

Fort Gillem, GA

Recommendation: Close Ft. Gillem, GA. Relocate the Headquarters, 1st US Army to Rock Island Arsenal, IL. Relocate the 2nd Recruiting Brigade to Redstone Arsenal, AL. Relocate the 52nd Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Group to Ft. Campbell, KY. Relocate the 81st RRC Equipment Concentration Site to Ft. Benning, GA. Relocate the 3rd US Army Headquarters support office to Shaw Air Force Base, SC. Relocate the Headquarters US Forces Command (FORSCOM) VIP Explosive Ordnance Support to Pope Air Force Base, NC. Close the Army-Air Force Exchange System (AAFES) Atlanta Distribution Center and establish an enclave for the Georgia Army National Guard, the remainder of the 81st RRC units and the Criminal Investigation Division (CID) Forensics Laboratory.

Justification: This recommendation closes Ft. Gillem, an Army administrative installation and an AAFES distribution center. The recommendation moves the major tenant organizations to Rock Island Arsenal, Redstone Arsenal, Ft. Benning, and Ft. Campbell. It also moves small components of the Headquarters 3rd US Army and US Army Forces Command to Pope AFB and Shaw AFB. It enhances the Army's military value, is consistent with the Army's Force Structure Plan, and maintains adequate surge capabilities to address future unforeseen requirements. This closure allows the Army to employ excess capacities at installations that can accomplish more than administrative missions.

The closure of Ft. Gillem also enables the stationing of its tenant units at locations that will increase their ability to associate with like units and promote coordination of efforts. Both the 52nd EOD Group and the 2nd Recruiting Brigade have regional missions in the Southeastern United States. The 52nd EOD Group was co-located with operational forces at Ft. Campbell to provide training opportunities. The 2nd Recruiting Brigade is recommended to relocate to Redstone Arsenal because of its central location in the Southeast and its access to a transportation center in Huntsville, AL. The Army is converting the 1st US Army Headquarters into the single Headquarters for oversight of Reserve and National Guard mobilization and demobilization. To support this conversion the Army decided to relocate 1st Army to Rock Island Arsenal, a central location in the United States. The 81st RRC Equipment concentration Site is relocated to Ft. Benning where there are improved training opportunities with operational forces.

Payback: The total estimated one-time cost to the Department of Defense to implement this recommendation is \$56.8M. The net of all costs and savings to the Department of Defense during the implementation period is a savings of \$85.5M. Annual recurring savings to the Department after implementation are \$35.3M with a payback expected in 1 year. The net present value of the costs and savings to the Department over 20 years is a savings of \$421.5M.

This recommendation affects: the U.S. Post Office, FEMA, FAA, GSA and the Civil Air Patrol, non-DoD Federal agencies. In the absence of access to credible cost and savings information for these agencies or knowledge regarding whether these agencies will

remain on the installation, the Department assumed that the non-DoD Federal agencies will be required to assume new base operating responsibilities on the affected installation. The Department further assumed that because of these new base operating responsibilities, the effect of the recommendation on the non-DoD agencies would be an increase in their costs. As required by Section 2913(d) of the BRAC statute, the Department has taken the effect on the costs of these agencies into account when making this recommendation.

Economic Impact on Communities: Assuming no economic recovery, this recommendation could result in a maximum potential reduction of 1,824 jobs (1,067 direct and 737 indirect jobs) over the 2006 – 2011 period in the Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, GA metropolitan statistical area, which is less than 0.1 percent of economic area employment. The aggregate economic impact of all recommended actions on this economic region of influence was considered and is at Appendix B of Volume I.

Community Infrastructure Assessment: A review of community attributes revealed no significant issues regarding the ability of the infrastructures of the local communities to support missions, forces, and personnel. When moving from Ft. Gillem to Rock Island Arsenal, the following local area capability improved: Cost of Living and Population. The following capabilities are less robust: Housing, Education, Employment, and Medical. When moving from Ft. Gillem to Ft. Campbell, the following local attributes are improved: Cost of Living and Population. The following capabilities are not as robust: Housing, Education, Employment, Medical, Safety and Transportation. When moving from Ft. Gillem to Redstone Arsenal, the following local attributes are improved: Cost of Living and Population. The following capabilities are not as robust: Child Care, Housing, Medical, and Transportation. When moving from Ft. Gillem to Ft. Benning, the following local capability is improved: Population. The following capabilities are not as robust: Housing, Employment, Medical, and Safety. When moving from Ft. Gillem to Pope AFB, the following capabilities are improved: Cost of Living and Population. The following capabilities are not as robust: Housing, Employment, Medical, Safety and Transportation. When moving from Ft. Gillem to Shaw AFB, the following local capabilities are improved: Cost of Living and Population. The following capabilities are not as robust: Housing, Education, Medical, Transportation and Safety. There are no known community infrastructure impediments to implementation of all recommendations affecting the installations in this recommendation.

Environmental Impact: Closure of Fort Gillem will necessitate consultations with the State Historic Preservation Office to ensure that historic properties are continued to be protected. The closure of ranges at Fort Gillem will require clearance of munitions and remediation of any munition constituents. The remediation costs for these ranges may be significant and the time required for completing remediation is uncertain. Groundwater and surface water resources will require restoration and/or monitoring to prevent further environmental impacts. Significant mitigation measures to limit releases to impaired waterways may be required at Rock Island, Fort Campbell, and Fort Benning to reduce impacts to water quality and achieve USEPA Water Quality Standards. Air Conformity determination and New Source Review and permitting effort and consultations with

tribes regarding cultural resources will be required at Fort Campbell. This recommendation has the potential to impact noise and threatened and endangered species or critical habitat at Fort Campbell. An Air Conformity Analysis will be required at Fort Benning. Construction at Pope AFB may have to occur on acreage already constrained by TES. This recommendation has the potential to impact wetlands at Pope AFB and Shaw AFB. This recommendation has no impact on dredging; marine mammals, resources, or sanctuaries; or waste management. This recommendation will require spending approximately \$1.3M for environmental compliance costs. These costs were included in the payback calculation. Fort Gillem reports \$18M in environmental restoration costs. Because the Department has a legal obligation to perform environmental restoration regardless of whether an installation is closed, realigned, or remains open, these costs were not included in the payback calculation. This recommendation does not otherwise impact the costs of environmental restoration, waste management, and environmental compliance activities. The aggregate environmental impact of all recommended BRAC actions affecting the installations in this recommendation has been reviewed. There are no known environmental impediments to implementation of this recommendation.