

BASE VISIT REPORT**Martin State Air Guard Station
14 June 2005****Commission Staff:**

Jim Hanna: Navy Team Leader

Michael Kessler: Navy Team Associate Analyst

LIST OF ATTENDEES:

Major General Bruce F. Tuxill – Adjunct General for the State of Maryland
 Brigadier General Charles A. Morgan III - Assistant Adjutant General for Air
 Acting Wing Commander
 Vice Wing Commander
 Colonel Ben Jablecki - Executive Staff Support Officer
 Colonel Warren Thomas - 135th Airlift Group Commander
 Colonel Allyson R. Solomon - 175th Mission Support Group Commander
 Lieutenant Colonel Thomas Hans - 135th Airlift Squadron Commander
 Major Mark Ruane - 135th Maintenance Operations Flight Commander

MARTIN STATE AIR GUARD MISSION:

- The mission of the Maryland Air National Guard is to provide air combat forces and theater airlift aircraft to America's Unified Combatant Commands.
- The Martin State Air Guard Station provides support for the C-130 and A-10 aircraft.
- The 175th Wing consists of two distinct flying units with different missions—the 104th Fighter Squadron, flying the A-10 “Thunderbolt II” single-seat jet and the 135th Airlift squadron, operating the C-130J “Hercules” transport aircraft.

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE RECOMMENDATION:

- Realign Martin State Air Guard Station (AGS), MD. Distribute the eight C-130J aircraft of the 175th Wing (ANG) to the 146th Airlift Wing (ANG), Channel Islands AGS, CA (four aircraft), and 143d Airlift Wing (ANG), Quonset State Airport AGS, RI (four aircraft).
- The Aerial Port Squadron will move to Andrews Air Force Base, MD. The 143rd and 146th Airlift Wings will each retire two C-130E aircraft (total of four).
- Realign Barnes Air Guard Station, MA; Selfridge ANGB, MI; Shaw Air Force Base, SC; and Martin State Airport Air Guard Station, MD, by relocating base-level TF-34 engine intermediate maintenance to Bradley, establishing a Centralized Intermediate Repair Facility (CIRF) at Bradley for TF-34 engines.

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Title of Item: base Visit Report

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SECRETARY OF DEFENSE JUSTIFICATION:

- Martin State (140) had a low military value ranking. This recommendation moves C-130Js to Channel Islands AGS (96), and Quonset State (125), both of which rank higher in military value and already operate the J-model C-130--avoiding conversion training costs. Additionally, this recommendation creates two right sized C-130J squadrons. The Aerial Port Squadron is realigned to a nearby base with a robust airlift mission, retaining these skilled and highly trained ANG personnel.
- Establishing a CIRF at Bradley for TF-34 engine maintenance compliments the realignment of the A-10 fleet. The CIRF at Bradley will consolidate TF-34 engine maintenance for ANG A-10 aircraft from Barnes, Selfridge, Martin State and active duty aircraft at Spangdahlem, Germany. Establishing this CIRF at Bradley rather than at Barnes avoids relocation of a hush house facility at an estimated cost of \$3.5M, and avoids construction of additional 18,000 square feet of maintenance facilities already existing at Bradley and that will be available.

MAIN FACILITIES REVIEWED:

- Martin State Air Guard Station
- C-130J Hangars and Aircraft
- Station Support Facilities and Maintenance

KEY ISSUES IDENTIFIED:

- Martin State Air Guard ability to assume multiple missions for National Capital Region
- Possible reduction in retention and recruitment of the total number of Air Guard personnel if Station is realigned
- Realignment would leave National Capital Region exposed

INSTALLATION CONCERNS RAISED:

- Governor and TAG not consulted.
- Formula used to calculate Military Value for Martin State was not accurate.
- COBRA model does not account for drilling Guardsmen.
- State and Homeland Defense/Security missions not considered.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS RAISED:

- None

REQUESTS FOR STAFF AS A RESULT OF VISIT:

- There were no requests for additional visits.