



U.S. Congressman

Jerry Costello

UPDATE ON SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE



2005 BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE (BRAC) PROCESS NOW UNDERWAY

Dear Friend:

As you may know, members of the Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) have been selected and the process of determining which US Military bases and installations will be realigned and closed is well underway.

I have gone through the BRAC process on four previous occasions. I organized and led the fight to keep Scott off the closure list during the past three rounds in 1991, 1993 and 1995 and I am leading the fight to keep Scott off the list this year.

Scott plays a vital role in our nation's defense and in our local economy. Scott is the home of TRANSCOM and AMC. Scott is also the largest employer south of Springfield and the fourth largest employer in the St. Louis area. Scott employs about 13,000 people and contributes about \$2 billion every year to our economy. The men and women at Scott are an important and integral part of our churches, schools and our communities.

Keeping Scott strong and off the closure list is my NUMBER ONE PRIORITY.

Since so many people have expressed their interest and concern for the future of Scott, I thought you might find the information concerning the BRAC process helpful.

I assure you that we have been and will continue to do everything possible to keep Scott off the Base closure list.

As always, if my office can be of assistance to you in any way, please feel free to contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jerry". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Jerry Costello
Member of Congress

Questions and Answers about Scott Air Force Base, the 2005 BRAC and what is being done today to enhance and grow Scott Air Force Base.

Q: What commands/units are located at Scott Air Force Base and why are they important to the country?

- ✦ Both the U.S. Transportation Command (TRANSCOM) and Air Mobility Command (AMC) are headquartered at Scott Air Force Base. TRANSCOM is the largest transportation operation in the world. No military personnel or cargo moves anywhere in the world by land, sea or air without the command and control system provided by the people at Scott Air Force Base.
- ✦ The 375th Airlift Wing - Scott's host unit, manages the US Air Force's fleet of C-21 aircraft and provides critical airlift to military personnel.
- ✦ The 932nd Air Force Reserve Wing, composed of area residents, provides airlift capabilities to the Air Force by supporting transportation of passengers, patients and cargo.
- ✦ The 126th Air Refueling Wing of the Illinois National Guard is located at Scott. The 126th services a wing of KC-135 Stratotanker airplanes which provides aerial refueling to military aircraft.
- ✦ In addition to AMC and TRANSCOM, Scott is the HQ of the new 18th Air Force which is the war fighting component of AMC.

Q: What is the economic impact of Scott Air force Base on our area?

- ✦ Scott generates about \$2 billion annually to our regional economy.
 - ✦ Scott employs about 13,000 men and women and is the largest employer south of Springfield and the fourth largest employer in the St. Louis area.
 - ✦ Scott active duty, guard and reservists, retirees and civilian personnel spend \$143 million annually on housing and occupy over 17,000 homes in our area.
 - ✦ Each year, \$7.5 million in educational impact funds come to area schools.
 - ✦ Over 105,000 hotel rooms in our area are occupied by people visiting or associated with Scott.
 - ✦ 14,000 military retirees are located near Scott Air Force Base.
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WHAT IS BRAC?

Q: How does BRAC work and what happened in previous BRAC rounds?

To reduce costs and improve efficiency, all 451 installations (major and minor) from the first four rounds for closure and realignment were completed by the end of 2001. The U.S. General Accounting Office has estimated that these closures and realignments produced net savings of about \$16.7 billion as of the end of FY2001 and will continue to produce an estimated annual recurring savings thereafter of about \$6.6 billion. We have been successful in keeping Scott off any previous BRAC list.

Q: How did the current round of BRAC happen?

President Bush and Secretary Rumsfeld felt that a new round of base realignment and closures was necessary. While the four previous rounds achieved significant savings, the President and the Secretary felt it was important to continue the process of closing underutilized facilities. Secretary Rumsfeld has continued to believe the process is important and both the Senate and House passed legislation creating the BRAC process which agreed to one new round of base closures in 2005.

Q: What is the timeline for BRAC?

The President and Congressional leaders have appointed the nine members to the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission. On or about May 16, 2005, the Department of Defense (DoD) is to send the Commission its recommended list of installations to be closed or realigned. The Commission will review the DoD list, and then forward its findings and recommendations to the President no later than September 8, 2005.

KEY DATES IN THE BRAC PROCESS

March 15, 2005	President forms new BRAC Commission; sends nominees to the Senate
May 16, 2005	Secretary of Defense sends his closure/realignment list to BRAC Commission/Defense Committees of Congress
September 8, 2005	BRAC Commission sends its findings and recommendations to the President
September 23, 2005	President reviews Secretary of Defense and BRAC Commission's list of recommendations
October 20, 2005	BRAC Commission may submit <i>revised</i> list in response to President's review
November 7, 2005	The President certifies closure/realignment list and transmits approval to Congress (or process is terminated)



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WHAT IMPROVEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE IN RECENT YEARS AT SCOTT

- ✦ We brought the 126th Air Refueling Wing from Chicago to Scott, adding 1,000 new jobs with an economic impact of \$38 million annually to the area.
- ✦ We secured \$265.3 million for 3 new C-40 aircraft and \$12 million to keep the 932nd Air Force Reserve operating at Scott - saving 1,000 jobs.
- ✦ We enhanced Scott's "Joint-Use" capacity by extending Scott's runway and adding the 10,000 foot runway at Mid America Airport.
- ✦ We secured funding to build a new state-of-the-art air traffic control tower in use for both Scott and Mid America Airport.
- ✦ We secured funding to build a new school, day care facilities and recreation facilities.
- ✦ All USAF C-21 aircraft are now managed out of Scott.
- ✦ We secured funding to build 840 new family housing units at Patriots Landing.
- ✦ We extended the Metro Link light rail system to Scott Air Force Base.



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