

BASE VISIT REPORT

LETTERKENNY ARMY DEPOT, CHAMBERSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

9 JUNE 2005

LEAD COMMISSIONER:

none

ACCOMPANYING COMMISSIONER:

none

COMMISSION STAFF:

Elizabeth C. Bieri (Army Analyst)
George M. Delgado (Joint Cross Service Analyst)

LIST OF ATTENDEES:

Dr. John Gray, Deputy Commander, 717-267-8306
SGM Brown, Depot Sergeant Major, 717-267-8301
Ms. Hallie Dubia, BRAC Program Manager, 717-267-5211
Mr. Dave Leonard, Transformation Office, 717-267-9739
Mr. Jim Folk, BRAC Office, 717-267-5415
Ms. Angie Coons, Transformation Office, 717-267-8404
Mr. Wayne Brensinger, Acting Director of Maintenance, 717-267-8563
Mr. Ed Averill, Letterkenny Munitions Center Director, 717-267-8400
Ms. Kim Russell, Public Affairs/Protocol, 717-267-9356
Mr. Alan Loessy, Public Affairs/Protocol, 717-267-5102
LTC Bert Godlewski, Deputy Director of Maintenance, 717-267-8210

BASE'S PRESENT MISSION:

Letterkenny Army Depot is under the command structure of the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command (AMCOM), and is a government owned, government operated installation. Letterkenny continues a tradition of supporting the U.S. Military Services for more than 60 years in Defense and Tactical Missile Systems. Letterkenny has unique tactical missile repair capabilities repairing a variety of U.S. Military Services missile systems including the PATRIOT Missile and its ground support and radar equipment. Most recently, Letterkenny has expanded its product line to include the overhaul of tactical wheeled vehicles (HMMWVs), material handling equipment (7.5Ton Cranes), and Mobile Kitchen Trailers.

Located in south central Pennsylvania, Letterkenny provides easy access to seaports, air travel and major highways. Comprising over 17,500 acres, a large land portion of the depot is used to conduct maintenance, modification, storage and demilitarization operations on tactical missiles and ammunition. On occasion, Letterkenny partners with industry and academia to develop new capabilities and skills. For example, Letterkenny has strengthened its technological development by initiating partnerships with Penn State University's Applied Research Laboratory and the Applied Technology Center at Hagerstown Junior College. Letterkenny remains among the top three employers in Franklin County fueling an economic engine that propels over 1/4 Billion dollars annually into the region through payroll, contracts and retiree annuities.

Collocated activities of the installation include: U.S. Army District Test, Measurement, and Diagnostic Equipment (TMDE) Support Center, U.S. Army TMDE Management Office-Region 1, U.S. Army Materiel Command Management Engineering Activity, and U.S. Army Health Clinic.

Letterkenny supports the growth and development of the local community through its active participation in community planning. Local community planning groups include: The Chambersburg Area Development Corporation, Franklin County Area Development Corporation, Chambersburg 2000 Partnership, and The Local Reuse Authority.

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE RECOMMENDATION:

There are no recommendations written directly against Letterkenny Army Depot (LEAD). All impacts are as a result of other base realignments as noted below:

- Realign Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, CA, by relocating the depot maintenance of Tactical Missiles to Letterkenny Army Depot, PA
- Realign Rock Island Arsenal, IL, by relocating the depot maintenance of Other Equipment and Tactical Vehicles to Letterkenny Army Depot, PA.
- Realign Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, CA and consolidate depot maintenance of Tactical Missiles at Letterkenny Army Depot, PA
- Close Rcd River Army Depot:
 - Relocate the depot maintenance of Tactical Vehicles to Tobyhanna Army Depot, PA and Letterkenny Depot, PA.
 - Relocate the depot maintenance of Tactical Missiles to Letterkenny Army Depot, PA

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE JUSTIFICATION:

not applicable

MAIN FACILITIES REVIEWED:

- Building 350, Vehicle Maintenance Facility
- Building 320, Paint Facility
- Building 370, Tactical Missile Center

- Letterkenny Munitions Center Facilities Buildings 5350 and 5300 (Interservice and X-Ray), 5321 (Outloading), 3810 (ATACMS Missiles)

KEY ISSUES IDENTIFIED

1. Letterkenny Army Depot is a gaining installation from other closure or realignment recommendations.
2. Key issues are to ensure the depot's ability to integrate all new work and any building that will need to occur.

INSTALLATION CONCERNS RAISED

A copy of the installation briefing will be included with this report.

1. Based on previous BRAC rounds and implementations, there is concern regarding the wording of some of the realignments as to what is the DoD's real intent, i.e: what is the definition of 'munitions'? Is it conventional ammunition or does it include missiles?
2. There is concern over the way each of the Services defines "depot maintenance" for missiles. Prior BRACs moved missile depot maintenance to Letterkenny but when it came time to implement the recommendations, there was no "depot level maintenance" to transfer from the realigned installations.
3. Will the storage mission and demilitarization missions come with the maintenance/certification missions?
4. With regard to Tactical Vehicles coming from the closure of Red River Army Depot, what is intended to go to Letterkenny and what is intended to go to Tobyhanna Army Depot? How was the workload split up and defined?
5. Confirm that it is the intent of the recommendation to move the Theater Readiness Monitoring Facilities (TRMF) from Red River Army Depot to Letterkenny.
6. Concern that all unique test equipment will transfer with the missile missions.
7. What will happen to all the demilitarization that is currently located at Red River Army Depot?

COMMUNITY CONCERNS RAISED:

There was no community participation in this visit.

REQUESTS FOR STAFF AS A RESULT OF VISIT:

1. Questions were left with the installation for their response.
2. Additional questions generated during the staff visit will be forwarded to the clearing house along with this base visit summary for comment and response.