

### KC-135 Scenario Group Overview

**Start Point.** The KC-135 force laydown used to develop DoD BRAC 2005 recommendations begins with KC-135s based at 38 installations (three share runways with other active duty, ANG or Reserve KC-135 units) at the end of FY 06. Pre-BRAC plans would result in 18% of the KC-135 force comprised of effectively sized squadrons at the 38 KC-135 bases.

**Force Structure.** The 2025 Force Structure Plan reduces the KC-135 inventory. To more effectively operate this reduced force, the Air Force strategy is to organize it into squadrons of 16 aircraft (12 is an acceptable size for the Guard and Reserve (ARC) due to higher average experience levels in the ARC). Effectively sized squadrons better meet the Air Force's expeditionary needs and make a smaller force more effective in meeting both homeland and global defense needs.

**Recommended End State.** The DoD BRAC 2005 end state is KC-135s based at 28 installations at the end of FY 11. DoD BRAC recommendations would result in 71% of the KC-135 force comprised of operationally effective squadrons at the 28 KC-135 bases.

**Role of mission compatibility index (MCI) scores.** In the first step, an initial KC-135 laydown was assigned using the force structure plan and raw MCI scores. The MCI scores accommodate many, but not all, of the characteristics that comprise military value. Among those characteristics not readily modeled are force structure proportionality among the Active, Guard, and AF Reserve components; sizing of test and training functions, operational issues such as Northeast Tanker Task Force and Air Reserve Component demographics. Where we apply military knowledge and judgment to MCI outcomes, we cite the characteristics below as notes in the tables:

1. **Active/Guard/Reserve Proportionality.** Proportionality refers to keeping in constant balance the proportion of the fleet operated by the Active Duty, Guard, and AF Reserve.
2. **Air Sovereignty.** The Air Force worked closely with USNORTHCOM to ensure its ability to execute the air sovereignty mission within the laydown.
3. **Change for Operational / Logistical Reasons.** Recommendations of the type are made for both operational (e.g., mission type) and logistical (e.g., aircraft commonality) reasons.
4. **Test Resources.** Edwards and Eglin keep the same number of test aircraft reflected in the FY 06 POM. Overseas bases were not considered and therefore maintain the status quo.
5. **Training Bases.** The size of the training fleet is appropriate to the size of the entire fleet. Altus AFB executes the Flying Training Unit (FTU) mission.
6. **ARC Demographics.** The Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve General Officer members of the AF Base Closure Executive Group (BCEG), provided expert military knowledge and judgment with respect to state factors, possible emerging missions, ability to associate with active units, and ability to recruit to larger squadron sizes.

7. Joint Interoperability. These judgments refer to interoperability factors related to nearby installations.

Gain Aircraft in BRAC
Lose Aircraft in BRAC
No Change in BRAC

**KC-135 Scenario Group Recommendations, by Component**

**Active Duty.** The active duty KC-135 force decreases from 145 Primary Authorized Aircraft (PAA) to 119 PAA. Active duty operational KC-135s consolidate from five to three United States locations--McCormick, Fairchild and MacDill—with a Guard associate unit at Fairchild and Reserve associate units at McCormick and MacDill. This does not include the test and training locations at Altus and Edwards. Consolidating the number of U.S. deployable active wings to McCormick, Fairchild and MacDill enables the Air Force to more effectively manage AEF deployments and worldwide air refueling requirements. Movement of the single squadron from Robins AFB optimizes active duty tanker squadron sizing at McCormick AFB using McCormick’s excess capacity. This realignment also makes available the vacated KC-135 ramp and facilities at Robins for the aircraft displaced by the proposed closure of NAS Atlanta.

	MCI	Installation	SQDNs	Start	BRAC	SQDNs	NOTES
AD	6	Altus	2	24	24	2	
AD	8	Edwards		1	1		
AD	15	McCormick	2	30	48	3	
AD	17	Fairchild	2	30	30	2	
AD	18	Robins	1	12	0	0	1, 7
AAD	36	MacDill	1	12	16	1	
AD	40	Grand Forks	3	36	0	0	
			11	145	119	8	

**Air Force Reserve (AFR).** The AFR KC-135 force decreases from 72 to 64 PAA. The AFR KC-135 fleet consolidates from eight to five locations, with an Active associate unit at Seymour-Johnson. Proportionality in future missions is key to the Air Force recommendations to realign Beale AFB. Although Beale AFB ranked high in the tanker MCI, the BCEG recommended realigning Beale to achieve several things: retain reserve component manpower and experience for the new Global Hawk mission, focus Beale on one primary operational flying mission (manned and unmanned high altitude reconnaissance) and help balance the Reserve and ANG KC-135 force structure.

	MCI	Installation	SQDNs	Start	BRAC	SQDNs	NOTES
AFR	4	Tinker	1	8	12	1	
AFR	10	Beale	1	8	0	0	6, 7
AFR	16	March	1	8	12	1	
AFR	25	Seymour Johnson	1	8	16	1	
AFR	31	Grissom	2	16	16	2	
AFR	32	Andrews	1	8	8	1	
AFR	57	Selfridge	1	8	0	0	
AFR	71	Portland	1	8	0	0	
			9	72	64	6	

**Air National Guard (ANG).** The ANG KC-135 force decreases from 199 to 172 PAA. ANG KC-135s consolidate from 22 to 15 installations. The three highest MCI scoring bases, McConnell, March and Fairchild are supporting Active Duty and Air Force Reserve units as describe above. As previously mentioned, the realignment of the Robins' KC-135R aircraft enables the ANG to realign its KC-135R presence from McConnell to Forbes Field. Forbes Field was one of the higher-ranking reserve component tanker bases. March ARB has the highest military value of all reserve component bases for the tanker mission. The realignment of the ANG KC-135s enables streamlining March ARB from two wing organizational structures and two units flying the same aircraft (ANG and AFRC) to one effectively sized reserve component flying mission (AFRC). This will eliminate competing recruiting entities for the same flying and maintenance personnel at March. The association of the Guard and Active Duty at Fairchild postures that base with an Active Guard association and frees capacity for the eventual arrival of KC-X. The remaining ANG force structure was placed at ANG bases in order of MCI precedence except as noted below:

McGuire - even though McGuire ranked somewhat higher in the tanker MCI than other tanker installations that were not closed, the BCEG, in coordination with the Navy, judged making the vacated KC-135E ramp and facilities available for aircraft and personnel from the closure of the Navy's Willow Grove NAS had more value from a joint perspective.

Birmingham - The Air Force's desire to grow the ANG Intelligence mission at Birmingham, and the recommended expansion of the ANG flying mission at Dannelly Field, contributed prominently to the deliberative discussions to remove the tankers from Birmingham. Ultimately, it was determined that any increase in the intelligence mission at Birmingham would not only result in competition for the same recruits, but would prohibit the Air Force from robusting the KC-135 unit from eight to twelve aircraft due to competition for existing ANG facilities and any required buildable acres.

Key Field and Niagara - Bangor and Pease were chosen because both provide substantial support for the Northeast Tanker Task Force and the Atlantic Air Bridge. Even though Bangor was slightly lower than Niagara in MCI score, its location (400 miles closer to the North Atlantic Tracks) as the northeastern-most tanker installation combined with its current missions (staging

base and planning facility for the Northeast Tanker Task Force and the Atlantic Air Bridge) made it a more valuable ANG installation to retain.

	MCI	Installation	SQDNs	Start	BRAC	SQDNs	NOTEs
ANG	15	McCconnell	1	9	0	0	1, 6
ANG	16	March	1	9	0	0	1, 6
ANG	17	Fairchild	1	8	0	0	1
ANG	24	Salt Lake City	1	8	8	1	
ANG	35	Forbes	1	8	12	1	
ANG	37	Phoenix	1	8	10	1	
ANG	38	Scott	1	8	12	1	
ANG	47	Lincoln	1	8	8	1	
ANG	48	Rickenbacker	2	18	18	2	
ANG	57	Selfridge	0	0	12	1	
ANG	59	Eielson	1	8	8	1	
ANG	61	McGuire	2	16	0	0	7
ANG	63	Birmingham	1	8	0	0	6
ANG	67	Sioux City	1	8	8	1	
ANG	74	McGhee Tyson	1	8	12	1	
ANG	80	Pittsburgh	2	16	16	2	
ANG	86	Gen Mitchell	1	9	12	1	
ANG	87	Hickam	1	8	12	1	
ANG	92	Key Field	1	9	0	0	3,6
ANG	105	Pease	1	9	12	1	
ANG	119	Niagara	1	8	0	0	3
ANG	123	Bangor	1	8	12	1	
			24	199	172	17	