

to two hours. Further, Roosevelt Roads already has a 400 unit family housing deficit and the San Juan housing rental market is very tight and expensive. Lastly, the community notes Fort Buchanan's closure would be a severe blow to the 15,000 plus retired community, and would be devastating to the already depressed Puerto Rican economy.

### ***Commission Findings***

The Commission reviewed information concerning the current state and cost of Fort Buchanan's family housing, deferred maintenance, and the status of the installation's utility infrastructure. The Commission noted while family housing was generally well maintained, units are old, amenities limited, and the supporting installation utility infrastructure is old. The Commission found closure of family housing results in savings to DoD, significant cost avoidance, and the reduction of excess infrastructure.

The Commission discussed the range of installation missions. Mobilization support is important, and its support is best fulfilled by a resident active component garrison. The Commission found the concept to disestablish the installation garrison exceeded the scope of the DoD recommendation to realign Fort Buchanan. The Commission reviewed cost estimates to maintain a garrison capable of supporting mobilization and the enclaved tenant units. Although savings are reduced from the DoD estimates, the Commission recommendation reduces infrastructure and retains an active presence in Puerto Rico while still providing savings.

### ***Commission Recommendation***

The Commission finds the Secretary of Defense deviated substantially from final criteria 1, 2, 4, and 5. Therefore, the Commission recommends the following: realign Fort Buchanan. Dispose of family housing. Retain garrison facilities as necessary to fulfill mobilization missions and requirements, and enclave support functions. Retain an enclave for the Reserve Components, Army and Air Force Exchange Service (AAFES) and the Antilles Consolidated School. The Commission finds this recommendation is consistent with the force-structure plan and final criteria.

### **Red River Army Depot, Texas**

*Category: Depots*

*Mission: Depot maintenance*

*One-time Cost: \$7.2 million*

*Savings: 1996-2001: \$83.9 million*

*Annual: \$20.0 million*

*Return on Investment: 1997 (Immediate)*

***FINAL ACTION: Realign***

### ***Secretary of Defense Recommendation***

Close Red River Army Depot. Transfer the ammunition storage mission, intern training center, and civilian training education to Lone Star Army Ammunition Plant. Transfer the light combat vehicle maintenance mission to Anniston Army Depot. Transfer the Rubber Production Facility to Lone Star.

### ***Secretary of Defense Justification***

Red River Army Depot is one of the Army's five maintenance depots and one of three ground vehicle maintenance depots. Over time, each of the ground maintenance depots has become increasingly specialized. Anniston performs heavy combat vehicle maintenance and repair. Red River performs similar work on infantry fighting vehicles. Letterkenny Army Depot is responsible for towed and self-propelled artillery as well as DoD tactical missile repair. Like a number of other Army depots, Red River receives, stores, and ships all types of ammunition items. A review of long range operational requirements supports a reduction of Army depots, specifically the consolidation of ground combat workload at a single depot.

The ground maintenance capacity of the three depots currently exceeds programmed work requirements by the equivalent of one to two depots. Without considerable and costly modifications, Red River cannot assume the heavy combat vehicle mission from Anniston. Red River cannot assume the DoD Tactical Missile Consolidation program from Letterkenny without major construction. Available maintenance capacity at Anniston and Tobyhanna makes the realignment of Red River into Anniston the most logical in terms of military value and cost effectiveness. Closure of Red River is consistent with the recommendations of the Joint Cross-Service Group for Depot Maintenance.

### ***Community Concerns***

The community argues closure of Red River Army Depot will destroy the special efficiencies that result from collocation of the Red River Army Depot with the Defense Logistics Agency Distribution Depot, Red River. They claim DoD substantially deviated from the final selection criteria by

not conducting a combined value assessment of the two. They also believe closing Red River Army Depot will overload Anniston Army Depot, limit surge capability, and jeopardize readiness. Retention of only one maintenance depot for ground combat vehicles will severely limit the Army's ability to respond to national emergencies. The community also believes that the Army understated the costs associated with the recommendation. Additionally, the community claims the Army analysis is flawed by omitting significant mission requirements, such as the Missile Recertification Office, and by including non-BRAC personnel savings. The community also believes the Army understated unemployment costs in their economic analysis. The community proposes retention of Red River Army Depot and Anniston Army Depot, realignment of Letterkenny Army Depot to Anniston and Red River and downsizing of both to core. To fill vacant infrastructure, the community recommends teaming with industry.

#### ***Commission Findings***

The Commission found the Army has treated all its depots equally. The Army's recommendations were an aggressive approach to minimize depot infrastructure, maintaining the minimal capacity to support Army peacetime and wartime requirements. In addition, the Army recommendations supported its stationing strategy and the operational blueprint. The Army's operational blueprint, however, assumed too great a risk in readiness in the attempt to reduce infrastructure costs. While Anniston Army Depot, Alabama, has the capacity to accept the ground combat vehicle depot maintenance workload from Red River, the Commission found placing all this workload into a single facility places too much risk on readiness. Retention of both Anniston Army and Red River Army Depots keeps the Army's top-rated ground combat depots and preserves future readiness.

#### ***Commission Recommendation***

The Commission finds the Secretary of Defense deviated substantially from final criterion 1. Therefore, the Commission recommends the following: realign Red River Army Depot by moving all maintenance missions, except for that related to the Bradley Fighting Vehicle Series, to other depot maintenance activities, including the private sector. Retain conventional ammunition storage, intern training center, Rubber Production Facility, and civilian training education at Red River. The Com-

mission finds this recommendation is consistent with the force-structure plan and final criteria.

### **Dugway Proving Ground, Utah**

*Category: Proving Ground*

*Mission: Test and Evaluation*

*One-time Cost: None*

*Savings: 1996-2001: None*

*Annual: None*

*Return on Investment: None*

**FINAL ACTION: Remain Open**

#### ***Secretary of Defense Recommendation***

Realign Dugway Proving Ground by relocating the smoke and obscurant mission to Yuma Proving Ground, AZ, and some elements of chemical/biological research to Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD. Dispose of English Village and retain test and experimentation facilities necessary to support Army and DoD missions.

#### ***Secretary of Defense Justification***

Dugway is low in military value compared to other proving grounds. Its test facilities conduct both open air and laboratory chemical/biological testing in support of various Army and DoD missions. The testing is important as are associated security and safety requirements. However, this recommendation enables the Army to continue these important missions and also reduce costly overhead at Dugway.

Yuma can assume Dugway's programmed smoke and obscurant testing. Aberdeen Proving Ground can accept the laboratory research and development portion of the chemical/biological mission from Dugway, since it is currently performing chemical and biological research in facilities that carry equivalent bio/safety levels. Open air and simulant testing missions will remain at Dugway.

The State of Utah has expressed an interest in using English Village and associated firing and training ranges at Dugway for the National Guard, including the establishment of an artillery training facility.

#### ***Community Concerns***

The major community concern at Dugway is the Army's planned closure of English Village and the resultant impact on the military value of Dugway Proving Ground. Two thousand residents and employees of Dugway live at English Village.