

**BASE VISIT REPORT**

**TOBYHANNA ARMY DEPOT, TOBYHANNA, PENNSYLVANIA**

**10 JUNE 2005**

**LEAD COMMISSIONER:**

none

**ACCOMPANYING COMMISSIONER:**

none

**COMMISSION STAFF:**

Elizabeth C. Bieri (Army Analyst)  
George M. Delgado (Joint Cross Service Analyst)

**LIST OF ATTENDEES:**

See attached list.

**BASE'S PRESENT MISSION:**

"C4ISR Logistics Support Center for Warfighter Readiness and Transformation". From handheld radios to satellite communications, Tobyhanna Army Depot utilizes advanced technologies to ensure the readiness of our Armed Forces. The depot, a major element of the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Command, is a full-service repair, overhaul and fabrication facility. For over 50 years, Tobyhanna personnel have built a tradition of unparalleled customer satisfaction through the delivery of timely, cost-effective, and high-quality products and services.

Tobyhanna Army Depot is the largest, full-service electronics maintenance facility in the Department of Defense (DoD). The depot's mission is total sustainment, including design, manufacture, repair and overhaul of hundreds of electronic systems. They include satellite terminals, radio and radar systems, telephones, electro-optics, night vision and anti-intrusion devices, airborne surveillance equipment, navigational instruments, electronic warfare, and guidance and control systems for tactical missiles. Tobyhanna is DoD's recognized leader in the areas of automated test equipment, systems integration and downsizing of electronics systems. The Army has designated Tobyhanna as its Center of Industrial and Technical Excellence for communications-electronics, radar, and missile guidance and control. The Air Force has designated Tobyhanna as its Technical Source of Repair for command, control, communications and intelligence systems.

**SECRETARY OF DEFENSE RECOMMENDATION:****1. Commodity Management Privatization**

**Recommendation:** Realign Defense Supply Center Columbus, OH, Tobyhanna Army Depot, PA, Defense Distribution Depot Susquehanna, PA, Naval Station Norfolk, VA, Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, NC, Marine Corps Logistics Base, Albany, GA, Robins Air Force Base, GA, Anniston Army Depot, AL, Naval Air Station Jacksonville, FL, Tinker Air Force Base, OK, Corpus Christi Army Depot, TX, Naval Station Bremerton, WA, Naval Station San Diego, CA, Defense Distribution Depot Barstow, CA, Defense Distribution Depot San Joaquin, CA, and Naval Station Pearl Harbor, HI, by disestablishing storage and distribution functions for tires, packaged petroleum, oils, and lubricants, and compressed gases at each location.

**2. Supply, Storage, and Distribution Management Reconfiguration**

**Recommendation:** Realign Tobyhanna Army Depot, PA, by consolidating the supply, storage, and distribution functions and associated inventories of the Defense Distribution Depot Tobyhanna, PA, with all other supply, storage, and distribution functions and inventories that exist at Tobyhanna Army Depot to support depot operations, maintenance, and production. Retain the minimum necessary supply, storage, and distribution functions and inventories required to support Tobyhanna Army Depot, and to serve as a wholesale Forward Distribution Point. Relocate all other wholesale storage and distribution functions and associated inventories to the Susquehanna Strategic Distribution Platform.

3. All other impacts to TYAD are as a result of other base realignments as noted below:
- Close Red River Army Depot, TX and relocate the depot maintenance of Tactical Vehicles to Tobyhanna Army Depot, PA and Letterkenny Depot, PA
  - Realign Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, CA and consolidate depot maintenance of Electronic Components (Non-Airborne), Electro-Optics/Night Vision/Forward-Looking-Infrared, Generators, Ground Support Equipment, Radar, and Radio at Tobyhanna Army Depot, PA.
  - Realign Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, CA and relocate the depot maintenance of Electronic Components (Non-Airborne), Fire Control Systems and Components, Radar, and Radio to Tobyhanna Army Depot, PA
  - Realign Lackland Air Force Base, TX, by relocating the depot maintenance of Computers, Crypto, Electronic Components (Non-Airborne), and Radio to Tobyhanna Army Depot, PA; and disestablishing all depot maintenance capabilities.

**SECRETARY OF DEFENSE JUSTIFICATION:****Commodity Management Privatization**

**Justification:** This recommendation achieves economies and efficiencies that enhance the effectiveness of logistics support to forces as they transition to more joint and expeditionary operations. This recommendation disestablishes the wholesale supply, storage, and distribution functions for all tires; packaged petroleum, oils and lubricants; and compressed gases used by the Department of Defense, retaining only the supply contracting function for each commodity. The

Department will privatize these functions and will rely on private industry for the performance of supply, storage, and distribution of these commodities. By doing so, the Department can divest itself of inventories and can eliminate infrastructure and personnel associated with these functions. This recommendation results in more responsive supply support to user organizations and thus adds to capabilities of the future force. The recommendation provides improved support during mobilization and deployment, and the sustainment of forces when deployed worldwide. Privatization enables the Department to take advantage of the latest technologies, expertise, and business practices, which translates to improved support to customers at less cost. It centralizes management of tires; packaged petroleum, oils, and lubricants; and compressed gases and eliminates unnecessary duplication of functions within the Department. Finally, this recommendation supports transformation by privatizing the wholesale storage and distribution processes from DoD activities.

In addition to the actions described in this recommendation, the Department is also disestablishing storage and distribution functions for tires, packaged petroleum, oils, and lubricants, and compressed gases at Red River Army Depot, TX. The storage and distribution functions at this additional location are now being disestablished as part of a recommendation for the full closure of the Red River Army Depot installation. The recommendation to close the installation fully supports all objectives intended by this recommendation.

### **Supply, Storage, and Distribution Management Reconfiguration**

**Justification:** This recommendation achieves economies and efficiencies that enhance the effectiveness of logistics support to operational joint and expeditionary forces. It reconfigures the Department's wholesale storage and distribution infrastructure to improve support to the future force, whether home-based or deployed. It transforms existing logistics processes by creating four CONUS support regions, with each having one Strategic Distribution Platform and multiple Forward Distribution Points. Each Strategic Distribution Platform will be equipped with state-of-the-art consolidation, containerization and palletization capabilities, and the entire structure will provide for in-transit cargo visibility and real-time accountability. Distribution Depots, no longer needed for regional supply, will be realigned as Forward Distribution Points and will provide dedicated receiving, storing, and issuing functions, solely in support of on-base industrial customers such as maintenance depots, shipyards and air logistics centers. Forward Distribution Points will consolidate all supply and storage functions supporting industrial activities, to include those internal to depots and shipyards, and those at any intermediate levels that may exist. This consolidation eliminates unnecessary redundancies and duplication, and streamlines supply and storage processes.

### **MAIN FACILITIES REVIEWED:**

- Industrial Complex
- Tactical End Item Repair Facility
- High Tech Regional Training Center

### **KEY ISSUES IDENTIFIED**

1. Tobyhanna Army Depot is a gaining installation from other closure or realignment recommendations.
2. Key issues are to ensure the depot's ability to integrate all new work and any building that will need to occur.

### **INSTALLATION CONCERNS RAISED**

A copy of the installation briefing will be included with this report.

1. Based on previous BRAC rounds and implementations, there are questions regarding the wording of some of the realignments as to what is the DoD's real intent.
2. With regard to Tactical Vehicles coming from the closure of Red River Army Depot, what is intended to go to Letterkenny and what is intended to go to Tobyhanna Army Depot? How was the workload split up and defined?
3. With regard to the Supply, Storage, and Distribution Management Reconfiguration recommendation, there are questions as to the DoD's intent, particularly which stocks would remain on post and under Tobyhanna control; which missions would transfer to DLA control and operation but remain on post at Tobyhanna; and which missions and stocks would move to DLA control off site.

### **COMMUNITY CONCERNS RAISED:**

There was no community participation in this visit.

### **REQUESTS FOR STAFF AS A RESULT OF VISIT:**

1. Questions were left with the installation for their response.
2. Additional questions generated during the staff visit will be forwarded to the clearing house along with this base visit summary for comment and response.