

Recommendation Supporting Information

RC Transformation in Alabama

25-Apr-05

Competing Recommendations and Other Information:

There are no potential or known competing recommendations that could conflict with this recommendation.

This recommendation combines the following previously approved candidate recommendations into a single candidate recommendation; USA-0186, USA-0195, USA-0140, USA-0080, USA-0117.

This recommendation supports the Department of the Navy's relocation of Naval Reserve units to Mobile, AL.

Birmingham consolidates into an AFRC on Birmingham Air National Guard Base.

Force Structure Capabilities:

The Reserve Component continues to be an important and necessary part of the Army's force structure to meet its current and future operational requirements. This recommendation is consistent with and supports the Army's Force Structure Plan submitted with the FY 06 Budget Documents, and provides the necessary capacity and capability to support the units affected by this action. It considers essential manning, training, organizing, equipping, and sustaining requirements, as well as approved transformational initiatives to ensure the Army and Department of Defense have the capabilities necessary to meet mission requirements.

Army BRAC analysis and this recommendation enable the efficient and effective reduction of 209 military positions to the Reserve Component in Alabama in accordance with the Force Structure Plan and the total Army Analysis process

MVA Results:

The Department of the Army has more than 4000 Reserve Component facilities across the United States. Because of the sheer numbers of these facilities, the process the Army had developed for arriving at a quantitative military value score for its 97 major installations (including leases) was not practical for its Reserve Component facilities. Additionally, if measured by the active process, which valued training lands and ranges among other things, the Reserve Component facilities would not have compared well against the active installations. For these reasons, it was the military judgment of the Department of the Army that it needed to craft a unique approach for ascertaining the overall military value of Reserve Component facilities. A team of functional experts from Headquarters, Department of the Army, the Office of the State Adjutant General, and the Army Reserve Regional Readiness Command conducted a military value assessment of state-owned and Army Reserve sub-threshold facilities. These facilities

Recommendation Supporting Information

RC Transformation in Alabama

25-Apr-05

were assessed, specifically against DoD Criteria one through four, in their ability to support joint stationing options that enhance Army and DoD transformation; their ability to enhance Reserve Component operations training, mobilization and power projection capabilities; their ability to sustain recruiting and retention; their ability to consolidate functions wherever appropriate, to include schools, personnel, logistics, and other management functions; their ability to relocate Reserve Component units and activities from leased and encroached properties that do not meet anti-terrorism and force-protection requirements onto established military facilities; and their ability to ensure the future readiness of Army forces while reducing the long-term costs of sustaining the base structure. The assessments were certified by the Office of the Adjutant General and the Army Reserve Regional Readiness Command, validated by the Army Audit Agency, analyzed by the Army Basing Study Group, and utilized for deliberations.

Proposal closes lower value installations (in terms of the condition of the facilities, encroachment, proper size building, military vehicle parking and storage for the type of unit) and consolidates onto existing higher value installations where geographically feasible or onto a new installation of higher value because it meets the requirements of the Army's Stationing Strategy for Reserve Component installations.

This recommendation will significantly improve readiness and home station training opportunities by collocating National Guard and Reserve Combat, Combat Support and Combat Service Support units. This collocation of multiple and varied units will allow for more effective communications, more realistic training venues and create cross-functional career development opportunities. The new AFRCs will enhance distributed learning and professional skills / sustainment training. Implementation of this recommendation will enhance individual soldier and unit readiness by providing modern facilities for Reserve Component personnel and units to execute the Train/Alert/Deploy process in support of mobilization/demobilization operations.

Collocation of multiple units into joint use, multi-functional centers provides substantially improved homeland defense capabilities throughout the State of Alabama. Upon activation of the unit/units for emergency contingency missions, the centers will provide critical enhanced communications infrastructure and staging areas for a more rapid response. The capacity of the facilities allows for a response by larger, more capable task organized forces. Due to the existence of federally controlled enclaves and secure communication capabilities, the centers may also provide a platform for interagency participation and cooperation in response to a wide range of emergency homeland defense situations.

Recommendation Supporting Information

RC Transformation in Alabama

25-Apr-05

This recommendation will enhance recruitment and retention of the men and women in the Reserve Component by setting the conditions for better home station training and increased support for family readiness operations for mobilized reservists.

Capacity Analysis Results:

A team of functional experts from Headquarters, Department of the Army, the Office of the State Adjutant General, and the Army Reserve Regional Readiness Command utilized the Department of Defense Guard and Reserve Unit Facilities System (GRUFS) database to conduct an installation inventory and capacity analysis of state-owned and Army Reserve sub-threshold facilities. These facilities were assessed against their ability to support Reserve Component training, operations, force structure stationing, mobilization, future expansion, potential surge, and anti-terrorism and force-protection requirements. Facilities that did not meet these requirements were identified for further analysis and potential closure or realignment. The assessments were certified by the Office of the Adjutant General and the Army Reserve Regional Readiness Command, validated by the Army Audit Agency, analyzed by the Army Basing Study Group, and utilized for deliberations.

Birmingham closing facilities do not have sufficient capacity for consolidation or expansion and do not meet current force structure or unit design requirements. There is adequate space available on the Birmingham Air National Guard Base.

Mobile closing locations do not have sufficient capacity for consolidation or expansion and no existing active duty installations are feasible, so a new location that can support the consolidated facility has been located. The Alabama Armory Commission will make land available for lease to the Federal government.

Pelham Range has sufficient building capacity or buildable acres to support proposal. ALARNG proposes constructing a Joint Training Site and ECS on Pelham Range (near Ft McClellan, AL). ALARNG has master planned 75 acres on Pelham Range for the 81st RRC for this project.

Tuscaloosa closing locations do not have sufficient capacity for consolidation or expansion and no existing active duty installations are feasible, so a new location that can support the consolidated facility must be located.

Montgomery closing locations do not have sufficient capacity for consolidation or expansion and no existing active duty installations are feasible, so a new location that can support the consolidated facility has been located.

Recommendation Supporting Information

RC Transformation in Alabama

25-Apr-05

The new AFRCs will provide capacity to meet current and future mission requirements, including increased surge capability for unforeseen missions and mobilization and modified direct deployment requirements. New AFRCs are required to correct deficiencies in the availability and condition of the land and the facilities currently in use by the affected Reserve Component units. The current properties and facilities do not meet Anti-terrorism/Force Protection (AT/FP) construction standards and they are surrounded by incompatible land uses that prohibit necessary stand off distances.

The existing facilities are outdated and can no longer support the current/evolving force structure/equipment changes and associated training requirements. The units affected by this recommendation require 394,136 Usable Square Feet (USF) of space while the closing facilities provided 345,240 USF. See Table.

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