

COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

The Commission finds the Secretary of Defense deviated substantially from final criteria 1 and 4. Therefore, the Commission rejects the following recommendation of the Secretary of Defense: close Fort McClellan except for Pelham Range and other required training support facilities to be licensed to the Army National Guard, and an enclave to support the U.S. Army Reserves; relocate the Chemical and Military Police Schools to Fort Leonard Wood, MO; retain the capability for live-agent training at Fort McClellan. The Commission does recommend that if the Secretary of Defense wants to move the Chemical Defense School and Chemical Decontamination Training Facility in the future, the Army should pursue all of the required permits and certification for the new site prior to the 1995 Base Closure process. The Commission finds that this recommendation is consistent with the force-structure plan and the final criteria.

*Commodity Oriented**Fort Monmouth, New Jersey*

Category: Commodity Oriented
 Mission: Provides Facilities and Services
 to All Resident Activities
 One-time Cost: \$ 63.6 million
 Savings: 1994-99: \$ -27.0 million (Cost)
 Annual: \$ 13.3 million
 Payback: 10 years

**SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
RECOMMENDATION**

Realign Fort Monmouth. Relocate the headquarters of U.S. Army Communications Electronic Command (CECOM) from leased space outside Fort Monmouth to Rock Island Arsenal, IL, and transfer the Chaplain School to Fort Jackson, SC. Consolidate activities to maximize utilization of main post Fort Monmouth. Dispose of excess facilities and real property at Evans and Charles Woods subposts, as well as main post, Fort Monmouth.

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE JUSTIFICATION

Fort Monmouth ranks fourth out of twelve installations in military value. It is a small installation with elements located off base in costly leased space. Relocating the CECOM Head-

quarters, an administrative and logistical headquarters, from leased facilities located outside the main post of Fort Monmouth, NJ, to permanent facilities at Rock Island Arsenal, IL, allows the Army to terminate a lease of \$15 million per year with additional savings of over \$8 million per year in locality pay differential for the civilian workforce. At the same time, it better utilizes the excess space identified at Rock Island. Separating the headquarters and administrative function from the research and development aspect of CECOM will not have an operational impact.

Rock Island Arsenal has the infrastructure to support and house the headquarters element of CECOM. Currently, Rock Island has administrative space to accommodate approximately 1,000 additional personnel and permanent building space that can be renovated to accommodate even more personnel. The computer-systems center on the arsenal is one of the Army's largest and can accommodate the needs of the headquarters.

The Rock Island community infrastructure can accommodate the new residents without the need to construct new schools, new water and sewer facilities, or other public facilities. There is abundant housing at reasonable costs and excellent access to higher education, both at the graduate and undergraduate level.

Fort Jackson trains about one half of the basic trainees and is the largest recruit training center. It is also the home of the Soldier Support Center, which is relocating from Fort Benjamin Harrison. The report to the 1991 Commission describing the proposed closure of Fort Benjamin Harrison stated the Army planned to collocate the Chaplain School with this Center eventually. The transfer of the Chaplain School to Fort Jackson benefits not only the Chaplain School's students, but also the large population of basic trainees who are beginning a new career in the Army, many of whom are separated from their families for the first time. The Chaplain School and its staff of chaplains will facilitate the trainees' transition to the Army life.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS

The community argued the Secretary's proposed realignment of CECOM headquarters to Rock Island Arsenal split the headquarters from the

elements it supports (Project Executive Officers and the Research and Development Center) and reduced overall operational efficiency and effectiveness. The CECOM would best be served by the consolidation of CECOM elements and by taking advantage of recently vacated and renovated facilities by moving onto Fort Monmouth. In addition, the community argued it would take a considerable capital investment to adjust the proposed Rock Island Arsenal warehouse facility to accommodate CECOM requirements. Movement onto Fort Monmouth would avoid the expensive movement and renovation costs associated with the move to Rock Island Arsenal.

Additionally, the community maintained the New Jersey/New York area was the east coast high-tech center and similar institutions and activities would not be available in the Rock Island area.

Lastly, the community argued locality pay should not be a cost consideration. They maintained Congress created locality pay to offset the wage differential between the private and public sectors in certain high cost areas. Therefore, they argued, using this factor in any consideration could penalize an installation when, in fact, it was a Congressional driven entitlement.

COMMISSION FINDINGS

The Commission found there was excess administrative space at both Rock Island Arsenal and Fort Monmouth. The excess space at Fort Monmouth resulted from the movement of the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade, which is not a base realignment action, and the Chaplain School. The Commission found both the Department of Defense proposal and the community counter-proposal were rational approaches to the utilization of the excess administrative space.

The Commission agreed there was a potentially negative impact if the technically trained work force at CECOM did not move to Rock Island Arsenal.

The Commission noted the Department misstated the cost differential between two alternative choices. The Commission found the lower one-time cost of consolidating activities at Fort

Monmouth outweighed the long-term savings associated with the relocation of CECOM to Rock Island Arsenal. The Commission further found the Army's consideration of savings in locality pay was an added bonus of the realignment of CECOM to Rock Island Arsenal, but was not a primary consideration for the recommendation. The Commission found locality pay could penalize an installation when compared to one not entitled to it.

COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

The Commission finds the Secretary of Defense deviated substantially from final criterion 4. Therefore, the Commission rejects the Secretary's recommendation on Fort Monmouth and instead adopts the following recommendation: move CECOM Headquarters out of the leased space and into space at Fort Monmouth vacated by the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade and the Chaplain School, or other suitable space as appropriate; relocate the Chaplain School to Fort Jackson, SC; consolidate activities to maximize utilization of main post Fort Monmouth; and dispose of excess facilities and real property at Evans and Charles Woods subposts, as well as main post Fort Monmouth. The Commission finds this recommendation is consistent with the force-structure plan and final criteria.

Vint Hill Farms, Virginia

Category: Commodity Oriented
Mission: Research, Development,
and Sustainment of Intelligence
and Electronic Warfare Equipment
One-time Cost: \$ 72.4 million
Savings: 1994-99: \$ -19.0 million (Cost)
Annual: \$ 19.1 million
Payback: 8 years

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE RECOMMENDATION

Close Vint Hill Farms. Relocate the maintenance and repair function of the Intelligence Material Management Center (IMMC) to Tobyhanna Army Depot, PA. Transfer the remaining elements of IMMC, the Signal Warfare Directorate, and the Program Executive Officer (PEO) for Intelligence and Electronic Warfare (IEW) to Fort Monmouth, NJ.