

# **RESERVE COMPONENT TRANSFORMATION, KENTUCKY (ARMY RECOMMENDATION)**

## **SECRETARY OF DEFENSE RECOMMENDATION**

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Close the Richmond US Army Reserve Center, Maysville US Army Reserve Center and relocate and consolidate those units with Army Reserve units currently on Bluegrass Army Depot into a new Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) and Field Maintenance Facility (FMS) on Blue Grass Army Depot, KY. The new AFRC shall have the capability to accommodate Kentucky National Guard units located on Bluegrass Army Depot, KY, if the state decides to relocate those National Guard units.

Close the Paducah Memorial United States Army Reserve Center and the Paducah #2 United States Army Reserve Center and relocate units into a new Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) and Field Maintenance Shop (FMS) adjacent to the Paducah Airport, Paducah, KY, if the Army is able to acquire land suitable for the construction of the facilities. The new AFRC and FMS shall have the capability to accommodate units from the Paducah Army National Guard Readiness Center and the Kentucky Army National Guard Organizational Maintenance Shop (OMS) #2, Paducah, KY, if the state decides to relocate those National Guard units.

## **SECRETARY OF DEFENSE JUSTIFICATION**

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This recommendation transforms Reserve Component facilities throughout the State of Kentucky. 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 four Army Reserve Centers throughout the state of Kentucky and constructs two multi-component, multifunctional Armed Forces Reserve Centers, and two Field Maintenance Shops capable of accommodating National Guard and Reserve units. This recommendation reduces military manpower and associated costs for maintaining existing facilities by collapsing seven geographically separated facilities into two modern Armed Forces Reserve Centers. This recommendation reduces the number of separate DoD installations by relocating to an existing base. The Department understands that the State of Kentucky will close the Blue Grass Station and the Paducah Army National Guard Readiness Centers and the Kentucky Army National Guard Organizational Maintenance Shop, Paducah, KY. 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 site selected was determined as the best location because it optimizes 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 \$5.8M 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**

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Only one community comment was received for all of the 39 RC Transformation recommendations. A political leader argued that the Maysville USAR Center in Maysville, KY, should not be closed on the grounds that closure would increase commuting time and distance for soldiers assigned to that unit.

## **COMMISSION FINDINGS**

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The Commission found no reason to disagree with the recommendation of the Secretary of Defense. In addition, the Community concerns were carefully weighed and considered, but the Commission found they did not rise to the level of a substantial deviation.

## **COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS**

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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.