

TAB 6, ATCH A
RECOMMENDATIONS: CLOSURES

HOMESTEAD AIR FORCE BASE, FLORIDA

Recommendation: Homestead AFB, Florida, is recommended for closure. The 31st Fighter Wing will inactivate. All F-16s from the 31st Fighter Wing will remain temporarily assigned to Moody AFB, Georgia, and Shaw AFB, South Carolina. The Inter-American Air Forces Academy will move to Lackland AFB, Texas. The Air Force Water Survival School will be temporarily located at Tyndall AFB, Florida. Future disposition of the Water Survival School is dependent upon efforts to consolidate its functions with the US Navy. The 301st Rescue Squadron, Air Force Reserve (AFRES) will move to Patrick AFB, Florida. The 482nd Fighter Wing (AFRES) will move to MacDill AFB, Florida and convert to KC-135Rs. The NORAD alert activity will move to an alternate location. The 726th Air Control Squadron will relocate to Shaw AFB. The Naval Security Group will consolidate with other US Navy units. All DoD activities and facilities including family housing, the hospital, commissary, and base exchange facilities will remain closed. All essential cleanup and restoration activities associated with Hurricane Andrew will continue until completed. If Homestead AFB resumes operations as a civilian airport, the NORAD alert facility may be rebuilt in a cantonment.

Justification: There were several factors which resulted in the closure recommendation. First, the Air Force has one more small aircraft base than is required to support the fighter aircraft in the DoD Force Structure Plan. When the data were evaluated against all eight of the DoD selection criteria, Homestead AFB ranked low relative to the other bases in the small aircraft subcategory. While Homestead AFB's ranking rests on the combined results of applying the eight DoD selection criteria, one stood out: the excessive cost to rebuild Homestead, while other small aircraft bases required little or no new investment. The cost to close Homestead AFB is low, especially when measured against the high cost of reconstruction, and the long-term savings are substantial.

All small aircraft bases were considered equally in a process that conformed to the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-510), as amended, and the Department of Defense (DOD) guidance. Each base was evaluated against the eight DoD selection criteria and a large number of subelements specific to Air Force bases and missions. Data were collected and the criteria and subelements of the criteria applied by the Base Closure Executive Group (Executive Group), a group of seven general officers and six Senior Executive Service career civilians appointed by the Secretary of the Air Force. The decision to close Homestead AFB was made by the Secretary of the Air Force with advice of the Air Force Chief of Staff and in consultation with the Executive Group.

The cost to close is estimated to be \$75.1 million; the annual savings after closure are \$75.4 million; the return on investment years based on the net present value computations is 0 years. All dollar amounts are in constant FY 94 dollars.

The Air Force will dispose of all property at Homestead AFB except a small parcel that may be needed for a NORAD alert facility. The closure of Homestead AFB will have an impact on the local economy. The projected potential employment loss (8,827 jobs), both direct and indirect, is 1.0 percent of the employment base (898,313 jobs) in the Miami-Hialeah Metropolitan Statistical Area, assuming no economic recovery. The impact on the city of Homestead, Florida will be much more severe. The impact on the community infrastructure at the new receiving bases is minimal. Homestead AFB is in an air quality non-attainment area for ozone, and has significant soil contamination from fuels, lead, and pesticides. Homestead AFB is on the National Priorities List. Closure of Homestead AFB will result in generally positive environmental effects. Environmental restoration of Homestead AFB will continue until complete.

K.I. SAWYER AIR FORCE BASE, MICHIGAN

Recommendation: K.I. Sawyer AFB, Michigan, is recommended for closure. The 410th Bomb Wing will inactivate. B-52H aircraft will transfer to Barksdale AFB, Louisiana. The Air Force will retire its B-52G aircraft instead of implementing the previous Base Closure Commission recommendation to transfer those aircraft from Castle AFB, California, to K.I. Sawyer AFB. All activities and facilities at the base including family housing, the hospital, commissary, and base exchange will close.

Justification: There are several factors which resulted in the above recommendation. The Air Force has four more large aircraft bases than are needed to support the number of bombers, tankers, and airlift assets in the DoD Force Structure Plan. The Air Force must maintain Minuteman III basing flexibility due to uncertainty with respect to START II. This requires the retention of the ballistic missile fields at Malmstrom AFB, Grand Forks AFB, Minot AFB, and F.E. Warren AFB. It is more economical to retain a bomber/missile base that must remain open for missiles than to maintain a bomber-only base. Therefore, based on the facts that K.I. Sawyer AFB does not support ballistic missile operations, that when all eight DoD criteria are applied K.I. Sawyer AFB ranks low, and that there is excess large aircraft base capacity, K.I. Sawyer AFB is recommended for closure.

All large aircraft bases were considered equally in a process that conformed to the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-510), as amended, and the Department of Defense (DoD) guidance. Each base was evaluated against the eight DoD selection criteria and a large number of subelements specific to Air Force bases and missions. Extensive data gathered to support the evaluation of each base under each criterion was reviewed by the Base Closure Executive Group (Executive Group), a group of seven general officers and six Senior Executive Service career civilians appointed by the Secretary of the Air Force. The decision to close K.I. Sawyer AFB was made by the Secretary of the Air Force with advice of the Air Force Chief of Staff and in consultation with the Executive Group.

The cost to close is estimated to be \$143.7 million; the annual savings after closure are \$62.4 million; the return on investment years based on the net present value computations is 1 year. All dollar amounts are in constant FY 94 dollars.

The closure of K.I. Sawyer AFB will have an impact on the local economy. The projected potential employment loss (4,399 jobs), both direct and indirect, is 14 percent of the employment base (29,019 jobs) in the Marquette County Metropolitan Statistical Area, assuming no economic recovery. The impact on the community infrastructure at the new receiving base is minimal. Closure of KI Sawyer AFB will result in generally positive environmental effects. Environmental restoration of K.I. Sawyer AFB will continue until complete.

McCLELLAN AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA

Recommendation: McClellan AFB, California, is recommended for closure. The Hydraulics Component Repair operation will remain open. The depot workload will be relocated to other Air Logistics Centers, other depots, privatized, or other least cost options. The 1849th Electronics Installation Squadron will move to Hill AFB, Utah; the Headquarters function of the Air Rescue Service will transfer to Langley AFB, Virginia; the Air Force Technical Applications Center's Technical Operations Division will relocate to Offutt AFB, Nebraska. The 940th Air Refueling Group (AFRES) at Mather AFB, California, will realign to Beale AFB, California, instead of McClellan AFB (as recommended by the 1991 Commission). All activities and facilities at the base, including family housing, the hospital annex (formerly known as Mather hospital), commissary, and base exchange will close, except the hydraulics repair facility. The intent of the Air Force is that the Defense Switched Network terminal be phased out within the timeframe of the depot closure.

Justification: Due to significant reductions in force structure, the Air Force has excess depot maintenance capacity of approximately 8.7 million Direct Product Actual Hours (DPAH). When all eight criteria are applied to the bases in the depot subcategory, McClellan AFB ranked low in comparison to the other five bases. This ranking rests on the combined results of applying the eight DoD selection criteria rather than one or two specific deficiencies. The long-term military value of McClellan AFB is limited. Incompatible land use is a constraint. The local airspace is also constrained. The closure of McClellan AFB will reduce depot capacity by 6.3 million DPAH.

All six Air Force depots were considered for closure equally in a process that conformed to the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-510), as amended, and Department of Defense (DoD) guidance. Each base hosting an Air Force depot was evaluated against the eight Department of Defense (DoD) selection criteria and a large number of subelements specific to Air Force bases, depots, and missions. Extensive data, gathered to support the evaluation of each of these bases under each criterion, was reviewed by the Base Closure Executive Group (Executive Group). The Executive Group is a group of seven general officers and six Senior Executive Service career civilians appointed by the Secretary of the Air Force (SECAF). SECAF made the decision to close McClellan AFB with the advice of the Air Force Chief of Staff and in consultation with the Executive Group.

The closure of McClellan AFB implements DoD tasking to reduce excess depot maintenance capacity, economize depot management, and increase competition and privatization in DoD. The Air Force fully supports the need to close excess depots, correctly size needed depots, and generate additional savings through workload consolidation, interservicing, and privatization. The closure of McClellan AFB supports these goals.

The cost to close is estimated to be \$427.5 million; the annual savings after closure are \$89 million; the return on investment years based on the net present value computations is 2 years. All dollar amounts are in constant FY 94 dollars.

The closure of McClellan AFB will have an impact on the local economy. The projected potential employment loss (30,761 jobs), both direct and indirect, is 4.1 percent of the employment base (750,823 jobs) in the Sacramento Metropolitan Statistical Area, assuming no economic recovery. The impact on the community infrastructure at the new receiving bases is minimal. McClellan AFB is in an air quality non-attainment area for ozone, carbon monoxide, and particulates. McClellan AFB is on the National Priorities List. Closure of McClellan AFB will result in generally positive environmental effects. Environmental restoration of McClellan AFB will continue until complete.

NOTE: The closure of McClellan AFB will be scheduled to last the full six years allowed by DBCRA. During that time, activities will phase down gradually, as workload is transferred in a cost effective manner, or terminate when the equipment supported is-retired. Installation cleanup would continue and would be completed as rapidly as feasible. The Air Force will actively encourage non-Air Force use of facilities at McClellan AFB for job-creating activities that would be compatible with the cleanup effort. Facilities will be made available to other government agencies or to the private sector by lease at fair market value. This approach will expedite conversion and reduce the cost to close.

NEWARK AIR FORCE BASE, OHIO

Recommendation: Newark AFB, Ohio, is recommended for closure. The Aerospace Guidance and Metrology Center (AGMC) depot will be closed; some workload will be realigned to other Air Logistics Centers, other depots, or other least cost options, but most will be privatized in place.

Justification: Due to significant reductions in force structure, the Air Force has an excess depot maintenance capacity of approximately 8.7 million Direct Product Actual Hours (DPAH). When all eight criteria are applied to the bases in the depot subcategory, Newark AFB ranked low in comparison to the other five depot bases. The long-term military value of the base is low because it does not have an airfield and it is not a traditional Air Force base in any respect. Instead, it is a stand-alone, highly technical, industrial plant that is operated predominantly by a civilian work force. As a result, it is conducive for conversion to the private sector. The closure of Newark AFB will reduce the Air Force depot capacity by 1.7 million DPAH and is consistent with OSD guidance to reduce capacity, economize depot management, and increase competition and privatization in DoD.

All six Air Force depots were considered for closure equally in a process that conformed to the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-510), as amended, and Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) guidance. Each base hosting an Air Force depot was evaluated against the eight DoD selection criteria and a large number of sub-elements specific to Air Force bases, depots, and missions. Extensive data, gathered to support the evaluation of these bases under each criterion, was reviewed by the Base Closure Executive Group (Executive Group). The Executive Group is a group of seven general officers and six Senior Executive Service career civilians appointed by the Secretary of the Air Force (SECAF). SECAF made the decision to close Newark AFB with the advice of the Air Force Chief of Staff and in consultation with the Executive Group.

The cost to close is estimated to be \$31.3 million; the annual savings after closure are \$3.8 million; the return on investment years based on the net present value computations is 8 years. All dollar amounts are in constant FY 94 dollars.

The closure of Newark AFB will have an impact on the local economy. The projected potential employment loss (2,963 jobs), both direct and indirect, is 4.6 percent of the employment base (64,529 jobs) in the Licking County Metropolitan Statistical Area, assuming no economic recovery.* Newark AFB is in an air quality non-attainment area for ozone. Closure of Newark AFB will result in generally positive environmental effects. Environmental restoration of Newark AFB will continue until complete.

*If privatization occurs the loss of Air Force authorizations at the depot will not represent actual job losses.