

# 3,700 troops moving to Carson

## Local economy expected to gain \$200 million a year from move

Page 2

By WAYNE HEILMAN  
THE GAZETTE

The arrival of more than 3,700 additional troops at Fort Carson next summer will pump more than \$200 million a year, mostly in wages, into El Paso County's economy, economists said Thursday.

"We're pleased. This is good

news for the local economy," said Robert Scott, president of the Greater Colorado Springs Economic Development Corp.

The relocation of the 2nd Brigade of the 2nd Infantry Division from South Korea will help offset deployment of about 7,000 troops to the Mid-

SEE IMPACT • PAGE 3

## IMPACT: More than 1,000 jobs expected to be added

FROM PAGE 1

dle East during the next six months, said Fred Crowley, senior economist for the Southern Colorado Economic Forum.

Over the longer term, the brigade's arrival should add 1 percent to 2 percent to local economic growth, Crowley said. That should help boost the county's anemic job growth — now less than 1 percent — during the second half of next year, he said.

After the unit arrives, Crowley predicts, spending by the newly arriving soldiers will generate 1,325 additional jobs at the county's restaurants, bars, retailers and other businesses outside the post and increase local and state tax collections by \$12 million.

"This will certainly help speed the recovery of the local economy, especially once the troops who will be (going back) to the Middle East return to Fort Carson," said David Bamberger of Bamberger & Associates, a local economic research

and consulting firm.

Bamberger forecasts that local businesses will add nearly 1,900 workers as a result of spending by arriving brigade troops. That, in turn, will generate taxes: \$4.3 million in property taxes, \$3.9 million in local and state sales taxes and \$2.1 million in state income taxes.

Arriving soldiers and their families also will give a welcome boost to the apartment market, where vacancies averaged 10 percent June 30, according to Doug Carter, a local commercial real estate agent who specializes in apartments.

"The arrival of these troops will clearly have a positive impact on the apartment market, reducing vacancies by up to 1 percent in the short-term," Carter said.

"When all of the deployed troops return to Fort Carson, the longer-term impact will be even greater."

CONTACT THE WRITER: 636-0234 or  
wayneh@gazette.com



# The bucks STOP HERE

## El Paso County's share of the billions

TOTAL FEDERAL SPENDING:

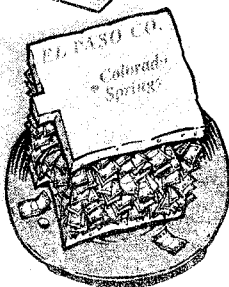
\$722 billion



EL PASO COUNTY'S SLICE:

\$2.85 billion

That's 16% of Colorado's share, or \$7,186 for every person in El Paso County.



Source: U.S. Census Bureau

## Who gets the billions in El Paso County



### TOP 10 RECIPIENTS

1993 federal spending

	Total 1993 federal spending in El Paso Co. (In millions)	Share of federal spending in El Paso Co. (percent)
1. Military wages	\$772.9	27.0
2. Defense contractors	602.8	21.1
3. Pensions to retired military	316.3	11.1
4. Social Security recipients	216.4	7.6
5. Civilian defense workers	179.7	6.3
6. Medicare payments to hospitals	95.1	3.3
7. Pensions and disability payments to retired federal employees	81.0	2.8
8. Survivors of Social Security recipients	67.9	2.4
9. Postal worker wages	65.2	2.3
10. Medicaid payments to doctors, hospitals	62.2	2.2
11. 100 other programs	401.9	13.9

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

So great is the Pentagon's influence in El Paso County that the government spends more on military pensions here than on Social Security retirement benefits.

# The Gazette

gazette.com

WEDNESDAY • August 23, 2006

Informing the Pikes Peak region since 1872

50 CENTS DAILY • \$1.25 SUNDAY

## Fort Carson's command expands

Post to oversee training for 200,000 in Guard, Reserve

### NEW ARRIVALS

Troops training under the new headquarters at Fort Carson include every type of unit in the Army, from Green Berets to armored brigades.

By **TOM ROEDER**  
THE GAZETTE

Tens of thousands of National Guard and Army Reserve soldiers came under the command of Fort Carson on Tuesday in a move that will mean scores of new jobs and could bring large numbers of troops for training.

The post will oversee training for more than 200,000 part-time

troops from 21 states. The greatly expanded role also brought a name change for the headquarters unit now on post, from 7th Infantry Division to Division West.

It's a big job for a post that's already growing by 10,000 active-duty soldiers.

"You worked hard last year;

SEE **CARSON** • PAGE 8



Lt. Gen. Russel Honore is the commander of 1st Army, the Georgia headquarters for the new organization, Division West at Fort Carson.

JERILEE BENNETT,  
THE GAZETTE

# Plan to shut 33 large bases, dozens of other sites

**Rumsfeld: Changes due to shift from Cold War to war on terror**

NBC, MSNBC and news services  
Updated: 11:23 a.m. ET May 13, 2005

WASHINGTON - The Pentagon on Friday recommended that 33 large military bases and some 150 smaller facilities across the country be closed to save money and to better suit defense needs.

The list, which earlier reports pegged at 150 total sites, triggers the first round of proposed base closures in a decade and an intense struggle by communities to save their facilities.

## Carson will gain personnel under proposed base closures plan

**BY PAM ZUBECK THE GAZETTE**  
The Colorado Springs Gazette

USA - Fort Carson will gain 4,377 personnel under Base Realignment and Closure, the Pentagon announced today. It's the biggest gain among military installations in the Pikes Peak Region, with Peterson, Schriever and Buckley Air Force Bases seeing small gains.

Peterson will get 510 additional personnel, Buckley, in the Denver area, 94, and Schriever, 95.

Net losses include 11 from leased government space, which is being closed or realigned; 108 from the Air Reserve Personnel Center, which is being realigned, and 40 from the Air Force Academy, which is described as being realigned.

The numbers tally released early today doesn't explain the gains or losses. Fuller details are expected later today.

The Air Force Academy's losses may simply be a return to the status quo after positions were added amid the sexual assault scandal that erupted two years ago.

Overall, the state will gain 4,917 personnel, the Pentagon report said.

The list, scaled from cutting 25 percent of the military's domestic base capacity to 5 percent to 10 percent, goes to the Base Realignment and Closure commission. Its nine members will hold hearings through the summer and deliver their recommendation to President Bush no later than Sept. 8.

Peterson's small gain may have been a disappointment to some because local officials had hoped Air Force Space Command would absorb potential losses from the Space and Missile Center in Los Angeles.

"Overall it's very positive," said Tony Koren, with NorthStone Group, a Boulder consultant hired by local business officials to analyze the impact of base closure on Colorado Springs.

"It's nothing but good news for the Springs, because if the Army is increasing Fort Carson by 4,400, if you add family, that's greater than last year's population increase" in the area, he said.

"We may not see one big bump from the Air Force, but a continuing incremental increase at Peterson and Schriever in 5 to 10 years will have a tremendous impact on the community," he said.