Fort McPherson, GA

**Recommendation:** Close Ft. McPherson, GA. Relocate the Headquarters US Army Forces Command (FORSCOM), and the Headquarters US Army Reserve Command (USARC) to Pope Air Force Base, NC. Relocate the Headquarters 3rd US Army to Shaw Air Force Base, SC. Relocate the Installation Management Agency Southeastern Region Headquarters and the US Army Network Enterprise Technology Command (NETCOM) Southeastern Region Headquarters to Ft. Eustis, VA. Relocate the Army Contracting Agency Southern Region Headquarters to Ft. Sam Houston.

**Justification:** This recommendation closes Ft. McPherson, an administrative installation, and moves the tenant headquarters organizations to Ft. Sam Houston, Ft. Eustis, Pope AFB and Shaw AFB. It enhances the Army’s military value, is consistent with the Army’s Force Structure Plan, and maintains adequate surge capabilities to address future unforeseen requirements. This closure allows the Army to employ excess capacities at installations that can accomplish more than administrative missions. The organization relocations in this recommendation also create multifunctional, multi-component and multi-Service installations that provide a better level of service at a reduced cost.

The recommended relocations also retain or enhance vital linkages between the relocating organizations and other headquarters activities. FORSCOM HQs is relocated to Pope AFB where it will be co-located with a large concentration of operational forces. The USARC HQs has a mission relationship with FORSCOM that is enhanced by leaving the two co-located. 3rd Army is relocated to Shaw AFB where it will be collocated with the Air Force component command of CENTCOM. The IMA and NETCOM HQs are moved to Ft. Eustis because of recommendations to consolidate the Northeastern and Southeastern regions of these two commands into one Eastern Region at Ft. Eustis. The ACA Southern Region HQs is moved to Ft. Sam Houston where it is recommended to consolidate with the ACA Southern Hemisphere Region HQs, and where it will co-locate with other Army service providing organizations.

**Payback:** The total estimated one-time cost to the Department of Defense to implement this recommendation is $197.8M. The net of all costs and savings to the Department of Defense during the implementation period is a saving of $111.4M. Annual recurring savings to the Department after implementation are $82.1M with a payback expected in 2 years. The net present value of the costs and savings to the Department over 20 years is a savings of $895.2M.

This recommendation affects the U.S. Post Office, a non-DoD Federal agency. In the absence of access to credible cost and savings information for that agency or knowledge regarding whether that agency will remain on the installation, the Department assumed that the non-DoD Federal agency will be required to assume new base operating responsibilities on the affected installation. The Department further assumed that because of these new base operating responsibilities, the effect of the recommendation on the non-DoD agency would be an increase in its costs. As required by Section 2913(d) of the
BRAC statute, the Department has taken the effect on the costs of this agency into account when making this recommendation.

**Economic Impact on Communities:** Assuming no economic recovery, this recommendation could result in a maximum potential reduction of 7,123 jobs (4,303 direct and 2,820 indirect jobs) over the 2006 – 2011 period in the Atlanta-Sandy Springs-Marietta, GA metropolitan statistical area, which is 0.26 percent of economic area employment. The aggregate economic impact of all recommended actions on this economic region of influence was considered and is at Appendix B of Volume I.

**Community Infrastructure Assessment:** A review of community attributes revealed no significant issues regarding the ability of the infrastructures of the local communities to support missions, forces, and personnel. When moving from Ft. McPherson to Pope AFB, the following local capability is improved: Cost of Living. The following local area capabilities are not as robust: Housing, Employment, Medical and Safety. When moving from Ft. McPherson to Ft. Eustis, the following local capabilities are improved: Cost of Living and Transportation. The following local area capabilities are not as robust: Housing, Education, and Medical Health. When moving from Ft. McPherson to Ft. Sam Houston, the following local capability is improved: Cost of Living. The following local area capabilities are not as robust: Employment, Medical and Safety. When moving from Ft. McPherson to Shaw AFB, the following local capability is improved: Cost of Living. The following local area capabilities are not as robust: Housing, Education, Medical and Safety. There are no known community infrastructure impediments to implementation of all recommendations affecting the installations in this recommendation.

**Environmental Impact:** Closure of Fort McPherson will necessitate consultations with the State Historic Preservation Office. Closure of operational ranges will likely necessitate clearance of munitions and remediation of any munition constituents. The remediation costs for these ranges may be significant and the time required for completing remediation is uncertain. Fort McPherson has contaminated water resources that will require restoration and/or monitoring. A new source review will be required at Fort Sam Houston. An Air Conformity determination and New Source Review and permitting effort will be required at Fort Eustis. A minor air permit revision may be necessary at Pope AFB. Significant mitigation measures to limit releases to impaired waterways may be required at Fort Sam Houston and Fort Eustis to reduce impacts to water quality and achieve US EPA water quality standards. Construction at Pope AFB may have to occur on acreage already constrained by TES. This recommendation has the potential to impact wetlands at Pope AFB and Shaw AFB. This recommendation has no impact on dredging; marine mammals, resources, or sanctuaries; noise; threatened and endangered species or critical habitat; or waste management. This recommendation will require spending approximately $2.5M for environmental compliance activities. These costs were included in the payback calculation. Fort McPherson reports $129.7M in environmental restoration costs. Because the Department has a legal obligation to perform environmental restoration regardless of whether an installation is closed, realigned, or remains open, these costs were not included in the payback calculation. This recommendation does not otherwise impact the costs of environmental restoration, waste
management, and environmental compliance activities. The aggregate environmental impact of all recommended BRAC actions affecting the installations in this recommendation has been reviewed. There are no known environmental impediments to implementation of this recommendation.