

costs to close Stratford Army Engine Plant. The community questions whether or not the Army's recommendation complies with a Defense Science Board Tank Engine Industrial Base Task Force recommendation. The community challenges the Army's economic impact estimates and cost analysis. The community contends the Army is underestimating costs for equipment movement or disposal, military construction at gaining installations, and personnel. They also point out the Army analysis does not account for loss of \$2 million in rental income from the contractor.

Commission Findings

The Commission found the Army can sustain the tank engine and helicopter turbine engine base through Anniston Army Depot, Alabama, and Corpus Christi Army Depot, Texas. With the decreasing need for new engines and technological capabilities currently available in the private industrial sector, retention of Stratford Army Engine Plant was not necessary. The Commission found the Army estimates on the costs of this recommendation were understated. Recognition of the costs associated with movement of Defense Contract Management Personnel and movement of equipment necessary to future production of spares for engine rebuild changed the return on investment to one year instead of immediate.

Commission Recommendation

The Commission finds the Secretary of Defense did not deviate substantially from the force-structure plan and final criteria. Therefore, the Commission recommends the following: close Stratford Army Engine Plant.

Big Coppett Key, Florida

Category: Minor Installation
Mission: Formerly provided
communication support to
the U.S. Army

One-time Cost: None

Savings: 1996-2001: \$0.05 million

Annual: \$0.01 million

Return on Investment: 1996 (Immediate)

FINAL ACTION: Close

Secretary of Defense Recommendation

Close Big Coppett Key.

Secretary of Defense Justification

Big Coppett Key, an island near Key West, consists of approximately five acres and 3,000 square feet of facilities. Big Coppett Key formerly provided communications support to United States Army. Since the Army no longer uses Big Coppett Key, it is excess and to Army requirements. Closing Big Coppett Key will save base operations and maintenance funds and provide reuse opportunities.

Community Concerns

There were no formal expressions from the community.

Commission Findings

The Commission found no reason to disagree with the recommendation of the Secretary of Defense.

Commission Recommendation

The Commission finds the Secretary of Defense did not deviate substantially from the force-structure plan and final criteria. Therefore, the Commission recommends the following: close Big Coppett Key.

Price Support Center, Illinois

Category: Command, Control and
Administration

Mission: Administrative and logistics support

One-time Cost: None

Savings: 1996-01: None

Annual: None

Return on Investment: None

FINAL ACTION: Remain Open

Secretary of Defense Recommendation

Close Charles Melvin Price Support Center, except a small reserve enclave and a storage area.

Secretary of Defense Justification

Charles Melvin Price Support Center provides area support and military housing to the Army and other Federal activities in the St. Louis, MO, area. It is low in military value compared to similar installations. Its tenants, including a recruiting company and a criminal investigative unit, can easily relocate.

This recommendation is related to the Army's recommendation to relocate Aviation-Troop Command (ATCOM) from St. Louis, MO, to other