

RESERVE COMPONENT TRANSFORMATION, LOUISIANA (ARMY RECOMMENDATION)

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE RECOMMENDATION

Close the Roberts United States Army Reserve Center Baton Rouge, LA, and the Navy-Marine Corps Reserve Center, Baton Rouge, LA, and relocate units to a new Armed Forces Reserve Center and Field Maintenance Shop on suitable state property adjacent to the Baton Rouge Airport (State Property). The new AFRC shall have the capability to accommodate Louisiana National Guard Units from the Army National Guard Readiness Center located in Baton Rouge, LA, and the Army National Guard Organizational Maintenance Shop #8 located in Baton Rouge, LA, if the state of Louisiana decides to relocate those National Guard units.

Close United States Army Reserve Center, Shreveport, LA, and the United States Army Reserve Center, Bossier City, LA, and relocate all Reserve Component units to a new Armed Forces Reserve Center that will be constructed on or adjacent to the Naval-Marine Corps Reserve Center, Shreveport in Bossier City, LA, if the Army is able to acquire suitable property for construction of the facilities.

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE JUSTIFICATION

This recommendation transforms Reserve Component facilities in the State of Louisiana. The implementation of this recommendation will enhance military value, improve homeland defense capability, greatly improve training and deployment capability, create significant efficiencies and cost savings, and is consistent with the Army's force structure plans and Army transformational objectives.

This recommendation is the result of a state-wide analysis of Reserve Component installations and facilities conducted by a team of functional experts from Headquarters, Department of the Army, the Office of the State Adjutant General, and the Army Reserve Regional Readiness Command.

This recommendation closes three Army Reserve centers, one Navy-Marine Corps Reserve Center and constructs two multicomponent or joint, multifunctional Armed Forces Reserve Centers (AFRCs), throughout the State of Louisiana, capable of accommodating National Guard, Army Reserve, Naval Reserve and Marine Corps Reserve units.

This recommendation reduces military manpower and associated costs for maintaining existing facilities by collapsing six separate facilities into two modern Armed Forces Reserve Centers.

These joint-use facilities will significantly reduce operating costs and create improved business processes. The Department understands that the State of Louisiana will close the Louisiana Army National Guard Readiness Center in Baton Rouge and Organizational Maintenance Shop #8 in Baton Rouge. The Armed Forces Reserve Centers will have the capability to accommodate these units if the state decides to relocate the units from these closed facilities into the new AFRCs.

This recommendation considered feasible locations within the demographic and geographic areas of the closing facilities and affected units. The sites selected were determined as the best locations because they optimize the Reserve Components' ability to recruit and retain Reserve Component soldiers and to train and mobilize units affected by this recommendation.

This recommendation provides the opportunity for other Local, State, or Federal organizations to partner with the Reserve Components to enhance homeland security and homeland defense at a reduced cost to those agencies.

Although not captured in the COBRA analysis, this recommendation avoids an estimated \$20.0M in mission facility renovation costs and procurement avoidances associated with meeting AT/FP construction standards and altering existing facilities to meet unit training and communications requirements. Consideration of these avoided costs would reduce costs and increase the net savings to the Department of Defense in the 6-year BRAC implementation period and in the 20-year period used to calculate NPV.

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. In addition, the Commission notes that the Army's process was well thought-out and inclusive of the leadership of the Reserve Components and the State.

COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

The Commission found the Secretary's recommendation consistent with the final selection criteria and force structure plan. Therefore, the Commission approved the recommendation of the Secretary.