



## BRAC 2005 implementation cost approaches \$35 billion

### Highlights:

- \* BRAC implementation cost update
- \* Joint Basing education initiative at Ft. Sam Houston
- \* Joint Basing workshop at Randolph AFB
- \* New leadership at BAMC
- \* Wright-Patterson readies for 77th AESG
- \* BRAC in the News

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### DEFENSE COMMUNITIES

**360** -- The estimated cost to carry out the BRAC 2005 recommendations continues to inch up and now stands at \$34.9 billion. The latest jump in the program's six-year implementation cost is only \$2.5 billion but represents a dramatic rise from initial estimates that carrying out the base closure round would cost only \$18.3 billion.

Much of the increase would be covered by the Pentagon's fiscal 2010 request last month for \$7.5 billion, which exceeded by \$1.9 billion the amount DOD projected a year ago would be needed in FY 2010. The higher budget request this year takes into account increases in the cost of construction, changes in project scope and outfitting costs, according to the department.

The bulk of the escalation in BRAC costs for the entire 2006-2011 implementation period — \$10 billion — stemmed from the department's decision to include construction projects needed to accommodate the return of overseas troops, along with some other initiatives not included in the original BRAC recommendations, Wayne Army, deputy undersecretary of defense for installations and environment, told the House Military Construction and Veterans Affairs Appropriations Subcommittee. Carrying out the recommendation to realign

Walter Reed Army Medical Center to Bethesda, Md., and Fort Belvoir, Va., for example, will cost almost \$1 billion more than originally projected due to "construction inflation, wounded warrior lessons learned and unforeseen costs as the construction process has unfolded," his written testimony stated.

As a result of lessons gained during the Iraq and Afghanistan campaigns, and DOD's commitment to carry out an independent panel's recommendations, officials opted to accelerate construction projects, create warrior transition units at the Bethesda campus and enhance inpatient facilities at Bethesda and Belvoir. A number of additional factors came into play as well, Army told Subcommittee Chair Chet Edwards (Texas):

-- Adjusting results of the COBRA model — which was used to calculate the cost of closure and realignment recommendations during the BRAC selection process — to take into account inflation in the general economy since 2003 (added \$1.3 billion to the round's implementation cost);

-- Inflation affecting the construction industry, especially in the southeastern United States (\$1 billion);

-- Program management costs (about \$600 million); and

-- Environmental restoration (almost \$500 million).

Other decisions also contributed to higher implementation costs, according to his written testimony, which indicated that the cost of carrying out the BRAC program had climbed from an initial estimate of \$21.1 billion to \$35.4 billion.



Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington DC

## Joint Basing Education Initiative brings training to Ft. Sam



**By Capt. Matthew Strickler, AFIT Civil Engineer and Services School --** Recently three instructors from the Air Force Civil Engineer and Services School traveled to Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas to provide educational support for Army Directorate of Public Works (DPW) members. Faculty from the school partnered with Air Education and Training Command's (AETC) engineering staff to organize and execute a seminar providing an Air Force Civil Engineering (CE) overview to twenty-one DPW management and senior technical personnel.

This course is the beginning of a projected series of instruction to provide applicable Air Force training to all levels of DPW personnel supporting the transition to Joint Base San Antonio.

Other organizations, including the Fire Department currently in the Directorate of Emergency Services, will receive this training as they prepare to realign into the standard Air Force CE organization.

The transition of Fort Sam Houston's DPW function to an Air Force Civil Engineering Division came as a result of the creation of Joint Base San

Antonio. The 2005 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) realignment process led to the creation of Joint Bases and the 502<sup>nd</sup> Air Base Wing to serve Joint Base San Antonio. Lackland Air Force Base, Randolph Air Force Base, and Fort Sam Houston will each have their own Mission Support Group to provide installation support. The current timeline to realign Joint Base San Antonio establishes initial operating capability in early 2010 and final operating capability (FOC) on 1 October 2010.

Fort Sam Houston currently hosts the US Army Medical Command, Brooke Army Medical Center, US Army North, and US Army South to name a few of the many supported organizations. After FOC, the Air Force will become the lead agency to provide installation support to approximately 80,000 military members and civilian employees in San Antonio. The resulting construction at Fort Sam Houston will add more than 6 million square feet of real property at a cost of more than 2 billion dollars which the newly created Civil Engineer Division on Fort Sam Houston will maintain as Air Force assets.

A large change facing Army DPW personnel is conversion to Air Force civilian employees doing business as an Air Force Civil Engineer Division. According to Lt Col Andre Dempsey, AETC's Civil Engineer representative, the purpose of this training is to start the process of familiarization and transition to Air Force CE organization and business practices for the Army DPW. In the end, both CE and DPW personnel provide the much of the same installation real property support, however, the lexicon and institutional process are significantly different.

The recent course offering's curriculum was tailored to provide a management level look into CE structure in the post-transformation squadron. Mapping Air Force terms, organizational structure, and processes to similar DPW functions provided clarity and insight into transforming the DPW into an Air Force Organization. The future education initiatives involve conducting more on-site seminars to push information to smooth out the transition combined with traditional resident and non-resident classes at AFIT to support all facets of the DPW organization.



## AETC hosts Joint Basing Workshop at Randolph AFB

**San Antonio Joint Program Office (SAJPO) --** The Air Education and Training Command at Randolph AFB, Texas hosted a joint basing workshop June 9 -12. The goal was to work out details of a comprehensive Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that outlines installation support functions. A full story on the conference will be available in the July SAJPO newsletter.



## Brooke Army Medical Center welcomes new leadership

**Story and photos by Jen D. Rodriguez, Brooke Army Medical Center Public Affairs** -- More than 700 people attended the change of command ceremony for incoming Commander Brig. Gen. Joseph Carvalho, Jr., who assumed command of Great Plains Regional Medical Command and Brooke Army Medical Center from Maj. Gen. James K. Gilman, June 2 at MacArthur Parade Field.

"These ceremonies are far more about the units we commanders are privileged to serve than about the individual leaders," said U.S. Army Surgeon General and Commander of U.S. Army Medical Command, Lt. Gen. Eric Schoomaker, host and reviewing officer for the ceremony.

The Soldiers who man these units and facilities and their Families are kept healthy or are restored to health through the stewardship of the commands arrayed here today."

In a time honored tradition, the unit's colors were passed from GPRMC and BAMC Command Sgt. Maj. Donna Simmons to Gilman and then to Schoomaker, signifying the relinquishment of the command, as BAMC commander passed onto Carvalho, charging him with the command of the unit.

The colors returned to Sim-

mons, who completed the circle, signifying the trust and confidence in the Noncommissioned Officer Corps. The process was repeated with the GPRMC colors.

Gilman, who served as the GPRMC and BAMC commander for four years, will assume command of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Materiel Command at Fort Detrick, Md. on June 11. Gilman was promoted to major general before the ceremony. Schoomaker praised Gilman for his energy, vision and determination.

"Jim has been the beacon of rationality, compassion, integrity and honesty. I never lose sleep knowing that Jim Gilman is in command. He and Jeffri leave this key command for command of another of our most critical assets – the U.S. Army Research and Materiel Command where the future of Army and Joint Medical Care is being crafted," he said.

In his closing remarks, Gilman said if he had to single out one event in the last four years that elevated this command onto the national stage; it was the opening of the Center for the Intrepid.

"The CFI is quite simply where one goes in order to see the world's best rehab staff coming for the world's best patients in the world's

best facility," he said.

Gilman also thanked the wounded warriors, "I have learned so much from you and have enormous respect for your determination and will to recover. I have been blessed to have had the opportunity to get to know many of your families."

Similarly, Schoomaker welcomed Carvalho, and his wife, Lorraine.

"Having spent time visiting with him, his command and his leadership in Iraq, I can say without question or equivocation that Joe will lead this Medical Center and Region with the strongest of hearts and minds."

In April Carvalho redeployed from Iraq, where he served as the senior medical officer for both the Multi-National Force-Iraq and the Multi-National Corps-Iraq. He has also served as the chief of cardiology at Tripler Army Medical Center in Honolulu, and as deputy commander for clinical services at Womack Army Medical Center at Fort Bragg, N.C.

You can expect nothing short of my total commitment," Carvalho said. "I promise you work and training conditions that will lead us to continue success. We will work hard as a unit, and we'll be proud of our accomplishments."



**Incoming Commander, Great Plains Regional Medical Command and Brooke Army Medical Center, Brig. Gen. Joseph Carvalho Jr., Lt. Gen. Eric B. Schoomaker, U.S. Army Surgeon General and commander of U.S. Army Medical Command and Maj. Gen. James K. Gilman, outgoing commander salute the troops during the Pass and Review at the change of command ceremony June 2 at Ft. Sam Houston.**





## Group increases Wright-Patterson footprint

**By Daryl Mayer, 88th Air Base Wing Public Affairs WRIGHT-PATTERSON AIR FORCE BASE, Ohio** -- How do you move a mission across the country without the Airmen you support everyday feeling any impact? The 77th Aeronautical Systems Group is intent on doing just that.

The decision to move the 77th from Brooks City-Base, San Antonio to Wright-Patterson was made by the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure decision. At that time, the Group began planning for a seamless move of its mission to Ohio without missing a beat.

The 77 AESG is responsible for optimizing warfighter performance in all weapons systems through the development and acquisition of human systems applications, according to Col. Steve Gray, 77 AESG commander. Some of the wide range of systems the Group is developing include: improved ejection

seats, uniforms, flame resistant combat gear, aircrew helmets, and aero-medical equipment. The Group's POW/MIA accountability laboratory, along with its unique aero-medical equipment and textile laboratories are also part of the move.

presence at Wright-Patterson. Colonel Gray expects to add 10-12 government civilian employees and at least 4 military members over the next three months. Then continue the operating location build-up over the next year. Ultimately, the group will have approximately 150 employees at Wright-Patterson by August 2010. As part of the move, two historic Wright-Patterson buildings are being renovated as the new home for the unit.

During the transition, working in separate locations brings several challenges.

"Key to implementing the move, while still meeting mission objectives is to transfer corporate knowledge from Brooks to Wright-Patterson," Colonel Gray said. "We are encouraging current employees to move with the unit, and we'll build-up the operating location as quickly as possible to minimize impact to our mission of fielding advanced systems for all Airmen."



As a first step in moving the unit to Ohio, the 77 AESG created an Operating Location at Wright-Patterson. Initially staffed with a small core of military personnel, the 77 AESG recently received approval to move government civilian positions from Brooks City-Base to Wright-Patterson.

Currently, ten military members and two civilians are on board establishing an initial

**"Key to implementing the move, while still meeting mission objectives, is to transfer corporate knowledge from Brooks City-Base to Wright-Patterson."**





## Last Month in BRAC News

### BRAC NEWS STORIES POSTED ON THE SAJPO PORTAL

05.28.2009 -- Camp Bullis' mission vital — as is water supply - SA Express News  
 05.28.2009 -- Kelly Aviation Center marks 10-year milestone - SA Express News  
 05.26.2009 -- Cyber security industry grows in S.A. - SA Business News  
 05.22.2009 -- Chromalloy expands local workforce to 400 jobs - SA Business Journal  
 05.20.2009 -- Many Air Force employees willing to transfer to WPAFB - Dayton Daily News  
 05.19.2009 -- Bullis rescue plan in its final stages. Watch out. - SA Express News  
 05.18.2009 -- House Armed Services Subcommittee on Military Personnel Hearing - COMTEX  
 05.16.2009 -- Command may be in S.A. by end of the year - SA Express News  
 05.16.2009 -- ACS set to expand Port S.A. operation - SA Business News  
 05.15.2009 -- San Antonio to get Air Force cyber command - SA Express News  
 05.15.2009 -- MedTrust wins \$87 million Army staffing contract - SA Business Journal  
 05.15.2009 -- Commissioners award bid for flood structure - Herald-Zeitung  
 05.15.2009 -- Air Force leaders testify on infrastructure budget - Air Force Link  
 05.14.2009 -- Major general promoted to new position - Fayetteville Observer  
 05.14.2009 -- DoD Announces \$555 Million Expansion To Housing Assistance Program - Defenselink  
 05.08.2009 -- \$1 billion for S.A. military projects stays in budget - SA Express News  
 05.07.2009 -- Obama budget: Funds for Texas military projects - SA Express News  
 05.01.2009 -- BRAC target: Safety - SA Business News  
 05.01.2009 -- San Antonio military bases score stimulus assist - SA Business Journal

**For complete articles please visit:**

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## *Upcoming Events*

Event	POC	Date
SAJPO Communications Team Meeting	Ron Rogers	6/16/2009
Military Transformation Task Force (MTTF) Meeting	James Henderson	6/17/2009
Executive Integration Oversight Board - Joint Basing	Ron Rogers	6/30/2009
MTTF Economic Development Committee Meeting	Michele Parlett	7/03/2009

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