

2. A PROFILE OF FORT MCCOY



Military use of land that is now Fort McCoy began in 1909 when 14,000 acres of land in Monroe County was designated as Camp Robinson and Camp Emory Upton. Since that time, the Fort McCoy Military Reservation has expanded to 61,143 acres with access (land use permits) to an additional 60,000 acres of state forestland in Jackson County. Over the years, 1,161 barracks, dining, maintenance and administrative facilities have been constructed on the base. In 2003, Fort McCoy employed over 3,200 personnel. The air photo on page 2-5 shows the building and facilities within the cantonment area.

“Fort McCoy serves as one of 15 Power Projection Platforms in the Nation and is a Total Force War Fighting Center”

A Power Projection Platform (PPP) is an army installation that supports the mobilization, deployment, redeployment, and demobilization of soldiers and their supplies and equipment. The PPP’s were formed after the Persian Gulf War to ensure support for mobilized troops. Fort McCoy is one of only fifteen of the PPP’s in the Nation and the only one in the Midwest.

Fort McCoy continues to train over 120,000 active and reserve component military personnel per year. Fort McCoy’s stated mission is to enhance readiness by: supporting training, serving as a Power-Projection Platform, providing installation management expertise, and providing selected services on and off the post. To work towards achieving its mission, Fort McCoy has become the only United States Army facility in the Midwest capable of providing a full range of individual and collective training for combat, combat service support personnel. Fort McCoy also serves as a Total Force War Fighting Training Center and trains military personnel from all branches of the armed services. In the recent past Fort McCoy has trained approximately 130,000 to 138,000 active and reserve component military personnel per year. In 2004, it is estimated that Fort McCoy will train 120,000 military personnel.

The estimated reduction in military personnel numbers is not indicative of the recent training activity at Fort McCoy. In 2002, 138,203 soldiers trained at Fort McCoy. Those 138,203 soldiers trained 789,990 man-days (a man-day equates to the actual number of days a soldier spends at a base training). The estimated 120,000 soldiers at Fort McCoy in 2004 are anticipated to train approximately 1,200,000 man-days. In recent years, as troops have been mobilized throughout the world individual soldiers are spending more training time at military facilities. (Source for personnel numbers: Fort McCoy—Public Affairs Office)

Increased mission responsibility and investments by the Department of Defense at Fort McCoy have had positive economic benefits for business and job growth. The Fort McCoy Military Installation is critical to the region’s economy, Table 2.1. In 2003, Fort McCoy employed 1,657 civilians, 1,002 permanent-party military personnel, and 624 contract personnel making it the largest employer in Monroe County. The workforce payroll of Fort McCoy was over \$96 million. Over 130,000 personnel trained at Fort McCoy in 2003 and it is estimated that their discretionary spending added \$6.7

◆ \$96 million dollar payroll for 3,283 employees
◆ Over \$6.7 million dollars in discretionary spending generated by training 130,000 personnel
◆ \$80 million dollars in private contracts generated
◆ \$158,000 dollars in annual fees paid to local governments
◆ \$613 million dollars total estimated annual economic impact

Source: Fiscal Year 2003 Economic Resource Impact Statement, Fort McCoy

million dollars to the local economy. Private contracts fulfilled at Fort McCoy totaled over \$80 million dollars in 2003. Revenues to local governments for land use permits and school district impact aid exceeded \$158,000 dollars. In total, approximately \$266 million dollars was returned to the local economy with a total

estimated economic impact of Fort McCoy on the region being over \$613 million dollars a year.

Fort McCoy positively impacts the economy of the region in many ways. Various projects that are underway or recently completed will continue to boost the local economy. In cooperation with the City of Tomah, Fort McCoy constructed a \$8.5 million dollar housing project which consists of 80 single family homes ranging in size from 1,200 sq. ft. to over 1,500 sq. ft. Recently, a 25,000 sq. ft. state of the art food and entertainment facility was constructed on the base. Over the past decade the new construction facilitated by Fort McCoy has resulted in over \$140 million dollars of construction contracts being rewarded to local and regional firms. It is easy to see that closure of the military base would have devastating economic and social impacts on the Fort McCoy Region.

Tenants of Fort McCoy and their activities also positively impact the Fort McCoy Region. Table 2.3, Pg. 2-4 lists the tenants and a description of their activities. Tenants housed within Fort McCoy conduct Army activities, Department of Defense activities, and state activities. The primary focus of the tenants at Fort McCoy is to provide training to personnel in the U.S. Army, U.S. Army Reserve, Army National Guard, and the Department of the Army civilian workforce.

Tenants of Fort McCoy are important to the local economy as job providers and training centers. An excellent example is the Wisconsin State Patrol Academy. The State Patrol Academy provides diverse training for State Patrol recruits, federal and local law enforcement officers and state employees. The facility plays a vital role in training law enforcement officials so that the citizens of the Fort McCoy Region and Wisconsin are protected.

Fort McCoy tenants also positively impact the people and communities of the Fort McCoy Region and Wisconsin. An example of the social impact a tenant has on the region is the Wisconsin National Guard Challenge Academy program. The Wisconsin National Guard Challenge Academy which is affiliated with the National Guard Youth Challenge Program is located at Fort McCoy. The Wisconsin National Guard Challenge Academy is one of twenty four such programs in the United States and Puerto Rico. The Challenge Academy program is a preventative rather than remedial program, that targets young adults between the ages of 16 to 18 years of age, who are unemployed, drug free and law



Cadets from the Challenge Academy at Fort McCoy, under the supervision of a Challenge Academy Cadre, work to put in a sidewalk in the front of the Challenge Academy headquarters (off Fort McCoy's website 9/04)

free high school dropouts. The program is 17 months long in which the participants (cadets) complete a 22 week residential phase. During the residential phase cadets can earn their High School Equivalency Diploma and change their viewpoints on life. The Wisconsin Challenge Academy is highly regarded as one of the top two academy's in the Nation due to its success at turning around at-risk youth.

Fort McCoy also plays an important role in responding to emergencies in the region. Fort McCoy and local communities rely on each other for fire protection. The local fire departments and the Fort McCoy Fire Department have mutual aid agreements that call for cooperation in times of emergencies.

In August of 2004, one of the largest emergency response drills ever conducted in the Nation was held in the Fort McCoy Region. The four hour drill "Operation Heartland Defense" involved the cooperation and coordination of over 600 people from 10 fire departments, 6 emergency management agencies, 11 law enforcement agencies, 9 public health agencies, 10 emergency medical service agencies, 10 hospitals, 9 public agencies, 7 private organizations, and 9 Department of Defense organizations. The Nation's newest cargo plane, the enormous C-17, was flown into the La Crosse Airport from Charlestown Air Force Base in South Carolina and was utilized as a patient transport. Fort McCoy was a key to the success of the emergency preparedness drill.

Fort McCoy and the surrounding local governments have a history of cooperation. As previously mentioned, Fort McCoy was established in 1909 and has been serving the Army and the Nation ever since. Over the past 95 years, Fort McCoy and the Fort McCoy Region have collaborated on projects to ensure the long term viability of the Fort. One thing that stands out in reviewing the history of Fort McCoy, is that a strong positive relationship has been maintained between Fort McCoy, local community leaders, and residents. Each entity recognizes that Fort McCoy is vital to the region's prosperity and the region is equally vital to Fort McCoy's future.

A brief synopsis of historical events demonstrates the bond that developed and continues to exist between Fort McCoy and the region. Cooperation between the Fort and its municipal neighbors began as early as 1912, when Col. Robert B. McCoy met with the Town of Angelo to lay out a road between Fort McCoy (in 1912 it was Camp McCoy) and the City of Sparta. The road was constructed in 1912 and shortened the distance between Fort McCoy and the City of Sparta. In 1944, it was believed that Fort McCoy would be abandoned by the Army and an organization of Sparta, Tomah, Black River Falls and La Crosse business leaders formed in an attempt to make Fort McCoy a permanent military base. In 1952, the Fort McCoy hospital assisted the region in caring for over 100 civilians that contracted polio as an epidemic spread throughout the area. In 1966, the Jobs Corps Training Center opened at Fort McCoy. The center trained boys from low income families in technical, vocational and social skills. In 1976, a community theatre was founded that consisted of military and civilian performers. In 1987, the Secretary of the Army and the City of Sparta signed a 50 year lease agreement for the joint use of the Fort McCoy airstrip. Finally, in 2004 as the BRAC process proceeds a committee of community and region leaders has been formed to ensure that Fort McCoy is not closed.

Of equal importance, history shows in nearly a century few if any conflicts have arisen between Fort McCoy and its neighbors. As the modern military is faced with encroachment issues and residential conflicts around military bases, Fort McCoy and the Fort McCoy Region share a unique cooperative relationship that has withstood the test of time.

Table 2.2 below illustrates the continued support of Fort McCoy by local governments in the region. These local governments went on record in 2004 by adopting resolutions in support of Fort McCoy and in working with Fort McCoy in the future. Appendix A contains all the resolutions adopted.

Governmental Unit	Date
Monroe County	10-1-04
Town of Adrian	7-12-04
Town of Angelo	8-10-04
Town of Clifton	7-12-04
Town of Greenfield	7-12-04
Town of La Grange	8-3-04
Town of Little Falls	8-16-04
Town of New Lyme	8-12-04
Town of Oakdale	7-12-04
Town of Portland	7-13-04
Town of Ridgeville	8-9-04
Town of Scott	7-15-04
Town of Sheldon	9-6-04
Town of Sparta	7-28-04
Town of Tomah	9-13-04
Town of Wells	9-9-04
Town of Wilton	9-15-04
Village of Kendall	8-3-04
Village of Norwalk	7-15-04
Village of Warrens	8-5-04
Village of Wilton	8-9-04
City of Sparta	7-20-04
City of Tomah	7-13-04
La Crosse County	8-11-04
Jackson County	9-20-04
Town of Millston	10-11-04
Town of Knapp	11-20-04

Table 2.3 — Fort McCoy Tenants And Services Provided

Tenants	Services Provided
2nd Brigade, 85th Division	Provides branch, functional, special training assistance and conducts Training Assessment Module (TAM) and Land Evaluations for U.S. Army Reserve and National Guard commands and units to attain and/or sustain individual and unit readiness.
788th Ordnance Company (Explosive Ordnance Disposal)	Provides routine and emergency EOD support to military installations, operations and exercises. Support is also provided to civilian, state and federal authorities within a six state area.
B Company, 6th/52nd Aviation Regiment	Provides theatre wide aviation support to DOD/government personnel, top-level military commanders, and designated staff members.
Detachment 1, 6015th Garrison Support Unit	Conducts premobilization training, participates in mobilization exercises, assist Fort McCoy Staff during mobilization, provide Command and Control for mobilizing units and personnel, conduct strategic mobility operations, and process mobilized units, personnel and equipment for deployment and redeployment
Army Reserve Civilian Personnel Advisory Center	Provides Human Resource Management for the installation. Processes recruitment actions, posts job announcements, assists writing job descriptions, and labor relations.
Army Reserve Equal Employment Opportunity Office	Processes discrimination complaints, administers affirmative action, provides training and community outreach programs and administers the Special Emphasis Program to serve civilian employees and U. S. Army Reserve Command.
Army Reserve Readiness Training Center	Provides functional classroom training to Army Reserve personnel.
Army/Air Force Exchange System	Provide quality merchandise and services of necessity and convenience to authorized customers at uniformly low prices and generate reasonable earnings to supplement appropriated funds for the support of the Army and Air Force Morale, Welfare and Recreation programs.
Installation Contracting Office, Army Contracting Agency (ACA)	Provide efficient and effective contracting support to Army installations, information technology users, and warfighters deployed in contingency environments.
NCO Academy	Trains the current and future NCO leaders of America's Army in the skills and traits necessary to lead, train and mentor soldiers. The academy is the reserve-component training site for the Battle Staff NCO Course and trains soldiers from the Army Reserve, National Guard and the active component.
RTS- Maintenance	Provides hands-on maintenance training for personnel in the U.S. Army, U.S. Army Reserve, Army National Guard and Department of the Army civilian workforce.
RTS-Medical	Provides military medical personnel with training and training support. It also provides medical maintenance training support and tests and evaluates new equipment produced at government labs.
Equipment Concentration Site 67	Receives, stores, maintains and issues U.S. Army Reserve equipment that either is considered beyond the owning units capability to store or is not necessary.
Defense Automated Printing Service (DAPS)	Responsible for document automation and printing with the Department of Defense and the Federal Executive Branch Agencies, encompassing electronic conversion, retrieval, output and distribution of digital and hardcopy information.
Defense Commissary Agency	Ensures military readiness and retention of quality personnel by providing a valuable part of the military compensation package. Provides groceries and household supplied to authorized personnel.
Defense Military Pay Office	Provides accurate and timely pay and permanent change travel support to active-component and Active Guard/Reserve military personnel assigned to units throughout the upper Midwest.
Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office (B-2184)	Administers property disposal service operations, including receipt, control and preparation of disposable property for reutilization, donation and/or other disposition in support of military services, and other federal agencies. The office also acts as a liaison for managing and executing the Defense Logistics Agency Environmental Program at the local level.
Naval Mobile Construction Battalion-25	Provides and maintains a trained, ready and immediately available reserve-component force capable of responding in the event of war, national emergency, or otherwise.
TMDE Support Center	Test, Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment Support Center calibrates various pieces of equipment that is used on the installation to include minor repair.
Wisconsin National Guard Maneuver Area Training Equipment Site	Receives, stores and maintains equipment at one location so all units have the best equipment to train. The warehouse stores approximately \$300 million worth of equipment and parts and approximately 700 pieces of combat equipment is positioned at the facility.
Wisconsin Military Academy	Houses a key component of the Army's Total Army School System (TASS). The Academy provides a professional learning environment, quality instruction and training support for the military and public service community.
Wisconsin National Guard Challenge Academy	A remedial program, that targets young adults between the ages of 16 to 18 years of age, who are unemployed, drug free and law free high school dropouts.
Wisconsin State Patrol Academy	Provides diverse training for State Patrol recruits, federal and local law enforcement officers and state employees.
Recruiting Company	Recruit young men and women for service in the Army and Army Reserve.
Troop Medical Clinic	The Troop Medical Clinic provides medical support to the military members assigned and training at Fort McCoy.

MAP 2-1 FORT MCCOY'S CANTONMENT AREA

Most of Fort McCoy's 1,000 buildings with 5 million square feet of area are within the triangular shaped Cantonment Area that covers approximately 2,600 acres. The Cantonment Area is surrounded by approximately 114,000 acres of maneuver area, 7,600 acres of impact area, 1,400 acres of ranges, and 640 acres in airfield.

