

# **FORT MEADE, MARYLAND (ARMY RECOMMENDATION - FORT MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY)**

## **SECRETARY OF DEFENSE RECOMMENDATION**

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Close Fort Monmouth, NJ. Relocate the US Army Military Academy Preparatory School to West Point, NY. Relocate the Joint Network Management System Program Office to Fort Meade, MD. Relocate the Budget/Funding, Contracting, Cataloging, Requisition Processing, Customer Services, Item Management, Stock Control, Weapon System Secondary Item Support, Requirements Determination, Integrated Materiel Management Technical Support Inventory Control Point functions for Consumable Items to Defense Supply Center Columbus, OH, and reestablish them as Defense Logistics Agency Inventory Control Point functions; relocate the procurement management and related support functions for depot level repairables to Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD, and designate them as Inventory Control Point functions, detachment of Defense Supply Center Columbus, OH, and relocate the remaining integrated materiel management, user, and related support functions to Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD. Relocate Information Systems, Sensors, Electronic Warfare, and Electronics Research and Development & Acquisition (RDA) to Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD. Relocate the elements of the Program Executive Office for Enterprise Information Systems and consolidate into the Program Executive Office, Enterprise Information Systems at Fort Belvoir, VA.

Realign Fort Belvoir, VA, by relocating and consolidating Sensors, Electronics, and Electronic Warfare Research, Development and Acquisition activities to Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD, and by relocating and consolidating Information Systems Research and Development and Acquisition (except for the Program Executive Office, Enterprise Information Systems) to Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD.

Realign Army Research Institute, Fort Knox, KY, by relocating Human Systems Research to Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD.

Realign Redstone Arsenal, AL, by relocating and consolidating Information Systems Development and Acquisition to Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD.

Realign the PM Acquisition, Logistics and Technology Enterprise Systems and Services (ALTESS) facility at 2511 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Arlington, VA, a leased installation, by relocating and consolidating into the Program Executive Office, Enterprise Information Systems at Fort Belvoir, VA.

## **SECRETARY OF DEFENSE JUSTIFICATION**

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The closure of Fort Monmouth allows the Army to pursue several transformational and BRAC objectives. These include: consolidating training to enhance coordination, doctrine development, training effectiveness, and improve operational and functional efficiencies, and consolidating RDA and T&E functions on fewer installations. Retain DoD installations with the most flexible capability to accept new missions. Consolidate or collocate common business functions with other agencies to provide better level of services at a reduced cost.

The recommendation relocates the US Army Military Academy Preparatory School to West Point, NY, and increases training to enhance coordination, doctrine development, training effectiveness and improve operational and functional efficiencies.

The recommendation establishes a Land C4ISR Lifecycle Management Command (LCMC) to focus technical activity and accelerate transition. This recommendation addresses the transformational objective of Network Centric Warfare. The solution of the significant challenges of realizing the potential of Network Centric Warfare for land combat forces requires integrated research in C4ISR technologies (engineered

networks of sensors, communications, information processing), and individual and networked human behavior. The recommendation increases efficiency through consolidation. Research, Development and Acquisition (RDA), Test and Evaluation (T&E) of Army Land C4ISR technologies and systems is currently split among three major sites—Fort Monmouth, NJ, Fort Dix, NJ, Adelphi, MD, and Fort Belvoir, VA, and several smaller sites, including Redstone Arsenal and Fort Knox. Consolidation of RDA at fewer sites achieves efficiency and synergy at a lower cost than would be required for multiple sites.

This action preserves the Army's "commodity" business model by near collocation of Research, Development, Acquisition, and Logistics functions. Further, combining RDA and T&E requires test ranges, which cannot be created at Fort Monmouth.

The closure of Fort Monmouth and relocation of functions that enhance the Army's military value, is consistent with the Army's Force Structure Plan, and maintains adequate surge capabilities. Fort Monmouth is an acquisition and research installation with little capacity to be utilized for other purposes. Military value is enhanced by relocating the research functions to under-utilized and better equipped facilities; by relocating the administrative functions to multipurpose installations with higher military and administrative value; and by co-locating education activities with the schools they support. Utilizing existing space and facilities at the gaining installations maintains both support to the Army Force Structure Plan and capabilities for meeting surge requirements.

## COMMUNITY CONCERNS

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The communities surrounding Fort Monmouth, NJ as well as many elected officials, maintained that a significant number of current civilian employees would not move to Aberdeen Proving Grounds, MD, creating a serious "brain drain" for the Land C4ISR mission. They further claim that Aberdeen Proving Grounds has virtually no existing C4ISR mission or capability. Advocates for Fort Monmouth questioned the availability of qualified personnel for technical jobs at other locations. They believed a move would have detrimental effects on all of the programs underway at Fort Monmouth, and could potentially harm soldiers involved in wartime operations in Iraq and Afghanistan. The community disputed DoD's justifications that test and evaluation activities were limited by Fort Monmouth's small size, and claimed that established and growing relationships with the nearby Fort Dix-McGuire AFB-Navy Lakehurst complex overcame any constraints on future mission activities. Some advocates went further and urged the Commission to consider realigning Fort Monmouth, converting it into an enclave, and merging it with Dix-McGuire-Lakehurst. There was also concern that closure would have a significant negative impact upon the local retiree and veterans' community, as well as the economy of that portion of NJ.

## COMMISSION FINDINGS

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The Commission found that moving the Night Vision and Electronic Sensors Directorate (known as the Night Vision Laboratory) and the Program Manager Night Vision/Reconnaissance, Surveillance and Target Acquisition (PM NV/RSTA) at Fort Belvoir would add costs and risks to important ongoing programs.

Next, the Commission found that loss of some intellectual capital is a concern and is to be expected in this closure, and agreed with the Department's view of this as an implementation challenge that must be managed with careful planning and sequencing. The Department pointed out that there is a nationally recognized science and technology workforce in Maryland containing the highest percentage of professional and technical workers (about 24 percent).

The Commission concluded that adverse effects of moving existing programs could be managed over the six-year implementation period by properly sequencing the movement of programs to ensure no loss in service, or by providing temporary redundant or duplicative capabilities as necessary to ensure continuous and uninterrupted program integrity. The Commission was also told by the Secretary of the Army that under no circumstances would the Army permit the move to sacrifice or shortchange ongoing C4ISR support and services to warfighters in the field. While the Commission accepted this pledge, and agreed with the Department's position, the critically important nature of the missions resulted in the Commission adding modifying language to ensure that the intent of both the Department and the Commission would

be clearly understood by future Secretaries and other leadership during the implementation period. A reporting requirement was also added so Congress could exercise the necessary independent oversight to make sure the Commission's intent was faithfully implemented by the Department. The Commission also believes Congress' oversight on this issue may benefit from review by the Government Accountability Office.

Last, to ensure that all parties correctly understand which organizations remain at Fort Belvoir and which move to Aberdeen Proving Grounds, the following Unit Identification Code (UIC) level of detail is provided.

1. The following organizations remain at Fort Belvoir under this recommendation as amended:

<u>UIC</u>	<u>UIC Description</u>
W4G828	NVESD (Night Vision Lab)
W6DP02	PM NV/RSTA

2. The following organizations move from Fort Belvoir to Aberdeen Proving Ground under this recommendation as amended:

<u>UIC</u>	<u>UIC Description</u>
W4FH10	USA SOFTWARE ENG CTR
W4GV75	OFC HQ CECOM
W27P5A	MGR USA AAESA, PEO SOLDIER
W27P8A	MGR USA AAESA, PEO SOLDIER
W4G875	CTR RD&E CTR
W27P26	PEO CT3

## COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

The Commission found that the Secretary of Defense substantially deviated from final selection criteria 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 7, and the Force Structure Plan. Therefore, the Commission recommends the following:

Close Fort Monmouth, NJ. Relocate the US Army Military Academy Preparatory School to West Point, NY. Relocate the Joint Network Management System Program Office to Fort Meade, MD. Relocate the Budget/Funding, Contracting, Cataloging, Requisition Processing, Customer Services, Item Management, Stock Control, Weapon System Secondary Item Support, Requirements Determination, Integrated Materiel Management Technical Support Inventory Control Point functions for Consumable Items to Defense Supply Center Columbus, OH, and reestablish them as Defense Logistics Agency Inventory Control Point functions; relocate the procurement management and related support functions for depot-level repairables to Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD, and designate them as Inventory Control Point functions, detachment of Defense Supply Center Columbus, OH, and relocate the remaining integrated materiel management, user, and related support functions to Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD. Relocate Information Systems, Sensors, Electronic Warfare, and Electronics Research and Development & Acquisition (RDA) to Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD. Relocate the elements of the Program Executive Office for Enterprise Information Systems and consolidate into the Program Executive Office, Enterprise Information Systems at Fort Belvoir, VA.

Realign Fort Belvoir, VA, by relocating and consolidating Sensors, Electronics, and Electronic Warfare Research, Development and Acquisition activities to Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD, except the Night Vision and Electronic Sensors Directorate (the Night Vision Lab) and the Project Manager Night Vision/Reconnaissance, Surveillance and Target Acquisition (PM NV/RSTA), and by relocating and consolidating Information Systems Research and Development and Acquisition (except for the Program Executive Office, Enterprise Information Systems) to Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD.

Realign Army Research Institute, Fort Knox, KY, by relocating Human Systems Research to Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD.

Realign Redstone Arsenal, AL, by relocating and consolidating Information Systems Development and Acquisition to Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD.

Realign the PM Acquisition, Logistics and Technology Enterprise Systems and Services (ALTESS) facility at 2511 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Arlington, VA, a leased installation, by relocating and consolidating into the Program Executive Office, Enterprise Information Systems at Fort Belvoir, VA.

The Secretary of Defense shall submit a report to the Congressional Committees of Jurisdiction that movement of organizations, functions, or activities from Fort Monmouth to Aberdeen Proving Ground will be accomplished without disruption of their support to the Global War on Terrorism or other critical contingency operations and that safeguards exist to ensure that necessary redundant capabilities are put in place to mitigate potential degradation of such support, and to ensure maximum retention of critical workforce.

The Commission found that this change and the recommendation as amended are consistent with the final selection criteria and the Force Structure Plan. The full text of this and all Commission recommendations can be found in Appendix Q.

## **FORT MEADE, MARYLAND (JOINT CROSS SERVICE GROUP – HEADQUARTERS AND SUPPORT ACTIVITIES; CO-LOCATE DEFENSE/MILITARY DEPARTMENT ADJUDICATION ACTIVITIES)**

### **SECRETARY OF DEFENSE RECOMMENDATION**

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Close 21820 Burbank Boulevard, a leased installation in Woodland Hills, CA. Relocate all components of the Defense Office of Hearings and Appeals Western Hearing Office to Fort Meade, MD.

Close 800 Elkridge Landing Road, a leased installation in Linthicum, MD. Relocate all components of the National Security Agency Central Adjudication Facility to Fort Meade, MD.

Realign 2780 Airport Drive, a leased installation in Columbus, OH, by relocating all components of the Defense Industrial Security Clearance Office and the Defense Office of Hearings and Appeals Personal Security Division to Fort Meade, MD.

Realign 1777 N. Kent Street, a leased installation in Arlington, VA, by relocating all components of the Washington Headquarters Service Central Adjudication Facility to Fort Meade, MD.

Realign 875 N. Randolph Street, a leased installation in Arlington, VA, by relocating all components of the Defense Office of Hearings and Appeals Headquarters to Fort Meade, MD.

Realign 10050 North 25th Avenue, a leased installation in Phoenix, AZ, by relocating all components of the Defense Office of Hearings and Appeals Arizona office to Fort Meade, MD.

Realign the Washington Navy Yard Washington, DC, by relocating all components of the Navy Central Adjudication Facility to Fort Meade, MD.

Realign Bolling Air Force Base Washington, DC, by relocating all components of the Air Force Central Adjudication Facility and the Defense Intelligence Agency Central Adjudication Facility to Fort Meade, MD.

Realign the Pentagon, Washington, DC, by relocating all components of the Joint Staff Central Adjudication Facility to Fort Meade, MD.

Realign the US Army Soldiers Systems Center Garrison, Natick, MA, by relocating all components of the Defense Office of Hearings and Appeals Boston Hearing office to Fort Meade, MD.

## **SECRETARY OF DEFENSE JUSTIFICATION**

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This recommendation collocates all Military Department (MILDEP) and Department of Defense (DoD) security clearance adjudication and appeals activities at Fort Meade, MD. It meets several important DoD objectives with regard to future use of leased space, enhanced security for DoD activities, and collocates National Capital Area intelligence community activities. It also enables the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Act of 2004, the Administration's counterintelligence strategy, and the Remodeling Defense Intelligence initiative. Additionally, this recommendation results in a significant improvement in military value due to a shift from predominately-leased space to a location on a military installation. The military value of adjudication activities current portfolio of locations ranges from 152-280 out of 334 entities evaluated by the Major Administration and Headquarters (MAH) military value model. Fort Meade, MD, ranks 94 out of 334.

Implementation will reduce the Department's reliance on leased space, which has historically higher overall costs than government-owned space and generally does not meet Anti-terrorism Force Protection standards as prescribed in UFC 04-010-01. The benefit of enhanced Force Protection afforded by a location within a military installation fence-line will provide immediate compliance with Force Protection Standards. MILDEP and Defense adjudication activities located currently at leased locations are not compliant with current Force Protection Standards.

This recommendation eliminates 136,930 gross square feet of leased administrative space. This action provides a collocation of these activities, and reduces the number of locations from 13 to one.

## **COMMUNITY CONCERNS**

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Community leaders questioned DoD's security standards, stating they were unnecessarily more stringent than those developed by the Interagency Security Committee (tasked with developing and evaluating security standards for Federal facilities.) Also, the communities questioned whether DoD had surveyed each facility to determine compliance and the level of compliance with the DoD security standards (or even those "less stringent" standards approved by OMB in September 2004.) The communities felt BRAC was not the proper instrument to effect DoD employee relocation from leased facilities.

Advocates expressed concerns about the negative impact on operational readiness and manpower implications. They argued the current "scattered" arrangement of leased office space makes more strategic sense than does concentration, that relocation will disrupt synergies with other agencies of the Federal Government and the Pentagon, and, finally, that leased space is better able to accommodate contingency, mobilization, surge, and future total force requirements than its alternative, military construction. Similarly, communities claimed their quality of life could be reduced because of transportation problems such as increased traffic, lack of public transportation, and increased commuting times, with the attendant issues of air pollution and increased fuel consumption.

In addition to the generalized comments above, the community expressed specific concerns that Anne Arundel County would be unable to handle the influx of jobs into Fort Meade because of a lack of mass transit, inadequate roads and schools, the poor military housing at Fort Meade, and paucity of safe housing in the surrounding community. The affected communities argued that moving the Defense Office of Hearings and Appeals (DOHA) onto a military installation would make it inordinately difficult for people to have their cases heard and that the cost in terms of reduced accessibility far outweighs the benefits of the proposed consolidation. They asserted consolidation would result in exorbitant, additional travel-related expenses for employees and hearing participants and would increase the case backlog.

## COMMISSION FINDINGS

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The Commission found no reason to disagree with the recommendation of the Secretary of Defense. However, the Commission's review and analysis discovered that the National Security Agency's Adjudication Office is only a part of a larger NSA presence at 800 Elkridge Landing Road in Linthicum, MD, so the recommendation has been amended to realign rather than close that address.

The Commission acknowledges the community's concerns about employee commuting but understands that the local governments involved are planning surface transportation improvements near the Fort Meade area. Additionally, the Commission acknowledges that moving the Defense Office of Hearings and Appeals (DOHA) onto a military installation could make it difficult for people to have their cases heard but expects the impact on individuals served by DOHA to be minimal because hearing examiners (administrative judges) travel to the hearing site on most occasions.

## COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

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The Commission found that the Secretary of Defense deviated substantially from final selection criteria 1 and 7 and from the Force Structure Plan. Therefore, the Commission recommends the following:

Close 21820 Burbank Boulevard, a leased installation in Woodland Hills, CA. Relocate all components of the Defense Office of Hearings and Appeals Western Hearing Office to Fort Meade, MD.

Realign 800 Elkridge Landing Road, a leased installation in Linthicum, MD. Relocate all components of the National Security Agency Central Adjudication Facility to Fort Meade, MD.

Realign 2780 Airport Drive, a leased installation in Columbus, OH, by relocating all components of the Defense Industrial Security Clearance Office and the Defense Office of Hearings and Appeals Personal Security Division to Fort Meade, MD.

Realign 1777 N. Kent Street, a leased installation in Arlington, VA, by relocating all components of the Washington Headquarters Service Central Adjudication Facility to Fort Meade, MD.

Realign 875 N. Randolph Street, a leased installation in Arlington, VA, by relocating all components of the Defense Office of Hearings and Appeals Headquarters to Fort Meade, MD.

Realign 10050 North 25th Avenue, a leased installation in Phoenix, AZ, by relocating all components of the Defense Office of Hearings and Appeals Arizona office to Fort Meade, MD.

Realign the Washington Navy Yard, DC, by relocating all components of the Navy Central Adjudication Facility Fort Meade, MD.

Realign Bolling Air Force Base, DC, by relocating all components of the Air Force Central Adjudication Facility and the Defense Intelligence Agency Central Adjudication Facility to Fort Meade, MD.

Realign the Pentagon, Washington, DC, by relocating all components of the Joint Staff Central Adjudication Facility to Fort Meade, MD.

Realign the US Army Soldiers Systems Center Garrison, Natick, MA, by relocating all components of the Defense Office of Hearings and Appeals Boston Hearing office to Fort Meade, MD.

The Commission found this change and the recommendation as amended are consistent with the final selection criteria and the Force Structure Plan. The full text of this and all Commission recommendations can be found in Appendix Q.

# **FORT MEADE, MARYLAND (JOINT CROSS SERVICE GROUP – HEADQUARTERS AND SUPPORT ACTIVITIES; CONSOLIDATE DEFENSE INFORMATION**

# SYSTEM AGENCY AND ESTABLISH JOINT C4ISR D&A CAPABILITY)

## SECRETARY OF DEFENSE RECOMMENDATION

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Close 5600 Columbia Pike and Skyline Place (Skyline VII), leased installations in Falls Church, VA, and 1010 Gause Boulevard, a leased installation in Slidell, LA.

Relocate all components of the Defense Information Systems Agency (DISA) to Fort Meade, MD.

Close the Logicon Building, a leased installation in Arlington, Virginia. Relocate the Joint Task Force-Global Network Operation (JTF-GNO) to Fort Meade, MD.

Realign Skyline IV and Skyline V, leased installations in Falls Church, VA, and GSA Franconia Warehouse Depot, a leased installation in Springfield, VA, by relocating all components of DISA to Fort Meade, MD.

Realign Arlington Service Center, VA, by relocating all components of DISA and the JTF-GNO to Fort Meade, MD.

Realign Naval Support Activity Panama City, Florida by relocating the Deployable Joint Command and Control (DJC2) Program Office of the Naval Surface Warfare Center to Fort Meade, MD.

Realign Rosslyn Plaza North, a leased location in Arlington, VA, by relocating the Joint Tactical Radio System (JTRS) Program Office to Fort Meade, MD.

## SECRETARY OF DEFENSE JUSTIFICATION

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This recommendation consolidates headquarters components of DISA and the JTF-GNO, a related organization with a dual-hatted command and shared facilities, at Fort Meade. This recommendation also realigns the scattered Combatant Commander Development and Acquisition activities, of which certain DISA components are a part, into a single activity at Fort Meade. These DISA components include Global Information Grid-Bandwidth Expansion (GIG-BE), Global Command and Control System (GCCS), Network Centric Enterprise Services (NCES), and Teleport Program Offices. This realignment will provide for the delivery of integrated, interoperable C4ISR systems to the warfighters with increased efficiency at less cost.

The Army's recommendation to close Fort Monmouth relocates the Joint Network Management System (JNMS) Program Office from Fort Monmouth, New Jersey to Fort Meade in a complementary action to those described herein.

This recommendation meets several important Department of Defense objectives with regard to future use of leased space, rationalizing the presence of DoD activities within the National Capital Region (NCR), consolidation of Headquarters operations at single locations, and enhanced security for DoD activities.

Implementation will reduce the Department's reliance on leased space, which has historically higher overall costs than government-owned space and generally does not meet Anti-terrorism Force Protection standards as prescribed in UFC 04-010-01. The recommendation eliminates over 720,000 Usable Square Feet (USF) of leased administrative space. The relocation of a DoD Agency headquarters to a military installation that is outside of the NCR provides dispersion of DoD activities away from a dense concentration within the NCR. This, plus the immediate benefit of enhanced Force Protection afforded by a location within a military installation fence-line, will provide immediate compliance with Force Protection Standards.

DISA's current leased locations are not compliant with current Force Protection Standards. This action provides a consolidation for DISA's headquarters, reducing the number of buildings from eight to two.

## COMMUNITY CONCERNS

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The Slidell, LA, community argued that closure of 1010 Gause Boulevard, a leased installation, would decrease military value for the Defense Information Systems Agency. They claimed functions performed by DISA at Slidell are not headquarters functions appropriate for consolidation into headquarters operations. The Slidell facility meets DoD force protection requirements and has low operating costs. The community proposed relocating functions within the National Capital Region to Slidell, LA, as a way to meet DoD's goal of dispersion of defense activities away from a dense concentration within the National Capital Region and asserted construction costs at Fort Meade, MD, are underestimated. The community stated DoD's scenario underestimated the number of employees needed to be recruited at Fort Meade to offset the loss of personnel from Slidell and therefore overestimated personnel savings. Further, the community suggested that COBRA data underestimate the cost of closing the Slidell facility and relocating associated equipment to Fort Meade, MD.

The Falls Church, VA, community argued that current leased installations occupied by DISA at Skyline Drive could meet DoD force protection requirements for less cost than relocating to Fort Meade, MD. The community suggested that cost estimates for leased space overestimated the projected cost avoidance for vacating leased space. Although spread across several buildings in Northern Virginia, DISA installations already operate in close proximity to each other and to the customer base in the NCR.

The Annapolis, MD, community argues that the Joint Spectrum Center (JSC), Annapolis, MD, should be included in DoD's recommendation. The Department certified that the JSC has ongoing relationships with another Fort Meade tenant that could be strengthened by collocation. DISA sees several advantages to collocating the JSC with DISA headquarters at Fort Meade, MD and no substantive disadvantages.

## COMMISSION FINDINGS

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The Commission found no reason to disagree with the recommendation of the Secretary of Defense. The Commission notes, however, that the recommendation erroneously failed to include the Joint Spectrum Center in Annapolis, MD, and the Defense Cyber Crime Center in Linthicum, MD, both of which would realize an increased military value from consolidation to Fort Meade, MD. These moves should occur outside the BRAC process.

## COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

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The Commission found the Secretary's recommendation consistent with the final selection criteria and the Force Structure Plan. Therefore, the Commission approves the recommendation of the Secretary.

# **FORT MEADE, MARYLAND (JOINT CROSS SERVICE GROUP – HEADQUARTERS AND SUPPORT ACTIVITIES; CONSOLIDATE MEDIA ORGANIZATIONS INTO A NEW AGENCY FOR MEDIA AND PUBLICATIONS)**

## SECRETARY OF DEFENSE RECOMMENDATION

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Realign Fort Belvoir, VA, by relocating Soldier Magazine to Fort Meade, MD. Realign Anacostia Annex, District of Columbia, by relocating the Naval Media Center to Fort Meade, MD. Realign 2320 Mill Road, a leased installation in Alexandria, VA, by relocating Army Broadcasting-Soldier Radio/TV to Fort Meade, MD. Realign 103 Norton Street, a leased installation in San Antonio, TX, by relocating Air Force News Agency-Army/Air Force Hometown News Service (a combined entity) to Fort Meade, MD. Close 601

North Fairfax Street, a leased installation in Alexandria, VA, by relocating the American Forces Information Service and the Army Broadcasting/Soldier Radio/TV to Fort Meade, MD. Consolidate Soldier Magazine, Naval Media Center, Army Broadcasting/Soldier Radio/TV, and the Air Force News Agency-Army/Air Force Hometown News Service into a single DoD Media Activity at Fort Meade, MD.

## **SECRETARY OF DEFENSE JUSTIFICATION**

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This recommendation creates a new DoD Media Activity by consolidating a number of military department media organizations with similar missions into a new organization. It also collocates the American Forces Information Service (AFIS) with the new DoD Media Activity and the existing Defense Information School.

This recommendation meets several important Department of Defense objectives with regard to future use of leased space, rationalizing the presence of DoD activities within the NCR, and enhanced security for DoD activities. The creation of a new DoD Media Activity as the result of consolidating a number of entities with similar missions promotes “jointness” and creates opportunities for cost savings and operational synergy. The co-location of AFIS with the new Activity will facilitate further consolidation of common support functions.

Implementation will reduce the Department’s reliance on leased space, which has historically higher overall costs than government-owned space and generally does not meet antiterrorism force protection standards as prescribed in UFC 04-010-01. The recommendation eliminates approximately 75,000 Usable Square Feet (USF) of leased administrative space. The relocation to a military installation that is outside the boundaries of the NCR provides a dispersion of DoD activities away from a dense concentration with the NCR. This, plus the immediate benefit of enhanced force protection afforded by a location within a military installation fenceline for those activities currently in leased space, will provide immediate compliance with force protection standards.

## **COMMUNITY CONCERNS**

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There were no formal expressions from the community.

## **COMMISSION FINDINGS**

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

## **COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS**

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The Commission found the Secretary’s recommendation consistent with the final selection criteria and the Force Structure Plan. Therefore, the Commission approves the recommendation of the Secretary.