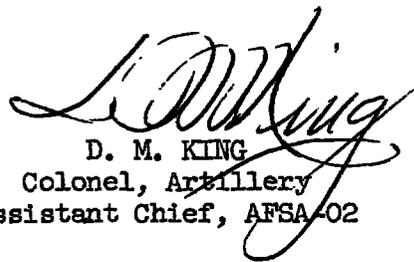


**DISPOSITION FORM**~~TOP SECRET~~  
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FILE NO.	SUBJECT	DATE	COMMENT NO. 1
AFSA-OOT	Comparison of Advantages and Disadvantages of Proposed AFSA Sites	5 Oct 51	Col. King/335/td
TO	FROM		
AFSA-OOT	AFSA-O2A		

1. Attached are the comparisons made up by Mr. Klein and myself.
2. We have said about the same things, in different ways, but as we completed these without collaboration, that is to be expected.
3. We hope our efforts will assist you, and AFSA, in relocating the Agency to the best interests of the Nation.

Enclosure

  
D. M. KING  
Colonel, Artillery  
Assistant Chief, AFSA-O2

Declassified and approved for release by NSA on 01-30-2014 pursuant to E.O. 13526

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New Site (Proposed)

VH vs AHS/NSS

## A Advantages (Compared to Present Site)

1. Decreased danger of enemy attack. (Less safety than Selected Site).
2. Less danger of subversive infiltration and security breaches. (Same reasons as Selected Site).
3. Increased dispersal possible.
4. Location of traffic source. (Also advantage over Selected Site).
5. Tours of service personnel will be in the "Field" rather than in Washington, this should permit longer and more frequent tours of duty.

## B. Disadvantages (Compared to Present Site)

1. Distance precludes commuting of lower grade personnel.
2. Inadequate housing to accommodate lower grade personnel
- 3 Some disruption of service. (Much less than at Selected Site).

<sup>VH</sup>  
New Site (Proposed)

F.K.

## A. Advantages (Compared to Selected New Site)

1. Service to consumers would continue at approximately present level.
  - a. Nearness to present site precludes extensive dislocation of employees with resulting retention of larger numbers.
  - b. Nearness to present site would, doubtless, permit gradual personnel adjustment rather than sudden loss of large numbers.
  - c. Adjustment in housing needs could proceed before employees move.
2. No flood danger.
3. Utility facilities more easily adapted to needs.

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4. Competition in labor market with known, rather than with unknown factors
  - a. Personnel procurement improved because of prestige of Washington area.
- 5 Cultural and recreational advantages of Washington area remain available. This tends to attract a more desirable class of personnel, and makes for ~~more~~ more satisfied employees
6. Adjacent to source of traffic.
- 7 Prestige value remains comparable to Washington area

B. - Disadvantages (Compared to Selected New Site)

1. Danger from enemy attack is greater
2. Fails to remove us from competition with other government agencies in labor market.

New Site (Selected)

A. Advantages (Compared to Present Site)

1. Decreased danger of enemy attack.
2. Lower living costs
3. Less danger of subversive infiltration and security breaches. (Isolation, Distance from thickly populated area and particularly from the present center of enemy intelligence effort).
4. Race problem will probably be less serious
5. Increased dispersal possible.
6. Service personnel will be on "Field" rather than Washington tours of duty, thus increasing possibility of continued service.
7. Removes competition with other government agencies in labor market.

B. Disadvantages (Compared to Present Site)

1. Inadequate existing housing and government quarters.
  - a. Proven lack of interest in civilian housing construction
  - b Non-existence of plans or approval to provide necessary government quarters.

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- c. Distance (35 mi. to Louisville) to housing standards suitable for our lower grade personnel.
2. Flooding of access road, especially to Louisville.
3. Lack of electricity and telephone service on other than main roads will restrict housing.
4. Unusually serious crowding of schools.
5. Current location of General Electric Co. and other large industry (Reynolds Metal Co.) will adversely affect labor market and the housing situation.
6. Cultural developmental opportunities are far less than present site.
7. Prestige value completely lacking, present site extremely high.
8. Distance involved forces severance of employment where family works for different employers.
9. Transportation (cost, distance and time) to Louisville unsatisfactory.
10. Isolation of site makes it unsatisfactory for higher grade personnel who should reside close by.
11. Lack of suitable recreational and entertainment facilities for personnel accustomed to Washington area.
12. Crippling loss of necessary operating personnel will adversely affect AFSA service to consumers in what will, probably, be a critical period.

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~~TOP SECRET~~I. Arguments for Moving to Fort Knox

1. Considering the National Capital as a primary target for enemy attack, this would provide complete safety.
2. High cost of living in the Washington area.
3. Competition with other governmental agencies in recruiting civilian personnel.
4. Restrictions which must be anticipated against the maintenance of large numbers of military personnel in the Washington area for any extended tours of duty.

II. Arguments for Moving to Vint Hill

1. Proximity to Department of Defense, consumer agencies and other governmental activities.
2. Safety from enemy attack on the Nations Capital. Vint Hill is well out of target range and there are no nearby governmental agencies or large industries which might be considered as primary targets. AFSA would be completely isolated and therefore would be much safer than if located in a large military and industrial area such as Fort Knox--Louisville.
3. Comparative ease with which a rapid communications center could be established and made operative. Long land lines would not be required.
4. Dislocation and uprooting of civilian personnel would be reduced to a minimum. Many AFSA personnel own homes in the Washington and Virginia area which they would not be required to sell. Car pools would make commuting a relatively simple problem. (AFSA has a number of employees who commute from Manassas and other nearby communities).
5. Because of its opportunities for culture and amusement, Washington is highly desirable to many AFSA personnel. Such opportunities do not exist at Fort Knox. Even though a large scale cultural program were established immediately, it would be many years before Fort Knox could begin to approximate the advantages which the Washington area offers to AFSA personnel. The Washington area has always been one of the most fertile recruitment fields for AFSA personnel. It is believed that AFSA-153 can furnish statistical proof to show that AFSA receives more personnel from the Washington and Virginia area than any other area in the United States.
6. Huge housing projects such as would be required by the move to Fort Knox are slow in building. Experience shows that private enterprise will not move in and build in anticipation of a demand, regardless of Chamber of Commerce promises to contrary. It will build only after demand

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has arrived. If AFSA moved to Vint Hill personnel could continue to live in Washington area until necessary housing was built. Even when housing was available at Vint Hill, it is believed that large numbers of personnel would continue to commute by choice because they would prefer to live in the Metropolitan area.. Conversely large numbers would prefer to live in a quieter community in a rural atmosphere.

7. The <sup>Louisville</sup> ~~Knoxville~~ area is experiencing huge industrial expansion. General Electric is establishing a large jet engine factory in this location which will employ upwards of 20,000 workers. This one industry will tax already over-crowded large housing facilities and will inflate land value in the Louisville--Fort Knox area. On the other hand Vint Hill will remain in the "back water" area.

8. In the event of a war, Fort Knox will face a tremendous influx of military personnel. This will require vast number of civilian workers which will tax an already short labor market. Huge numbers of military personnel will be moved in and they will require private housing. On the other hand, AFSA would be the only military organization in the Vint Hill area.

9. AFSA's moving to Fort Knox would take months, even years, to complete in its entirety. During this transitional period, AFSA efficiency will be greatly impaired. This impairment would be obviated by a move to Vint Hill because of the short distance involved.

10. The Vint Hill area has an abundance of electrical power which would not be taxed in the event of an all out war by mushrooming industry demands. Vint Hill is served by the Virginia Public Service Corp. and the Rural Electric Administration.

11. AFSA's moving to Vint Hill would be in line with the overall governmental policy of dispersal outside of the Washington target zone, yet close enough so that executive control may be exercised easily in event of Atomic attack.

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1 October 1951

## ADVANTAGES OF VINT HILL SITE

1. More people would remain with Agency - particularly, and most important, the top 20% - the key people who have long experience and who constitute the real heart of the Agency's activities.
2. Moving expenses would be sharply reduced, particularly move of household effects of Agency personnel. Travel time and expenses would be reduced. Many people would take care of themselves in moving from present homes to new and closer ones.
3. Considerably less interruption to all operations and loss of productions would be suffered. As in move during formation of AFSA, a short move eliminates necessity for complete closedown, permits phasing of office moves and continuation of operations.
4. Liaison with Service Cryptologic Agencies and principal intelligence consumers would be simpler, closer, more direct, and more effective. Technical assistance to Services and supervision of Service crypt activities would be greatly increased.
5. Communications costs would be only a fraction of costs at Knox. *Dependence*  
~~Reliance~~ on electrical communications would be reduced.
6. Supervision of actual construction by technical people in operations offices would be simplified and greatly increased, with result that building would be better suited to operations and construction speeded by reducing time for decisions.
7. Important advisory functions and participation in Joint activities which have taken years to build up to a point of effectiveness could be continued. For example, JCEC coordinating activities, counter-measures work, Research and Development Panels.

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1 October 1951

## ADVANTAGES OF VINT HILL STATION, CONT'D

8. Procurement functions would be more efficient, and simpler by being near to the Army's and Navy's major procurement organizations.

Would permit close range follow thru on procurement actions.

Particularly important in conducting industrial mobilization activities with Munitions Board and in obtaining priorities for critical materials <sup>from</sup> ~~with~~ National Production Authority.

9. Would eliminate necessity for any portion of AFSA to remain in immediate Washington area for liaison purposes, thus reducing operating overhead and duplication.

10. It reduces AFSA's attractiveness as a target since no other military, industrial, or transportation target is within 30 miles in any direction. Also it is a greater distance from probable enemy by polar air route.

11. Post authorities are familiar with operation of a security activity and would not be antagonistic to installing and respecting security measures.

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1 October 1951

## DISADVANTAGES OF FORT KNOX

1. Loss of personnel, particularly among the group which has been with Agency long time and has its roots in the area will be disastrously high. Operations, especially intelligence activities, will be seriously hampered by loss of top flight persons who provide the ideas and technical direction.
2. Distance from Washington will require almost complete shut down and loss of production in communication security activities for average minimum of one month. Some units using heavy, complex equipment will be out of operation for three months. Considerable expensive equipment would have to be duplicated to avoid this.
3. Several thousand units of Wherry housing will be required immediately in order to have some accommodations for transplanted people upon arrival and during first year or two of operation. This will require exceptionally careful timing and handling in order to avoid having Agency move become a political issue and subject to Congressional scrutiny, with its attendant publicity and security dangers.
4. Recruitment of people for low grade jobs will be difficult due to having to compete against industry and its flexible wage policies for labor. Also possible increase of labor difficulties due to heavy unionization in the area.
5. Location of GE appliance plant of 16,000 persons only 15 miles away constitutes source of wage difficulties. Also increases attractiveness of area as a target.

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1 October 1951

## DISADVANTAGES OF FORT KNOX, CONT'D

6. Experience of AFSA at NSS has shown difficulties of being an unwelcome tenant on a military installation.
7. All of the advantages listed under Vint Hill would be lacking at Knox.

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DRAFT

1 Oct 51

~~TOP SECRET~~

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTOR THRU THE DEPUTY DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: Proposed new site for AFSA in the Fort Knox area

1. I reported orally to you a few days before you left on your recent trip to Japan that ~~practically all of the~~ <sup>practically all of the</sup> ~~in discussing the subject with various high-~~ <sup>were doubtful of the wisdom of the selection of</sup> level operating officials of AFSA, ~~I had found a general belief which~~ <sup>I had found a general belief which</sup> Fort Knox as the new site for AFSA and were generally of the opinion ~~shared~~ <sup>shared</sup> that it would be advisable, before more or less irrevocable action is initiated, to ~~review the proposal and~~ <sup>only one that meets the conditions and limitations of the basic directives in</sup> make sure that the Fort Knox site is the most suitable that can be found. This memo is a follow-up on the brief discussion we had at that time. in connection with the move to a new site

2. The advantages of the new site, approved by the Joint Chiefs of Staff upon the recommendation of AFSAC, are important but in the opinion of all or at least the majority of the officials referred to in Par. 1, the advantages are quite overbalanced by the disadvantages. Enclosure 1 deals with this aspect of the matter.

~~At the time we discussed the matter we agreed that Fort Knox had been~~  
 2 Admittedly, the proposed site ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup> selected only after much study by those having that responsibility. I also ~~later~~ <sup>later</sup> indicated ~~to you~~ that I fully understand that it is contrary to military philosophy to reopen for discussion a military decision once it has been made, particularly if no better solution to the problem involved can be proposed. ~~However,~~ <sup>However,</sup> I stated ~~that I~~ <sup>thought</sup> ~~that a better~~ <sup>site could</sup> ~~solution can be found and~~ <sup>suggested that</sup> ~~to state it in a few words, it~~ <sup>could be built on</sup> ~~is to build~~ <sup>is to build</sup> the new AFSA installation at the ASA's Vint Hill Farms Station. It is possible that this could be done without moving any of the facilities even if it should be necessary to move all or part of MS 1 to another site. However, even if it should be necessary to move a part of MS 1 or even all of it else - Enclosure 2 deals with this alternative solution. where, this might be advisable. <sup>is still</sup>

4. It is recommended that, if your consideration of Enclosure 2 leads to a belief that the alternative solution is worthy of detailed examination, it be studied by a small group designated to report thereon. Enclosure 3 is a draft of a suitable directive to such a group.

1. The following is quoted from AFSAC: 59/30:

- "5."
- a.
  - b.
  - c.
  - d.
  - e.

2. a) The first advantage cited is admittedly <sup>very</sup> important, perhaps the most important in the list. It is probable that it served as the over-riding consideration in the selection of Fort Knox.

b) The statement that Fort Knox "is reasonably near to Washington, D.C. (473 air miles)" refers to <sup>one</sup> of the ~~basic requirements~~ directives to the Ad Hoc Site Board <sup>was</sup> "to give full consideration to the desirability of ready access to the seat of government." <sup>in the directives</sup> to this effect, but it is doubtful that a distance of 473 miles can be considered to be "reasonably near to Washington." This point will be discussed in detail below.

c. Since the date that Fort Knox was selected it has developed that the Louisville area is about to experience huge industrial expansion. In particular, the General Electric Company is establishing a ~~of~~ large jet engine factory in this location which will employ upwards of 20,000 workers. Such a militarily important target changes the picture as regards the Fort Knox site being "well removed from other probable targets."

d. There is no question that Fort Knox "has adequate land available for construction" but whether this would be "without interference with any other activity now at Fort Knox" is questionable. Were this true it is unlikely that the present Commanding General would ~~be~~ <sup>be</sup> ~~consider~~ making the representations which he is reported to be making to the commanders of the Second Army Area and the Army Field Forces.

e. "Regular post facilities could furnish logistic support," it is true, but again the objections of the local commander ~~must~~ should be considered in this connection.

300 acres requested

530 " granted

## VINT HILL FARMS STATION

## Existing Facilities

## 1. Housing

E.M. Barracks.....	500 man spaces exist 165 man barracks being built. Finished by January 1952.
	Total <u>665</u> permanent spaces
	(This figure is based on a figure of 72 sq. ft. per man)
BOQ.....	16 spaces
Family Housing.....	102 units (Off. & Non-coms.)

## 2. Sewage

Treatment plants.....	2 on post
Capacity of plant #1.....	204 thousand gallons
Capacity of plant #2.....	408 thousand gallons
Daily disposal capacity plant #1.....	64 thousand gallons
Daily disposal capacity plant #2.....	137 thousand gallons

These plants are of the "Imhoff" type with chlorination.

## 3. Water (4 wells)

Total flow of wells.....	648 thousand gallons
Storage capacity of tank #1.....	100 thousand gallons
Storage capacity of tank #2.....	75 thousand gallons
	Total..... 175 thousand gallons
Treating capacity.....	150 thousand gallons

## 4. Power (Virginia Electric Power Co.)

Post power requirements.....	8,334,000 kw hours yearly
Power available with present facilities.....	6,675,000 kw hours yearly

AFSAC: 59/30 - Enclsure "B"

5. The advantages of the Fort Knox location are as follows:
- Provides adequate defense in depth
  - Is reasonably near to Washington, D.C. (473 air miles)
  - Is well removed from other probable targets
  - Has adequate land available for construction without interference with any other activity now at Fort Knox.
  - Regular post facilities could furnish logistic support.
6. The principal disadvantages of the Fort Knox location is its distance (20 miles) from the supporting city of Louisville, etc.

AFSAC 59/30

11. The advantages of the Fort Meade location are as follows:

- 
- 
- 
- 

12. The disadvantages

STANDARD FORM NO. 64

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : *Mr. Friedman*

FROM : *Col. Duffy*

SUBJECT: *Acreage at Vint Hill*

DATE: *1 Oct 51*

*Col. Duffy called to say that the acreage at Vint Hill\* was 530-535 acres: 535 by geologic map with some deviation when a ground survey is made.*

*Mary P. Lane*

*\* Main installation*

Adv. 1. Min dislocation of personnel. -

ADV  
VHFS

DIS.  
FN

Those who wish to con continue to live where they are and commute. Those who want to live closer con move at leisure - i.e. - take plenty of time to get a new place without the additional expense of a temporary location at F.N. while they "look around".

DIS  
FN.

ADV  
VHFS

2. Most of our contract work is in New England N.Y. Metropolitan, ~~as~~ Chicago, and St Paul.

Additional Travel Time and reduced schedules would make contract supervision even more difficult. (Certain amount of difficulty is to be expected as a result of inevitable personnel losses).

DIS  
FN

ADV  
VHFS

3. loss of contact with other govt agencies - what is now accomplished by a phone call or personal visit would be left undone - eg. you would not make a toll call to NRE from FN to ask some simple question - neither would you bother to write since correspondence involves considerable labor, delay and requires an "official" reply rather than the

Personal opinion of someone you have faith in and personal knowledge of. Principal contacts now are "a) Bu Ships (other than code 855 which may or may not move. b) NRL, c) NOL. d) ONR, e) Sig C. f) ERDL (Belvoir) g) Bu STD. h) Hib of Longross

4. Additional contract cost and loss of contract personnel time in travel. i.e. Visit by contractor from Boston would be (I believe but you should check about \$100 more per person for travel.) and one more day lost from work at least.
5. Loss of study facilities for many of our engineers (a large number are taking degree as graduate work - how many I don't know off hand, but I believe that although Wash. Facilities are poor - FN is even worse.
6. Loss of Ocean Recreation area is of serious concern to some people - you couldn't spend a week <sup>and</sup> at the beach or even a week if you have to drive 600 miles to do it.
7. If agency is split into two locations.

7. (cont) a 30-mile split would be nowhere near as bad as a 600-mile one.
8. A well planned scattered facilities of VHA would be less of an air target than the "Sore Thumb" center now being planned for F.N.
9. Many <sup>(civ.)</sup> people deeply resent the thought of living on a military reservation such as FN-
10. Agency would be better off for a lot of reasons e.g. (post engineers), as the thing on the reservation, rather than a thorn in the ~~side~~ side of a post commander who has an entirely unrelated primary mission. Like living at home or as a poor relation in ~~at~~ choicable circumstances ~~at~~ in some one else's home.
11. But returning to the main theme - a long distance move would cause the loss of a major portion of our competent engineers - this would necessarily mean a long term 3-5 year set back of the R+D Program

and perhaps even worse - The incompetent would of course stick - and get promoted - since thus ever under Civ Service. ~~It~~ and to my mind a badly bungled job - is worse than none at all - proves to a lot of non technical people that it cannot be done - not worth while etc. gives the whole R+D program a "Fraudulent" ~~cost~~. "Boondoggling" cost.

12. Tactical dependability of FN is perhaps better for a ground assault ~~than~~ i.e. ~~Agony~~ would be safer in case of an ~~sea~~ ground force landing on the eastern seaboard. - however I don't feel competent to argue this point since I don't know enough about the possible ~~tactical~~ tactical plans.