incurred in redeploying the 110th Fighter Wing at Selfridge. An A-10 unit has special facility requirements for maintenance and munitions that simply are not available at Selfridge at this time and will have to be constructed.

Three, to reconstitute and retrain the A-10 at Selfridge will require the Air Force to spend millions of dollars in order to regain the combat capabilities and qualification levels that currently exist at Battle Creek. These were not taken into consideration in the COBRA model. And this is a process that could take up to five years. It is likely that up to 18 F-16 fighters -- fighter pilots will have to be retrained to fly the A-10s, costing the Air Force approximately \$1 million each. And that is just the initial training. These costs will more

than triple as these pilots log in the required flying time to get the unit back up to today's mission readiness.

And, finally, the fourth point, returning to cost of encroachment, the U.S. Army states that they will save \$260 million over 20 years by closing the Army garrison at Selfridge. But to avoid encroachment that will -- that would endanger operations, the Air Force will have to assume responsibility for the property at Selfridge garrison and this assumes a large portion of these costs. Plus there will be added cost of demolition and maintenance due to the base's joint infrastructure.

In short, and in closing, the procedures used did not provide a proper evaluation of the military value of the WK Keizlogg Air Base, nor did they accurately measure the cost of closing the base.

Thank you for your time. Now I would like to introduce Major General Retired E. Gordon Stump who will speak to the military value of the Battle Creek facility and the 110th Fighter Wing.

GENERAL STUMP: Thank you. It's my pleasure to share a few moments with you this afternoon to talk about the consequences of transferring Battle Creek's A-10 aircraft assets to Selfridge. I will also

present military value of the 110th Fighter Wing and facts about the uniqueness of this outstanding Air National Guard base located in Battle Creek, Michigan. One of the things I've learned in my 37 years of military experience is that not much good comes from things that happen with smoke and mirrors. Let me assure you right up front our information and data collection supporting the reversal of the recommendation to close Battle Creek Air National Guard Base is completely void of any smoke and mirrors.

A simple fact is the Air Force used the BRAC process as a mechanism to jump start their future total force programming initiatives within the ranks of the reserve forces. Using the BRAC process the Air Force, with DoD consent, intends to eliminate approximately 30 percent of the current Air National Guard flying units. Should the current BRAC recommendations be put into place, this nation will retire perfectly good operational fighter aircraft such as the F-16 Block 30 stationed at Selfridge, well before replacement Air Force delayed another two years come into the force structure. They will also retire C-130 units before the C-130J aircraft come online, creating a shortage in lift -- in air lift. And

further we stand to lose thousands of traditional individual military positions, full time civil service air technicians and the AGR active Guard and research personnel. Within the boundaries of the state of Michigan, we will alone lose 1,674 positions -- military positions as a result of the deactivation of Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve units. And I don't see these numbers in any of the BRAC data. They only talk about full-time positions. All of this in the time when recruiting retention is a serious challenge nationwide for all of the uniformed services. All this in a time when our A-10 Air Guard units are stretched to their limit deploying overseas to meet air expeditionary forces and war time tasking.

Ladies and gentlemen, Commissioners, I'm supportive of the BRAC process when its used to transform our military for emerging threats. However, in this case, the facts and logic to lock the gates of Battle Creek and move the aircraft to Selfridge is not an enhancement to modernize our military. Is not cost justified and is not best for America.

Now, let me turn to the consequences of relocating A-10s to Selfridge. Unlike an active duty base closure where personnel are transferred to other bases, only a few well-trained combat seasoned

personnel from the 110th Fighter Wing will be given the opportunity to matriculate to the newly formed A-10 unit in Selfridge. It's important to understand that when the F-16s at Selfridge are replaced by the A-10s, that defined as a unit conversion. Selfridge personnel, full-time employees, traditional Guard men and women will have placement in a sign-up priority, thereby filling nearly all the jobs in the military positions. The consequences will be the loss of hundreds of 110th Fighter Wing personnel to include everyone from pilots to aircraft mechanics, to munitions specialists. A great deal of expertise and combat experience will be lost forever.

Standing up a new unit will require the retraining of Selfridge personnel, and this will have a staggering effect. The Selfridge A-10 unit would drop to the lowest combat ready status and be nondeployable for at least three to five years depending on the availability of training school assets. Not a good situation to fulfill A-10 air expeditionary force overseas rotation commitments or good for America.

The retaining of personnel will cost in excess of \$60 million, which is a fact that seems to have eluded the Air Force leaders and programmers. As

we wage the war are global terrorism, can we afford to put aside a much needed combat capability for five years? It's important to remember that the A-10 and the marine Harrier aircraft are the only fighter assets capability of operating from austere airfields. This facts was crucial when US forces deployed to Bagrum in support of operation against Al Qaeda.

Another major consequence is the issue of recruiting within the State of Michigan. The effect of closing Battle Creek Air National Guard Base is the elimination of the entire west side of the state in the recruiting pool. Closing Battle Creek results in the removal of the Guard from the hometown and the loss of important community connection. The 110th Fighter Wing's retention and statistics are unmatched by any other A-10 unit in the Air National Guard. Losing this recruiting base in west Michigan at this time in our nation's history is a tragic mistake.

There are other adverse consequences. Including the cost of facilities to accommodate the A-10s, the loss of Homeland Security and the disaster preparedness assets, and the list goes on and on. Time does not permit me to elaborate, so allow me to switch gears and speak to the military value of the 110th Fighter Wing, Michigan Air National Guard.

Since 1991 when the unit converted to the A-10, the unit has completely modernized the facility. More than \$44 million in construction funds have been used in this endeavor. One by one buildings and facilities have been reconstructed or built from the ground up to accommodate special mission requirements of the A-10. Just last year the base completed a state-of-the-art munitions complex as quantity criteria for high explosive ordnance, a rare distinction for most Air National Guard Bases.

Speaking of uniqueness, there are three others I just like to mention. The first is a 10,000 foot runway. Second is a capability and close proximity of an air-to-ground range where pilots can train with live ordnance and state-of-the-art threat emitters and air combat. There is a lack of encroachment and noise complaint issues for the airfield. By anyone's opinion this base is a modern, cost efficient facility providing the most ideal Michigan location for A-10 operations.

I hope that you will be able to schedule a visit to personally observe what we have at Battle Creek.

Commissioners, while I believe the BRAC process to enhance military transformation, the

recommendation for the closing of the Battle Creek Air National Guard Base is inconsistent with stated BRAC philosophy and criteria. The expertise and combat experience unique to the A-10 will be lost should the aircraft be transferred to Selfridge. I've attempted in a very short time to describe the important value of the 110th Fighter Wing and the base at Battle Creek. Please allow me to conclude by saying that I realize that each Commissioner panel has a role to play in this hearing, in this process, a fact of which I have a deep appreciation.

I urge you to use your authority as BRAC commissioners to correct this error and remove Battle Creek Air National Guard Base from the closure list. Thank you for your time and attention this afternoon and I would like to introduce a fellow Vietnam veteran, the honorable Mayor of Battle Creek, Mayor John Godfrey.

MAYOR GODFREY: Thank you. Battle Creek, Michigan is a mid-sized midwestern city best known for three things, cereal manufacturing, automotive suppliers and the support of the military. Since 1917 when we first trained soldiers for World War I, Battle Creek has supported tens of thousands of permanent and temporary military personnel. Today Battle Creek is

the proud home of the 110th Fighter Wing housed at the WK Kellogg Airport with an estimated federally funded investment of over \$44 million, plus the benefit of a 10,000-foot runway paid for by a voter approved bond issue, a brand-new 110 foot control tower, plus the plans for a new parallel runway, our airport is a superior facility. We have unincumbered air space and the land to grow. We have aggressively prevented residential and commercial encroachment near the airport. We have ensured that there are not any noise restrictions, noise abasements or noise sensitive areas within a 25 mile radius of the airport.

Battle Creek has invested 1.2 million in local dollars to build an optical ethernet fiber ring providing dedicated and secure strands to the WK Kellogg Airport. The city of Battle Creek has dedicated these 320 acres for military expansion at the WK Kellogg Airport and, Commissioners, we will honor that commitment.

The 110th Fighter Wing is at home in Battle Creek and we are proud to support the most deployed and combat ready A-10 fighter wing in our nation. Our history, culture, environment, pride, participation capability and enthusiasm for the 110th Fighter Wing is unmatched. In Battle Creek we are proud to put our

money where our mouth is by providing space, the legal protections and superior infrastructure to support the Air National Guard and warfight. Please take the time to visit Battle Creek and see for yourselves what I have been talking about.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. Now it is my honor to also introduce a fellow Vietnam veteran, our U.S. Congressman Representative Joe Schwartz.

CONGRESSMAN SCHWARTZ: Congressman Hansen, Admiral Gehman, General Turner -- is the mike working?

COMMISSIONER GEHMAN: Oh, yes.

CONGRESSMAN SCHWARTZ: All right. They were shoving microphones at me, I was wondering there for a moment.

You've engaged in a difficult process, and if I may say, I hope that the testimony you've heard today has raised some doubt in your mind with respect to the Department of Defense's decision to close the Battle Creek Air National Guard Base and move the 110th Fighter Wing to Selfridge. I would like to see ideally a real Michigan solution to this, because we don't dislike Selfridge and I know Selfridge doesn't dislike us. We would like to see them both stay open and see the Michigan Air National Guard remain a

robust unit with numbers of aircraft other than the A-10s, and perhaps, and only perhaps, some refueling aircraft at Selfridge.

This really results in a dismemberment, an evisceration, if you will, of the Michigan Air National Guard, a unit with a very, very proud history. As a naval officer, a surgeon, former Mayor of Battle Creek, several Mayors prior to Mayor Godfrey, 16-year veteran of the State Senate, of which I was President Pro Tem for 10 of those 16 years, and now a U.S. Congressman, I've always been proud of the citizens I represent. The people of Battle Creek have always supported the military. And despite the long roll call of deployments over the past 13 to 14 years of the 110th, Bosnia, Kosovo, Operation Northern Watch, Operation Southern Watch, Operation Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, and now Iraqi Freedom, the 110th has always been manned at over a hundred percent.

Let me free associate for a moment, if I may. Military need has been held up as a criteria. Closing Battle Creek, moving the 110th, but actually just moving the iron, they are not moving the talented people who operate the 110th, just moving the iron to Selfridge, is antithetical to any real military need.

This is a conversion. It's not a transfer. And they are going to have to stand up a new unit and it's going to take three to four years to do that. And this is a unit that has been deployed every time A-10s have been needed.

As someone who -- I mentioned Admiral Gehr before was battalion surgeon for a marine battalion in Vietnam, we understand what close air support means, and the A-10s are the close air support machine now, and because they've been given a new life, I think the future -- as you know, the Army and the Marine Corps love them. And to take an A-10 unit which is fully operational, ready to go on a moment's notice, and put it into essentially a stand-down, I believe makes no sense.

As you know, a replacement aircraft is not even on the horizon. It's somewhere over the horizon. F-22s in a few years. But they are not the close air support replacement aircraft. The F-35s now by sometime in the middle of second decade of this century if we are lucky.

So, first, standing down an A-10 squadron makes little or so sense. Standing down the F-16 Block 30s at Selfridge makes no sense either. And on the Armed Services Committee on which Congressman

Hansen served and on which I serve, we hear again and again and again in both closed and open sessions about the need for lift capacity. And it's difficult for me to understand why a perfectly good squadron of C-130s is being retired when the lift capacity is not there.

I believe that both Selfridge and Kellogg field and Battle Creek should remain open as Guard bases. I believe that the Michigan Air National Guard should remain the robust, active, productive, honored and decorated unit that it has been for so many years. Having said that, Congressman Hansen, Admiral Gehman, General Turner, you must come to Battle Creek and inspect the 110th Fighter Wing for yourselves. As far as I know, we are the only Air Force Base, Army position or naval station slated for closure that has not received a commitment from the Commission for a site visit.

Don't let the service of 900 members of the Air Guard and its 48-year history come to an end without fully investigating.

I thank you for hearing us out. It's a pleasure to be here. It's been a pleasure to meet the three of you. Thank you, sir.

COMMISSIONER GEHMAN: Thank you very much. And I know I speak for my fellow commissioners when I

express gratitude for the detailed and very specific analysis that you did. We value that very highly because we have a limited number of analysts and a limited amount of time. And anything you do is very valuable to us. And so now we've got some homework and we'll run back and do some homework on it.

I have one question and I'll see if my fellow Commissioners have a question. I think it's really for the gentleman who provided the analysis there in which he challenged the military value calculations essentially based on the criteria.

Am I incorrect, or could I be wrong, to say that the criteria that the Department of the Air Force used -- at least this is what I think you told me -- that it applies mostly -- it applies more accurately to active military bases and doesn't apply very well to reserve bases and Air National Guard bases and therefore you get this skewed -- you get these skewed answers. But wouldn't the skewing be the same for Selfridge?

MR. ERICKCEK: That is a good question. When I looked at the report, I looked at it in the eyes of the Kellogg field and the position of the Kellogg field, performance of the Kellogg field. And it went more than looking at the bias to large and

small bases. It also looked at the questions that were asked and which are really important, because it's from those questions that analysts have to determine, and we feel that the questions were simply not well formed.

COMMISSIONER GEHMAN: Yes, I take that point. I've got that point. And I'm not arguing that with you. You kind of get the answer to the question that you asked. And I understand that. But my question is we have two Guard bases here, Selfridge and Kellogg. And if the question -- if the whole questionnaire is skewed to the detriment of the Reserve and Guard, wouldn't both bases be skewed?

MR. STUMP: Yes, but Selfridge had -- does have some advantages over Battle Creek in that they have all of the military services there. They have the Naval Reserve, they have the Navy, they have CH47 helicopters with the Army. We have the Casey 135Rs with the Air Force Reserves, which will be deactivated, and that whole Reserve unit will now move from Selfridge to Florida. How many part-time Reserve people do you think are going to move from Michigan to Florida on drill weekends to go there? So that will be done. KC-135Rs, eight of those will come over, and C-130 units, four more, and A-10s, but Selfridge is

somewhat unique in that it is the largest Air National Guard Base in the United States and has all the military services there. And it's like an active duty base because it has not only base housing but a commissary, BX, medical facilities, and so forth.

So Selfridge looks more like an active duty base than other Guard Reserve units.

COMMISSIONER GEHMAN: Thank you very much for that.

SENATOR SCHAUER: I believe your base was rated on two military criteria, one for A-10s, the other for UAVs. The A-10s scored very poorly. And I think the points that Mr. Brakcek brought up are the questions, the criteria that the A-10s were rated on really didn't make sense and really undervalued the military capability that they provided.

COMMISSIONER GEHMAN: That's helpful. We'll look into that. Hansen, did you have a question?

COMMISSIONER HANSEN: I think this group really made a very compelling argument and raised some things that we're going to have to look into. I'm grateful that they are here. They sure have piqued my interest. Thank you for your testimony.

COMMISSIONER GEHMAN: Yes, indeed. I thank you, too. As you may or may not know, the 30th of

June -- I think it's the 30th of June -- in Atlanta, Georgia we are dedicating an entire hearing to Air National Guard issues, not geographically specific, because there's a whole question about how the Guard -- Army and Air Guard was treated in this. So we have a specific hearing for this. And so if you have input you'd like to make to the staff, we would be delighted to receive them.

SENATOR SCHAUER: Thank you very much.
Thank you for the opportunity to be with you.

COMMISSIONER GEHMAN: Thank you very much.
You get the last.

SENATOR LEVIN: The hearing on the 30th is, I think, really a vital hearing that effects so many bases around the country. It's kind of a generic issue, as you have said, Mr. Chairman, as well as a specific issue because each base has got some specific issues as well, but there is a generic issue.

COMMISSIONER GEHMAN: Thank you very much,
Yes.

Good afternoon. We're pleased to have you here. This is our seventh state to be heard from this afternoon and we are all -- we're delighted to have you join us. As required by the statute, we can only consider certified data and sworn testimony.