

Maneuver Training

Recommendation: Realign Fort Knox, KY, by relocating the Armor Center and School to Fort Benning, GA, to accommodate the activation of an Infantry Brigade Combat Team (BCT) at Fort Knox, KY, and the relocation of engineer, military police, and combat service support units from Europe and Korea. Realign Fort McCoy, WI, by relocating the 84th Army Reserve Regional Training Center to Fort Knox, KY.

Justification: This recommendation enhances military value, improves training and deployment capabilities, better utilizes training resources, and creates significant efficiencies and cost savings while maintaining sufficient surge capability to address future unforeseen requirements. It properly locates Operational Army units in support of the Army's force structure plans and modular force transformation.

This recommendation supports the consolidation of the Armor and Infantry Centers and Schools at Fort Benning and creates a Maneuver Center of Excellence for ground forces training and doctrine development. It consolidates both Infantry and Armor One Station Unit Training (OSUT), which allows the Army to reduce the total number of Basic Combat Training locations from five to four.

This recommendation also relocates the 84th ARRTC to Fort Knox and supports another recommendation which relocates Army Reserve Command and Control units to Fort McCoy. These relocations enhance command and control within the Army Reserve, and promote interaction between the Active and Reserve Components.

This recommendation directly supports the Army's operational unit stationing and training requirements by using available facilities, ranges, training land at Fort Knox, KY (vacated by the Armor Center and School) to effectively and efficiently relocate various Combat Support and Combat Service Support units returning from overseas, and as the installation platform for the activation of a new Infantry BCT. These units are a combination of the relocation of Integrated Global Presence and Basing Strategy (IGPBS) – related units returning from overseas and the activation of units as part of the Army's modular force transformation.

Payback: The total estimated one-time cost to the Department of Defense to implement this recommendation is \$773.1M. The net of all costs and savings to the Department of Defense during the implementation period is a cost of \$244.1M. Annual recurring savings to the Department after implementation are \$123.3M with a payback expected in 5 years. The net present value of the costs and savings to the Department over 20 years is a savings of \$948.1M.

Economic Impact on Communities: This recommendation could result in a maximum potential reduction of 8,521 jobs (6,100 direct and 2,421 indirect jobs) over the 2006 – 2011 period in the Elizabethtown, KY Metropolitan Statistical Area, which is 12.93 percent of economic area employment.

Assuming no economic recovery, this recommendation could result in a maximum potential reduction of 834 jobs (497 direct and 337 indirect jobs) over the 2006 – 2011 period in the Monroe County, WI area, which is 3.5 percent of economic area employment.

The aggregate economic impact of all recommended actions on these economic regions of influence was considered and is at Appendix B of Volume I.

Community Infrastructure Assessment: A review of community infrastructure attributes revealed no significant issues regarding the ability of the infrastructure of the communities to support missions, forces, and personnel. When moving activities from Fort McCoy to Fort Knox, five improved (Child Care, Cost of Living, Education, Population Center and Transportation) and one (Employment) was not as robust. When moving from Fort Knox to Fort Benning, the following local area capabilities improved: Employment, Population Center, and Transportation; and the following local area capabilities are not as robust: Cost of Living, Education, and Safety. There are no known community infrastructure impediments to implementation of all recommendations affecting the installations in this recommendation.

Environmental Impact: Tribal consultations may be necessary at Fort Knox and Fort Benning. An Air Conformity Analysis and New Source Review will be required at Fort Benning. Noise analysis and monitoring is required at Fort Knox and Fort Benning to determine the extent of new noise impacts.. Additional operations may impact TES at Fort Benning, leading to additional restrictions on operations. Fort Knox range is located over the recharge zone of a sole-source aquifer, which may result in future regulatory limitations on training activities. Significant mitigation measures to limit releases may be required to reduce impacts to water quality and achieve US EPA water quality standards at Fort Benning. This recommendation has no impact on dredging; land use constraints or sensitive resource areas; marine mammals, resources, or sanctuaries; waste management; or wetlands. This recommendation will require spending approximately \$1.3M for environmental compliance costs. These costs were 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.