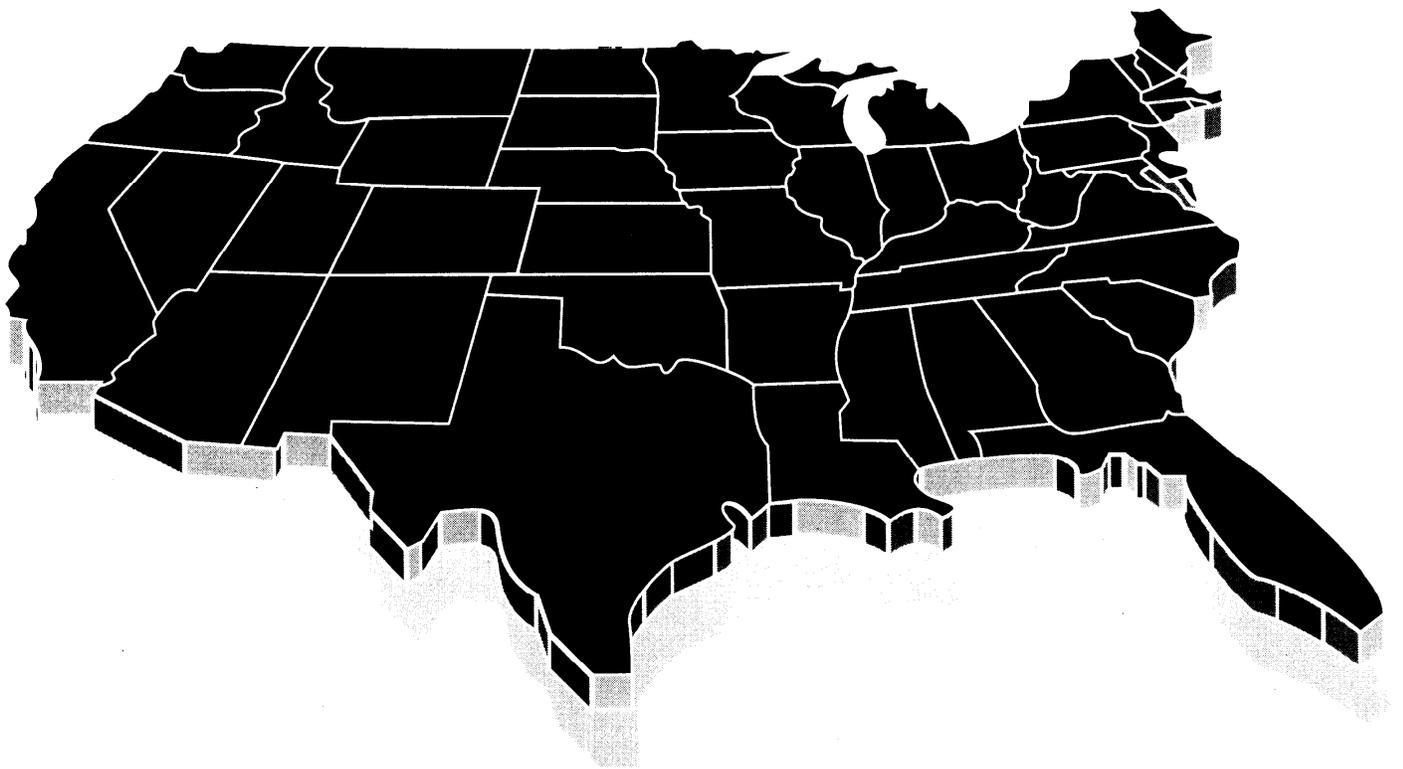


Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission

Report to the President

1991





DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION
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July 1, 1991

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The President
 The White House
 Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission, we are pleased to submit a report containing both a review of the Defense Secretary's April 12 list and our recommendations for the closure or realignment of U.S. military installations.

In preparing this report, the Commission reviewed thousands of pages of oral testimony and written documentation. All of our work was subject to public scrutiny. We held 28 hearings across the United States, visited 47 military installations and met face-to-face with hundreds of representatives in surrounding communities. Among the many people who presented expert testimony were members of Congress and officials representing the Pentagon, the General Accounting Office and the Environmental Protection Agency.

Ultimately, this report reflects the independent judgment of the Commission's seven members. Not one of our decisions was easy. Each of the installations recommended for closure enjoys a proud history of service to the United States. Moreover, we recognize that base closure creates economic hardship that only time and initiative can overcome. Nevertheless, budget constraints, coupled with changing national security requirements, compel the United States to reduce its military overhead costs. I am convinced that our recommendations will strengthen this country's ability to meet its international responsibilities.

Respectfully yours,

Jim Courter
 Chairman

William L. Ball, III
 Commissioner

Robert D. Stuart, Jr.
 Commissioner

James E. Smith II, P.E.
 Commissioner

Arthur Levitt, Jr.
 Commissioner

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