

**PRESENTATION TO THE
MILITARY & VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
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Office of Military Base Planning and Support
June 6, 2013**

Introduction: Many thanks for the opportunity to present a recap of the Military Base Planning Program. We have had a busy year since my last presentation to your Committee. I have attached a list of the Military Base Planning Commission.

Overview: My presentation will include the following:

- A summary of DOD's strategic guidance from last year
- Comments on Sequestration
- An overview of our four Military Installations
- A summary of our current Military Base Planning Actions and Issues
- And a discussion on the proposed Department of Defense Base Closure Round for FY 2015

Strategic Guidance: Last year, I provided a summary of the Strategic Guidance that the President and the Secretary of Defense rolled out in January 2012. This guidance consisted of five elements:

- (1) The Military would be smaller and more leaner, but would be more agile and flexible, taking advantage of technology
- (2) There would be a rebalancing of U.S. global posture, with an emphasis on the Asia-Pacific Region and the Middle East
- (3) The U.S. would build innovative partnerships and strengthen key alliances and partnership elsewhere in the world
- (4) The Department of Defense would support a force that can confront and defeat aggression from any adversary, anytime, anywhere
- (5) And, the U.S. would invest in new technology and new capabilities as well as be able to adapt to new challenges and mobilize as needed

Air Force Priorities

--Secretary of the Air Force: Continue to strengthen the Nuclear Enterprise; Partner with the Joint & Coalition Team to win today's fight; Develop and care for Airmen and their families; Modernize our Air and Space Inventories, Organizations and Training; Recapture Acquisition Excellence

--Air Force Chief of Staff: Establish control in air, space, and cyberspace; Hold any target at risk; Provide responsive intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance; rapidly move people and cargo anywhere in the world; Provide command and control to conduct operations rapidly, effectively, and efficiently

Army Priorities

--**Secretary of the Army/Army Chief of Staff:** Role of the Army is to Prevent, Shape, and Win

--As the President's new national defense priorities are implemented, the Army will continue to transition to a smaller yet capable force fully prepared to conduct the full range of operations worldwide

--To satisfy the enduring requirement of preserving readiness and avoid hollowing out the force, the Army will continually adjust and assess end strength/force structure, readiness, and modernization

Comment: In my view, the announced DOD strategy and service priorities play to the strengths of New Mexico's military installations, given our State's ability to support a wide variety of training, testing, and operational missions.

Proposed Budget Reductions: DOD \$487 Billion over 10 years (before Sequestration)

Air Force: \$10B a year (Air Force delayed modernization, 65%)

Army: \$10B a year (Army delayed modernization, priority on unit training)

DOD Budgets (how they are constructed)

Operating Budget

Operations and Maintenance—O &M (funds flying hours and civilian pay)

Military Personnel (exempt from sequestration)

Facility Sustainment, Readiness, and Modernization

Investment Budget

Procurement

Research and Development

Military Construction

Sequestration: FY 2011 Budget Control Act--\$1.2 Trillion over 10 years, DOD Budget shortfall in FY2013, \$37 Billion; \$20 Billion in O & M accounts

Air Force: 18% reduction in flying hours (priorities on pipeline training, Operation Enduring Freedom, Nuclear Deterrence); airshows, flyovers, Thunderbirds cancelled; 12 combat squadrons have stopped flying; civilian furloughs (11 days remaining fiscal year)

Army: Cancelled: seven combat training center rotations, nine exercises, reduced flying hours by 37,000, terminated 3,100 temporary employees; civilian furloughs, 11 days)

NEW MEXICO'S MILITARY INSTALLATIONS

Cannon AFB (Air Force Special Operations Command):

--The 27th Special Operations Wing is continuing to expand—currently at approximately 5,500 personnel with eight operational flying units (two of which are Remotely Piloted Aircraft—RPA--squadrons); two intelligence squadrons, and a Special Tactics Squadron (Combat Control, Pararescue, Combat Weather, Tactical Air Control Party) to be established next fiscal year

--12 MC-130W/12 AC-130W; MQ-1; MQ-9; 11 CV-22; 10 MC-130J; 17 C-146A; 11 PC-12; 8 AC-130H

--23 military construction projects, \$337 million (larger than Air Combat Command, which has 13 bases)

--Melrose Air Force Range improvement projects: Total of \$31.0 million (the State's Expansion of MAFR was complete on November 30; gift "Bills of Sale" were transferred to the Air Force at the end of the month)

--Cannon Housing Privatization Project: Should kick off late summer, early fall: 670 new homes; 361 renovated; 401 demolished

--Cannon's annual Economic Impact: \$688 million

Holloman AFB (Air Combat Command):

--24 F22s; 10 MQ-1; 10 MQ-9; 7 T-38

--Global Bear Base Support

--44th Fighter Group (Air Force Reserve unit)

--96th Test Group (590 personnel, \$38 million budget): Flight and System Test; High Speed Test Track

--German Air Force Training Group (21 Tornados, 473 military/43 civilian personnel, \$130 million). Indications are that the German Air Force plans to bring the Eurofighter to Holloman—no official announcement, however

--Annual Economic Impact: \$423 million

KIRTLAND AFB (Air Force Materiel Command)

--Kirtland is a complicated installation—most Air Force Major Commands represented: Air Combat Command; Air Force Space Command; Air Education and Training Command (AETC); three units reporting directly to HQ USAF—Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center; Air Force Safety Center; Air Force Inspection Agency

--Host Unit is the 377th Air Base Wing: significant Sequestration impacts: \$12 million reduction, taken half-way through the fiscal year; impacts all units; facility repair impacts; custodial impacts; library closed; West-side gym closed

--58th Special Operations Wing (AETC): Responsible for Special Operations and Combat Rescue Initial Qualification Training in the MC-130J/HC-130J; UH-1 N Helicopter; MH-60 Helicopters; CV-22 Osprey; 58th training

infrastructure issues: Belen Airport; Stallion Strip (WSMR); New Mexico Air National Guard Associate relationship, steady progress

--Last year, the Air Force proposed space-related reductions at Kirtland: it appears the Operationally Responsive Space Office will now become part of the Space and Missile Systems Center, Los Angeles

--Economic Impact: \$4.8 Billion (DOD only)

WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE (ArmyTest and Evaluation Command)

--WSMR is a Tri-Service range installation partnered with Ft. Bliss and Holloman AFB; it is a national asset with unique terrain, airspace, and the ability to control the frequency domain; it has world class instrumentation; and the unique ability to replicate the theater environment for operational realism; 40 x 100 miles

--WSMR also a complicated installation with units/varying chains of command: Army Research Laboratory directorates to Army Research Laboratory, Adelphi, MD; Center for Counter Measures directly into the Pentagon; TRADOC Analysis (TRAC) to Ft. Leavenworth; Navy to Port Hueneme, California; National Reconnaissance Office; White Sands Test Facility (NASA) to Johnson Space Center

--Western and Northern Call-up areas provide the ability to expand WSMR range for certain tests

--WSMR designated the Center of Excellence for Network Integration (two Combat Integration Events a year)

--WSMR Annual Economic Impact: \$840 million annually (to be updated)

MILITARY BASE PLANNING ISSUES AND ACTIONS

--Holloman Transition: the number one State issue



F-16s arriving



F-22s Departing

- F-22s begin departing late this calendar year or early next
 - First squadron (24 aircraft) of F-16s begins arriving April 2014
 - Second squadron a year later
 - Current plans: F-16 squadrons to report to a "Group" which will be assigned to the 56th Fighter Wing at Luke AFB, Arizona
 - Luke wing commander visited WSMR a few weeks ago
 - And, WSMR Commanding General visited Luke in April
 - State, 49th Wing Commander meeting with WSMR leadership on airspace and transition—good session
 - All entities say the program "is on track"

--Airspace

- Airspace availability is important to both WSMR and Holloman
- 49th Wing at Holloman staffing airspace expansion east of Holloman ("Talon" Training Area)
 - Federal Aviation Administration (Albuquerque Center, located on Paseo and Louisiana in Albuquerque): very supportive of military missions; they have hosted Holloman, Cannon, and WSMR visits in recent weeks
 - Regional airspace concept

--Melrose Air Force Range Expansion

- 74-year lease signed January 2012, 10,000 acre expansion; the Air Force is a tenant of the New Mexico State Land Office
 - Tenant appraisal issues settled last Fall; gift "bills of sale" for the tenant improvements transferred to the Air Force November 30: **MAFR Expansion complete**

--Cannon Land Acquisition (with remaining resources)

- Four priority areas established by the Air Force adjacent to Cannon
 - Contracts for legal services, appraisal, environmental baseline survey, and survey
 - Survey complete; appraisal underway; environmental baseline survey draft report complete: four sites required further investigation, and that additional report should be complete in a couple of weeks
 - We should be able to begin considering offers to purchase land according to Air Force priorities mid-July or so

--Encroachment: Southern New Mexico/El Paso Joint Land Use Study (JLUS)

- All three installations—Ft. Bliss, Holloman, WSMR requested a Regional Joint Land Use Study, funded by DOD Office of Economic Adjustment--OEA (90%, with 10% matching from local governments)
 - JLUS to be taken on by a "local government" entity
 - The "counties" Lincoln, Otero, Doña Ana, Sierra, Socorro; El Paso

- The “cities” Alamogordo, Las Cruces. El Paso
- The three military installations plus Spaceport America
- MOA establishes a Regional Planning Organization, with a Policy Committee (co-chairs Doña Ana Chair, Otero County Chair, Commissioners from Lincoln County, Sierra County, El Paso County, BLM, NMSLO, Military Base Planning Commissioners); Technical Committee (co-chairs WSMR Chief of Staff, Otero County Manager)
 - Organizational meetings in 2012; consultant selected in December
 - Doña Ana County volunteered to be the “fiscal agent”
 - We organized a “Project Management Team” in February
 - Steady progress: public meetings: Ruidoso (June 3); El Paso (last night); Las Cruces (this evening); Socorro (June 11); Alamogordo (June 12), T or C (June 13)
 - This is the largest JLUS, area-wise, DOD has sponsored, and also the first JLUS that crosses state lines
 - One of the benefits, in addition to addressing compatibility issues between the counties, cities, and the military installations, will be the development of strong working relationships between the participating parties

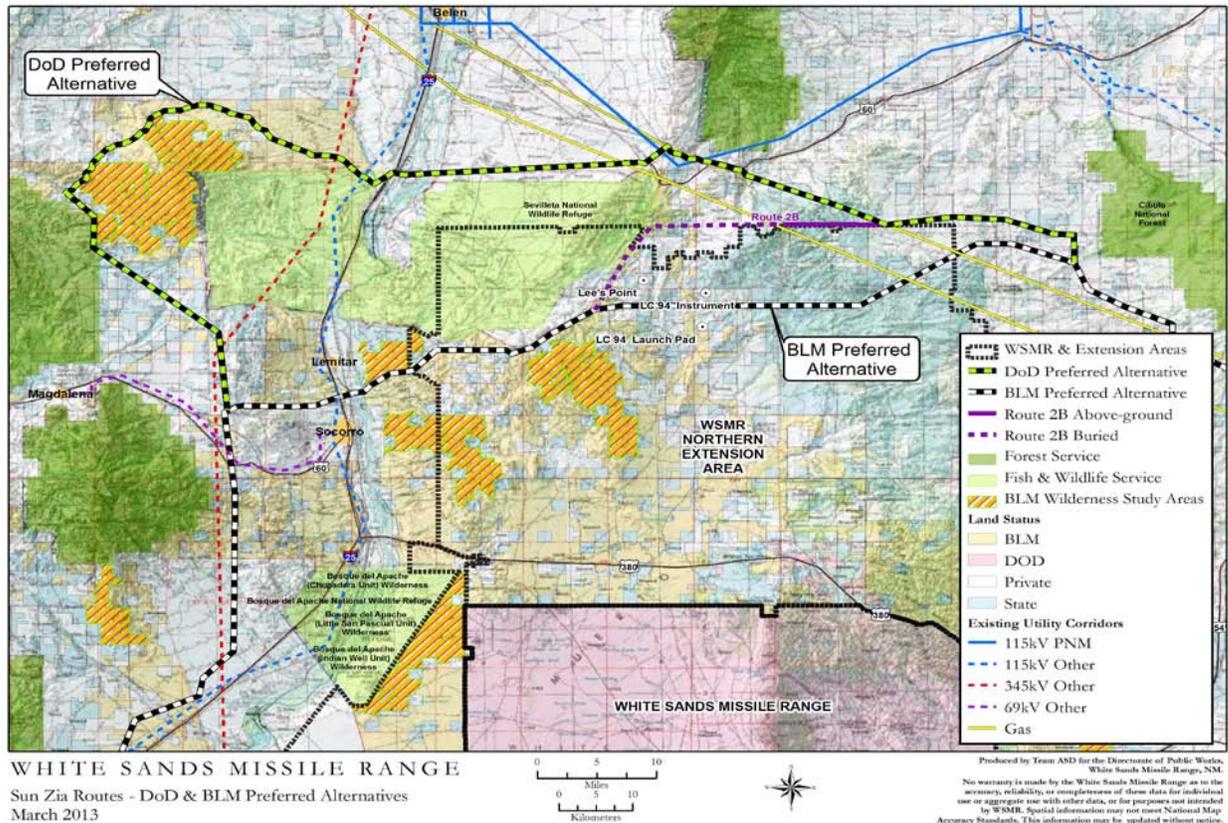
--More Encroachment: Military Coordination Meetings

- Land Agency/Southern NM Military Installations, Otero and Doña Ana Counties, Spaceport America; “Military Coordination Meetings”
- Sessions in abeyance during JLUS organization phase, but we will reengage; bases and land agencies interested
- This is a great forum for addressing mutual land-use planning issues

--Renewable Energy Impacts

- New Mexico Renewable Energy Transmission Authority: very supportive of military missions
 - Renewable energy initiatives (wind turbines, transmission lines) continue to present potential problems to military missions
 - Military installations and land agencies: conference call next week
 - Air Force and Army policy for engagement
 - All installations need to be working with counties—we are making some progress; both WSMR and Holloman have engaged with counties in recent weeks
 - SunZia: two preferred routes—DOD and BLM; WSMR states that the BLM preferred route has a serious impact on their mission

SunZia: DOD Preferred Alternative; BLM Preferred Alternative



--Regional Commanders' Summit (RCS)

--WSMR hosted an organizational meeting in September; second session hosted by 377th Air Base Wing, Kirtland; Commanders from the 49th Wing; 27th Special Operations Wing; and 58th Special Operations Wing; WSMR Commanding General; 150th Wing (New Mexico Air National Guard) Vice Commander; and the New Mexico Adjutant General

--Purpose: to address issues of concern and to provide opportunities for mutual support

--Next session to be hosted by The Adjutant General in Santa Fe this fall, and the commanders have indicated their intent to be more "strategic" in their discussions



**Regional Commanders' Summit
April 10, 2013**

--58th Special Operations Wing Training Infrastructure

--State support of an Agreement with the City of Belen—construction of a cross-wind runway; State Aviation Division working closely with the Air Force and the FAA

--Stallion Strip: 58th working closely with WSMR; Air Education and Training Command, Air Force Special Operations Command coordinating resources for the purpose of improving the runway for Air Force (and Army) operations

--Outstanding support from the State Aviation Division!

--DOD Educational Facilities Review:

--DOD reviewed 157 educational facilities across the county, and is preparing to award grants to local school districts/education agencies

--We expect a grant in the near future to Albuquerque Public Schools—Wherry Elementary, adjacent to Kirtland

BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE

--The Department of Defense has proposed a Base Realignment and Closure Round in 2015 (with the 2014 Budget Request)

--Acting Deputy Under Secretary of Defense (Installations and Environment)

John Conger: "Tension caused by declining budgets, reductions in force structure, and limited flexibility to adapt our infrastructure accordingly."

--2004 DOD capacity assessment—24% excess capacity; 2005 BRAC Round reduced capacity by 3.4%

--Force structure decisions: Army from 570,000 to 490,000 personnel; Air Force reduced by 500 aircraft, 8% active-duty end strength

--Final Selection Criteria

--Military Value Criteria (Priority given to Military Value)

- The current and future mission capabilities and the impact of operational readiness of the total force of the Department of Defense, including the impact on joint warfighting, training, and readiness
- The availability and condition of land, facilities, and associated airspace (including training areas suitable for maneuver by ground, naval, or air forces throughout a diversity of climate and terrain areas and staging areas for the use of the Armed Forces in homeland defense missions) at both existing and potential receiving locations
- The ability to accommodate contingency, mobilization, surge, and future total force requirements at both existing and potential receiving locations to support operations and training
- The cost of operations and the manpower implications (*comment*)

--Other Criteria

- The extent and timing of potential costs and savings, including the number of years, beginning with the date of completion of the closure or realignment, for the savings to exceed the costs
- The economic impact on existing communities in the vicinity of military installations
- The ability of the infrastructure of both the existing and potential receiving communities to support forces, missions, and personnel

- The environmental impact, including the impact of costs related to environmental restoration, waste management, and environmental compliance activities

--Effect on Department or Other Agency Costs: The selection criteria regarding cost of operations shall take into effect the costs imposed on any other DOD activity or other Federal agency as a result of closure or realignment

--Congressional Response (thus far)

--House Armed Services Subcommittee on Readiness approved by voice vote language in the 2014 National Defense Authorization Act which **prohibits** a base closure round in 2015

--Resolution opposing a BRAC Round in the Senate: Senators Begich, Tester, and Baucus

--Senate Armed Services Committee comments last week: "I don't think the majority of members can be convinced at this point," Senator John McCain. "I think it is very, very unlikely," Chairman Carl Levin. "But, nonetheless, I can't say I'm not willing to listen to evidence." Others on the SASC: Now is not the time to spend billions of dollars on another BRAC round

CLOSING AND SUMMARY

--Military Base Planning Program Priorities

--Support the Holloman Transition

--Identify and pursue additional Military Value actions, all installations: the Office and the Commission received a \$50,000 "**Special Appropriation**" during the Legislative Session for the purpose of developing a "Military Value Case Statement" of New Mexico's military installations—we will begin working on that next week

--Continue to address the acquisition of land adjacent to Cannon

--Address Renewable Energy Initiative impacts

--Track "Seat of Government" dialogue, status of proposed BRAC round

--Support the Southern NM/EI Paso Joint Land Use Study

MILITARY BASE PLANNING COMMISSION

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Secretary Greg Myers, Department of Homeland Security and
Emergency Management

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Lance Grace
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Attachment One

