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Executive Summary

Subsequent to the 1988 Base Closure Commission recommending the closure of five stateside bases, the Air Force has announced the realignment of an additional stateside base, Tonopah (which did not exceed the Title 10, USC 2687 threshold) and the withdrawal from 28 overseas installations. Further, the Air Force will announce the withdrawal from 9 additional overseas installations once necessary host nation notification and consultations have been completed.

In accordance with the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-510), the Air Force has developed a list of additional bases for closure/realignment. The Secretary of the Air Force formed the Base Closure Executive Group (BCEG) with the primary objective of ensuring that the Air Force process for closing and realigning bases inside the United States was conducted in accordance with the law. The members of the BCEG included five general officers and five senior civilians from the appropriate offices within the Air Staff and Secretariat. Directors of Plans and Programs from the Major Commands (MAJCOMs) served as advisors to the group. Senior officers from the Air Reserve Component participated as appropriate. A Base Closure Working Group was also formed to support the BCEG. The Working Group consisted of senior technical experts from the Air Staff and Secretariat.

The BCEG reviewed and considered for closure/realignment all Air Force Bases in the United States which had at least 300 civilian manpower positions authorized. The bases were categorized according to mission. A substantial number of subelements, or measurement factors, were identified under the eight DoD selection criteria, for each category of bases.

Extensive data were gathered to support the evaluation of each base under each criterion. Whenever possible, existing data sources were used. The collection effort was started at the base level. It was verified, and supplemented when required, at the MAJCOM level. It was again verified and supplemented at Headquarters USAF. As an additional control measure, an auditor from the Air Force Audit Agency was tasked to review the Air Force process and procedures for consistency with the law and DoD policy and to ensure that the data validation process was adequate.

Categories of bases which were determined to have insufficient excess capacity to justify closure of a base were recommended to and approved by the Secretary of the Air Force, for exclusion from further closure study. Certain bases having unique military capability and not affected by the DoD Force Structure Plan were also proposed and approved for exemption. The exempted categories and the unique bases remained subject to study as receivers for realignment. All remaining Active Component bases in the non-exempt categories were examined individually on the basis of the eight DoD selection criteria. Each subelement was individually color-coded by each member of the BCEG, and an overall coding for each of the eight DoD selection criteria for each base was agreed upon by the group. In addition, each of the bases in the tactical and strategic subcategories were placed in one of three groups by each member, based on all eight criteria, and a consensus or vote employed to reach agreement. Several different groupings in these two categories were developed by the BCEG using different combinations of emphasis on the eight DoD selection criteria. Air Reserve Component bases required a

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slightly different approach. The BCEG first identified those realignments which could achieve reasonable savings. Then, the eight DoD selection criteria were considered to assure that the realignment would be cost effective, consistent with the military requirements, and otherwise sound. The group's evaluation was presented to the Secretary of the Air Force and Chief of Staff for decisions. The following list reflects decisions made by the Secretary of the Air Force with advice of the Air Force Chief of Staff and in consultation with the BCEG:

Base Closures

Bergstrom AFB, Texas
Carswell AFB, Texas
Castle AFB, California
Eaker AFB, Arkansas
England AFB, Louisiana

Grissom AFB, Indiana
Loring AFB, Maine
Lowry AFB, Colorado
Moody AFB, Georgia
Myrtle Beach AFB, South Carolina

Richards-Gebaur ARS, Missouri
Rickenbacker AGB, Ohio
Williams AFB, Arizona
Wurtsmith AFB, Michigan

Realignment/Partial Closure

MacDill AFB, Florida*

* Note: Partial closure of MacDill AFB does not exceed Title 10, USC 2687, threshold. However, if this closure is reviewed by the Base Closure Commission, successful closure is likely and proceeds from the sale of real estate will return to the Department of Defense. Although not included in the cost analysis, MacDill AFB has one of the highest potentials to return substantial proceeds from property disposal to the Base Closure Account.

The above closures/realignments should lead to annual savings of \$635 million. For these savings to be realized, the Air Force forecasts a DoD Base Closure Account funding requirement of approximately \$1.1 billion. The Base Closure Account funding requirement does not include projected environmental cleanup costs.

The Air Force continues to support the closure of all the bases recommended by the 1988 Base Closure Commission. However, the baseline upon which the 1988 Commission made its recommendations has changed dramatically. The changes recommended below are a direct result of force structure and base structure changes and will result in a military construction cost avoidance of \$84M.

Chanute AFB, Illinois:

Potentially contract fire training. Realign fuels training to Sheppard AFB, Texas. Courses designated for Lowry AFB, Colorado--TBD

Norton AFB, California:

Realign 45 Headquarters Air Force Audit Agency manpower authorizations to the National Capital Region.

George AFB, California:

Realign some F-4G aircraft to the Idaho and Nevada Air National Guard and inactivate the 35th Tactical Fighter Wing. Keep the 41st

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Electronic Combat Squadron (EC-130H aircraft) in place. Realign EF-111 aircraft to Cannon AFB, New Mexico. Establish a composite wing at Mt Home AFB, Idaho.

Mather AFB, California:

Realign Undergraduate Navigator Training to Randolph, AFB, Texas. Realign the 940th Air Refueling Group (AFRES) to McClellan AFB, California. Leave the base hospital open as an annex of McClellan AFB, California.

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