

SILVESTRE REYES
16TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
RANKING MEMBER
SUBCOMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC FORCES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS

COMMITTEE ON VETERANS' AFFAIRS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS

PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE
ON INTELLIGENCE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON
TERRORISM, HUMAN INTELLIGENCE, ANALYSIS
AND COUNTERINTELLIGENCE



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

July 26, 2005

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2433 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4831
FAX: (202) 225-2016

DISTRICT OFFICE:
310 NORTH MESA, SUITE 400
EL PASO, TX 79901
(915) 534-4400
FAX: (915) 534-7426

<http://www.house.gov/reyes/>

BRAC Commission

General James T. Hill (USA, Ret).
Commissioner
2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
2521 S. Clark St., Ste. 600
Arlington, VA 22202

JUL 29 2005

Received

Dear General Hill:

Thank you for taking time last week to meet with me and representatives of the El Paso community. During our meeting, you asked how many times per year an air defense artillery (ADA) battalion trains according to the Army's doctrinal requirements. Several current and former air defense leaders have confirmed the following:

- In order to meet doctrinal requirements specified in the Army's air and missile defense (AMD) Training Strategy, an ADA battalion should conduct a field training exercise (FTX) four times per year, and a brigade should conduct an FTX two times per year.
- In actuality, ADA battalions are conducting at least 4 FTX's per year. A doctrinal FTX lasts approximately two weeks.
- If an operational ADA brigade relocates to Fort Sill from Fort Bliss as recommended by the Department of Defense's BRAC recommendation, two battalions would have to transport troops and equipment to Fort Bliss, or some other base in the western US, four times a year.
- The estimated costs to transport a unit and its materiel are as follows:

1X MEP + ICC (Line Haul + Contract Aircraft for PAX)	=	\$ 199,200
3X MEP + ICC (Rail Load + Contract Aircraft for PAX)	=	\$ 461,880
1X Full Battalion (Line Haul + Contract Aircraft for PAX)	=	\$ 1,585,700

(MEP= Patriot battery minus; ICC= Information Control Central--the van that directs engagements for Patriot)

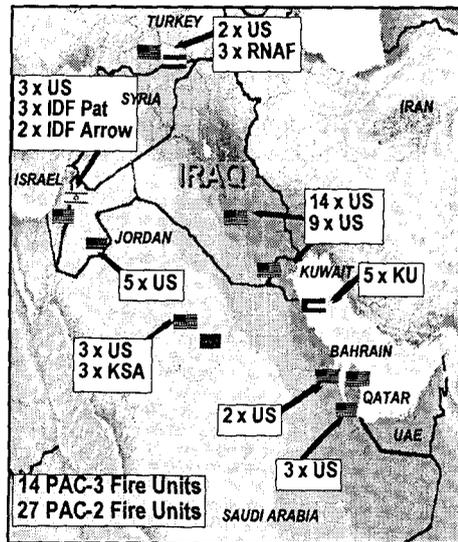
Also, you may recall that we discussed what distances were necessary for Patriot Battery separation to allow ADA troops to train in operational realistic circumstances. Below I have listed the requirements for training based upon the Patriot's most recent use in a combat situation. As you can see our soldiers could train as they fight at Fort Bliss and the adjacent White Sands Missile Range; while replicating even the smallest operationally realistic training space would be impossible at Fort Sill.

- The average distance between a Patriot Battery and its ICC during Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) by BN:

1-7 ADA = approx. 150km
2-43 ADA = approx. 80km
3-43 ADA = approx. 400km
2-1 ADA = approx. 45km
5-52 ADA = approx. 40km
6-52 ADA = approx. 40km

Patriot OIF Deployments (U)

Coalition Patriots Protecting Personnel and Critical Assets



I hope that this information is useful to you and your fellow commissioners consider the important issues raised by the Secretary of Defense's base closure and realignment recommendations. If you or your staff require additional information or confirmation of this data, please feel free to contact the Army, who can verify the cost figures and the operational situation during or OIF or El Paso's representatives, Bob Cook, President, El Paso Regional Economic Development Corporation, at (915) 534-0515 and MG James P. Maloney, US Army Retired, at (915) 833-4644.

Thank you for your consideration of this information and for your service to our nation.

Sincerely,

Silvestre Reyes
Member of Congress

SR/jtm