

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

## **SECRETARY OF DEFENSE RECOMMENDATION**

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Close the Scouten Army Reserve Center, Mansfield, OH, and the Parrott Army Reserve Center, Kenton, OH, and relocate all units to a new AFRC at Mansfield Air National Guard Base located at Mansfield-Lahm Airport. The new AFRC shall have the capability to accommodate units from the following facilities: Ohio ARNG Armories in Mansfield and Ashland, OH, if the state decides to relocate those National Guard units.

Close US Army Reserve Center, Springfield OH, and relocate all units to a new Armed Forces Reserve Center on the Springfield Air National Guard Base, Springfield, OH. The new AFRC shall have the capability to accommodate units from the following facility: Ohio ARNG Readiness Center, Springfield, OH, if the state decides to relocate those National Guard units.

Close Fort Hayes US Army Reserve Center, Columbus, OH, and Whitehall US Army Reserve Center, Whitehall, OH, and relocate units to a new Armed Forces Reserve Center on Defense Supply Center Columbus, OH. The new AFRC shall have the capability to accommodate units from the following facilities: Ohio ARNG Armories Howey (Columbus), Sullivant (Columbus), Newark, Westerville and Oxford, OH, Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base, Building #943 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 Ohio. 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 five US Army Reserve Centers throughout the state of Ohio and constructs three Armed Forces Reserve Centers capable of accommodating National Guard and Reserve units. This recommendation reduces military manpower and associated costs for maintaining existing facilities by collapsing thirteen geographically separated facilities into three modern Armed Forces Reserve Centers.

This recommendation reduces the number of separate DoD installations by relocating to an existing base. These joint-use facilities will significantly reduce operating costs and create improved business practices. The Department understands that the State of Ohio will close eight Ohio Army National Guard Centers: Mansfield, Ashland, Springfield, Howey (Columbus), Sullivant (Columbus), Newark, Westerville, and Oxford, OH, and realign Rickenbacker Air National Guard Base Building #943 by relocating the Regional Training Institute to the new AFRC. 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 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 \$74.4M 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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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. 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**

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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.