

### **Naval Biodynamics Laboratory, New Orleans, Louisiana**

**Recommendation:** Close the Naval Biodynamics Laboratory, New Orleans, Louisiana, and relocate necessary personnel to Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, and Naval Aeromedical Research Laboratory, Pensacola, Florida.

**Justification:** There is an overall reduction in operational forces and a sharp decline of the DON budget through FY 2001. Specific reductions for technical centers are difficult to determine, because these activities are supported through customer orders. However, the level of forces and the budget are reliable indicators of sharp declines in technical center workload through FY 2001, which leads to a recognition of excess capacity in these activities. This excess and the imbalance in force and resource levels dictate closure/realignment or consolidation of activities wherever practicable. Closure of this laboratory reduces this excess capacity and fosters joint synergism. It also provides the opportunity for the transfer of its equipment and facilities to the public educational or commercial sector, thus maintaining access to its capabilities on an as-needed basis.

**Return on Investment:** The total estimated one-time cost to implement this recommendation is \$6 million. The net of all costs and savings during the implementation period is a savings of \$14.1 million. Annual recurring savings after implementation are \$2.9 million with an immediate return on investment expected. The net present value of the costs and savings over 20 years is a savings of \$41.8 million.

**Impacts:**

**Economic Impact on Communities:** Assuming no economic recovery, this recommendation could result in a maximum potential reduction of 126 jobs (54 direct jobs and 72 indirect jobs) over the 1996-to-2001 period in the New Orleans, Louisiana MSA economic area, which is less than 0.1 percent of economic area employment. The cumulative economic impact of all BRAC 95 recommendations and all prior-round BRAC actions in the economic area over the 1994-to-2001 period could result in a maximum potential decrease equal to less than 0.1 percent of employment in the economic area.

**Community Infrastructure Impact:** There is no known community infrastructure impact at any receiving installation.

**Environmental Impact:** The closure of the Biodynamics Lab, New Orleans, will not have an effect on the environment. This closure recommendation only relocates two personnel to Wright-Patterson AFB and one to Pensacola, but leaves all facilities and equipment in place. There is no adverse impact on threatened/endangered species, sensitive habitats and wetlands, and cultural/historical resources occasioned by this recommendation.