

Candidate Recommendation #USAF-0120

Candidate Recommendation: Realign Robins AFB, GA. The 19th Air Refueling Group will inactivate. The groups twelve KC-135R aircraft will be distributed to the 190th Air Refueling Wing (ANG), Forbes Field AGS, KS.

Justification: Forbes AGS is one of the higher ranking reserve component tanker bases (as measured by the tanker MCI). Forbes will optimize its squadron size and recapitalize with newer, more modern KC-135R-model aircraft. Robins is also above average in military value for active bases (as measured by the tanker MCI). However, Robins is host to a new Air Force “blended” ISR wing which will increasingly become the base’s major operational commitment. This recommendation distributes tanker aircraft to a base with high military value within operationally efficient proximity to air refueling missions while enabling Robins to focus on its emerging ISR mission. This recommendation is enabled by the Grand Forks closure recommendation. It enables the McConnell AFB, KS active duty force to take advantage of available capacity by combining previously assigned ANG and active duty tanker assets into one active duty wing.

Payback: (Criterion 5): The total estimated one-time cost to the Department of Defense to implement this recommendation is \$6 million. The net of all costs and savings to the Department during the implementation period is a cost of \$4 million. Annual recurring savings after implementation are \$0, with a payback period expected in over 100 years. The net present value of the cost and savings to the Department over 20 years is a cost of \$3 million.

Impacts:

Economic Impact on Communities (Criterion 6): Assuming no economic recovery, this recommendation could result in a maximum potential reduction of 70 jobs (42 direct jobs and 28 indirect jobs) over 2006-2011 period in the Birmingham economic area, which is 0.11 percent of economic area employment.

Impact on Community Infrastructure (Criterion 7): A review of the community attributes indicates no issues regarding the ability of the infrastructure of the communities to support missions, forces and personnel.

Environmental Impact (Criterion 8): No natural infrastructure issues affecting scenario recommendation.