



# 80TH FLYING TRAINING WING

## SHEPPARD AIR FORCE BASE



### SNAPSHOT

A Summary of Facts and Figures

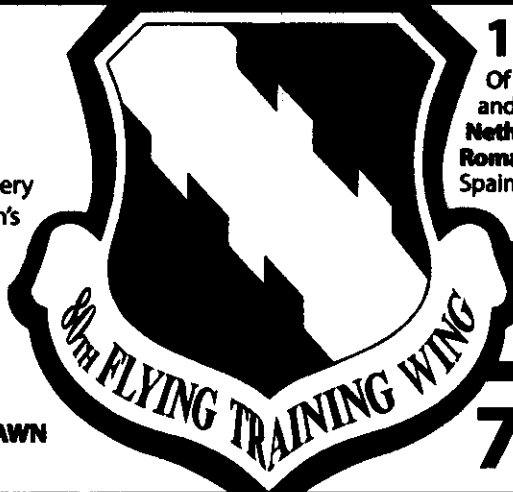
**MISSION:** Strengthen Partnerships; Train NATO Fighter Pilots  
**VISION:** Be the world's premier fighter pilot training program

*The Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training Program (ENJJPT) is the world's only internationally manned and managed flying training program. The Program was chartered to produce combat pilots for the NATO alliance.*

**Wing Commander:** Col Gregory Keeton  
**Vice Commander:** Col Paul Moga  
**Command Chief:** CMSgt Benjamin Hedden  
**80 OG Commander:** Col Bernhard Hey

Graduates from ENJJPT have supported every major military operation since the program's inception to include:

- OPERATION DESERT SHIELD**
- OPERATION DESERT STORM**
- OPERATION ALLIED FORCE**
- OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM**
- OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM**
- OPERATIONS NEW DAWN & ODYSSEY DAWN**
- OPERATION INHERENT RESOLVE**



### 14 NATO PARTNERS

Of the 14 NATO nations, 9 currently send students and instructors: **Canada, Germany, Italy, The Netherlands, Norway, Belgium, Turkey, Denmark, Romania and the U.S.** Two nations, Greece and Spain, send only instructors, while Portugal, Romania and the U.K. are currently non-active signatories.

**201** | The 80 FTW has 201 aircraft, the T-6 Texan and T-38 Talon, which fly approximately **240** sorties a day.

**75** | ENJJPT is also unique in that it conducts its own Pilot Instructor Training (PIT), with nearly **75** graduates annually.

ENJJPT currently produces **45.6%** of all U.S. Fighter Pilots and is the sole source of fighter pilots for partner nations Germany, Norway and the Netherlands

#### QUICK FACTS:

- 7,300 pilots graduated from undergraduate Pilot Training Over
- 2,800 pilots graduated from Intro to Fighter Fundamentals
- Nearly 3,000 Instructor Pilots trained
- 244 sunny days annually
- 17 local low-level routes
- Over 9,000 sq. miles of airspace in 6 MOAs
- Open to all NATO members and U.S. Major Non-NATO allies

#### ECONOMIC IMPACT

## \$3.4 BILLION

### FY 2015

Sheppard's economic impact for Fiscal Year 2015 was \$3.4 Billion of the state's total GDP and accounts for 1 in 8 jobs in Wichita County and the Northwest Region.



**The 80 FTW launches 60,000 sorties per year and is recognized as the second busiest joint-use airfield in the Air Force, outside of a combat zone.**



# SHEPPARD AFB

Texas has long been committed to our military bases and the personnel who call the Lone Star State home. That's why we're often recognized for our military friendliness. From training troops and maintaining military equipment to caring for our wounded and overseeing defense contracts, our installations provide both economic and intangible benefits.

As the state's chief financial officer, I appreciate the military's contribution to our economy: \$136.6 billion in total output and \$81.4 billion to our gross domestic product annually. Our military installations support more than 800,000 Texans in some capacity, contributing nearly \$43.1 billion of disposable personal income for our citizens.

But as with other sectors of the Texas economy, our bases can experience change and uncertainty. By detailing the economic impact of our 15 military installations, we hope to emphasize their importance to strong, diverse and growing regional economies.

Atty. Gen. Greg Abbott

## ABOUT SHEPPARD AFB

NORTHWEST REGION

SHEPPARD AFB

### ESTIMATED CONTRIBUTIONS OF SHEPPARD AFB TO THE TEXAS ECONOMY, 2013

8,452

\$5.6 Billion

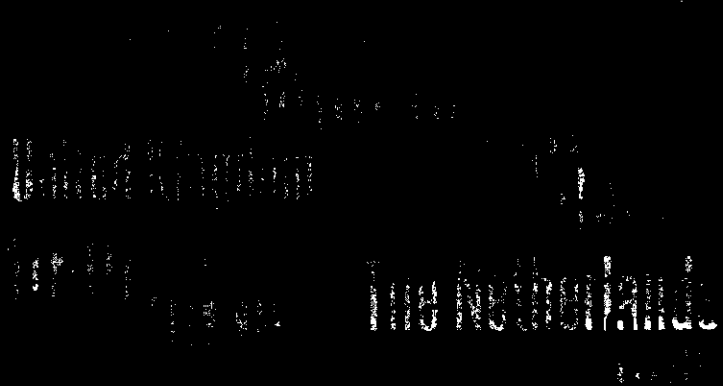
36,970

\$3.4 Billion

Source: Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

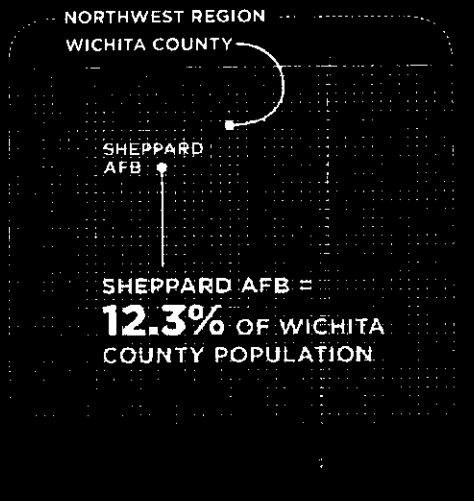
### SHEPPARD AFB HAS PROVIDED PILOT TRAINING FOR 13 NATO ALLIES

SHEPPARD AFB HAS PROVIDED PILOT TRAINING FOR 13 NATO ALLIES, INCLUDING THE UNITED STATES, CANADA AND MALAYSIA. SOURCE: SHEPPARD AFB WEBSITE.

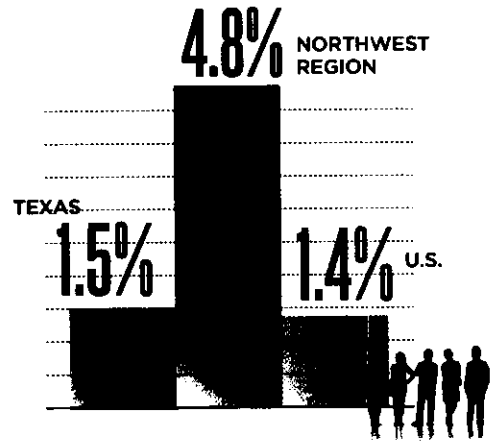


Source: Sheppard AFB, U.S. Air Force website

## POPULATION ASSOCIATED WITH SHEPPARD AFB



## MILITARY EMPLOYMENT AS SHARE OF TOTAL REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT, 2014



Source: Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

ONE OUT OF EVERY EIGHT PEOPLE IN WICHITA COUNTY IS ASSOCIATED WITH SHEPPARD AFB.

THEY ARE EMPLOYEES (MILITARY, CIVILIAN AND CONTRACTOR), RETIREES AND FAMILY MEMBERS.

## EMPLOYMENT AND COMPENSATION

### MILITARY EMPLOYMENT AS SHARE OF TOTAL REGIONAL EMPLOYMENT, 2014

REGION	2014 SHARE
Albany	3.4%
Anderson	0.5%
Ashtabula	<b>9.2%</b>
Barren	0.5%
Bartonsville	0.5%
Bethesda	0.5%
Bethesda Heights	4.8%
Bethesda Park	1.3%
Bethesda Station	0.7%
Bethesda Terrace	0.5%
Bethesda Woods	<b>8.9%</b>
Bethesda Woods North	1.5%
Bethesda Woods South	1.5%
Bethesda Woods West	1.4%

### Military compensation as share of total county compensation, 2014:

Region	2014 Share
Wichita County	9.2%
Texas	1.5%

Sheppard AFB has a rich history:

**OPENED IN 1941 AS SHEPPARD FIELD, IT BEGAN WHEN J. S. BIRDWELL OFFERED TO SELL 300 ACRES OF HIS CATTLE RANCH TO THE GOVERNMENT FOR \$1 TO CREATE A MILITARY INSTALLATION.**

**SHEPPARD AFB WAS NAMED TO HONOR U.S. SENATOR JOHN M. SHEPPARD, WHO SERVED AS CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.**

A significant employer in Wichita County and the Northwest Region, Sheppard AFB is a major economic driver and a central component of the area's workforce, accounting for one in every eight jobs in the area.

Sheppard AFB equips an men in hundreds of career fields including aircraft maintenance, civil engineering, aircraft systems, telecommunications and logistics. It employs approximately 37,000 workers, either directly or indirectly.

Yet the impact of Sheppard AFB isn't limited to the Wichita area. With its size and prominence, Sheppard AFB is a boon to the state, contributing approximately \$3.4 billion to the state's GDP and strengthening Texas' reputation as a military-friendly state.

### SHEPPARD AFB IS ONE OF 15 MAJOR TEXAS MILITARY INSTALLATIONS.

To see a complete list of these installations, plus more in-depth regional and county-by-county data, visit:

[TEXASAHEAD.ORG/ECONOMIC-DATA/MILITARY](http://TEXASAHEAD.ORG/ECONOMIC-DATA/MILITARY)

**Glenn Hegar**

Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts

10/15/14

# Background Information for Community Leaders

## Sheppard AFB and Wind Farm Development

### Sheppard's Missions

Sheppard is the home of the 82nd Training Wing and the 80th Flying Training Wing. Both are critical to providing trained pilots and technicians to ensure the future combat capability of the U.S. Air Force as well as the Army, Navy, Marine Corps and our international partners.

The 82nd delivers more than 60,000 officer and enlisted graduates annually in over 900 technical courses. These include all aspects of aircraft maintenance and munitions specialties for every aircraft in the Air Force inventory, as well as most civil engineering and logistics courses, and a few cyber courses. It is the largest technical training operation in the Air Force, accounting for nearly half of all graduates.

The 80th operates the Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training Program, or ENJJPT. This unique program is known worldwide as the premier training program for combat pilots. ENJJPT is a 13-nation partnership, where each nation shares the cost and manpower burden of operating the program. It has trained more than 7,000 combat pilots for the NATO Alliance since its inception in 1981, and is the sole source of trained fighter pilots for several of the partner nations, including Germany. In addition to its training mission, the coalition training environment at ENJJPT is critical to establishing the relationships and foundations necessary for effective coalition combat operations around the world.

### Impact of Windfarms on Sheppard AFB

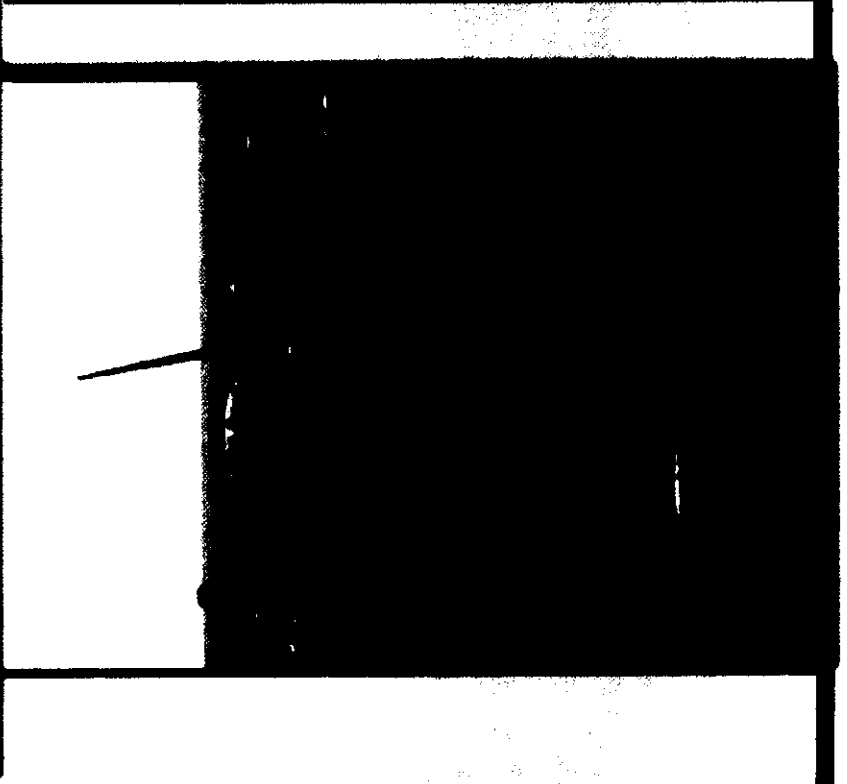
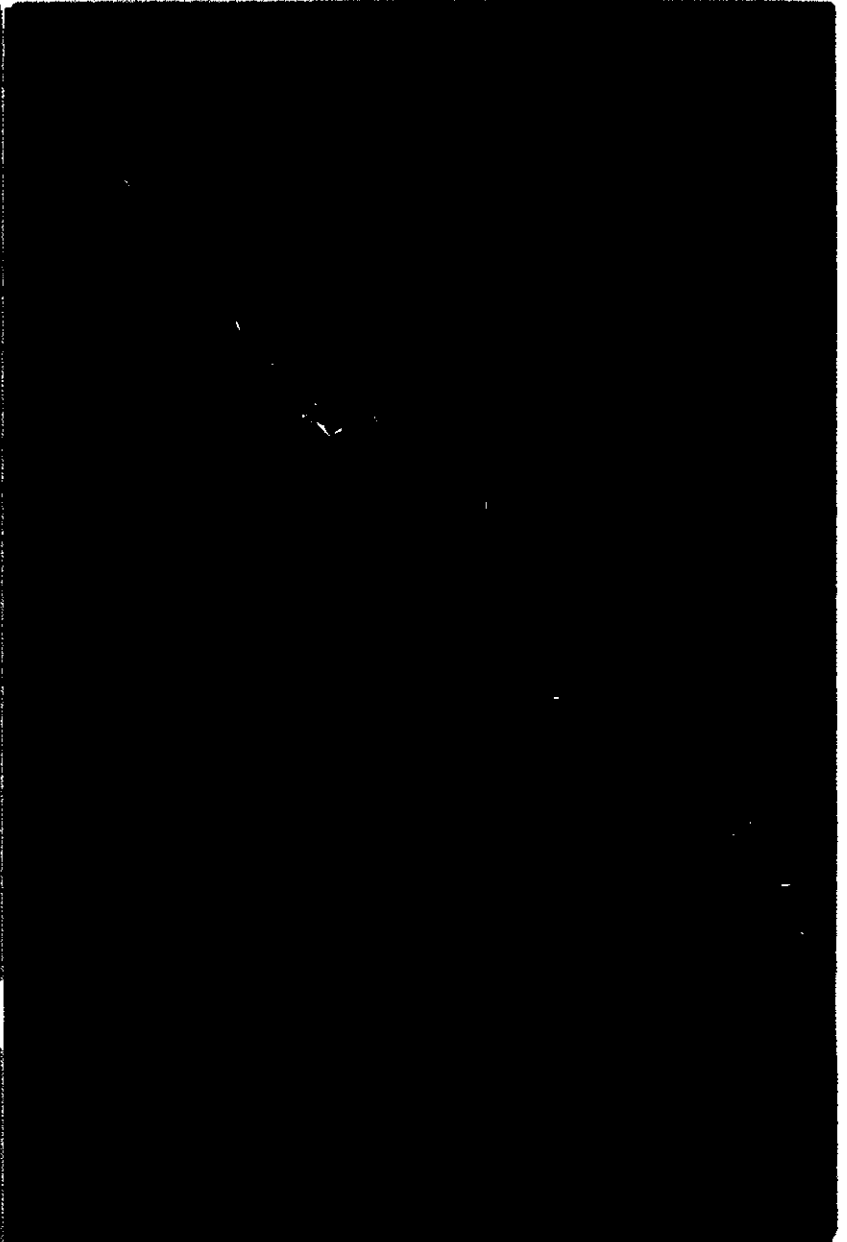
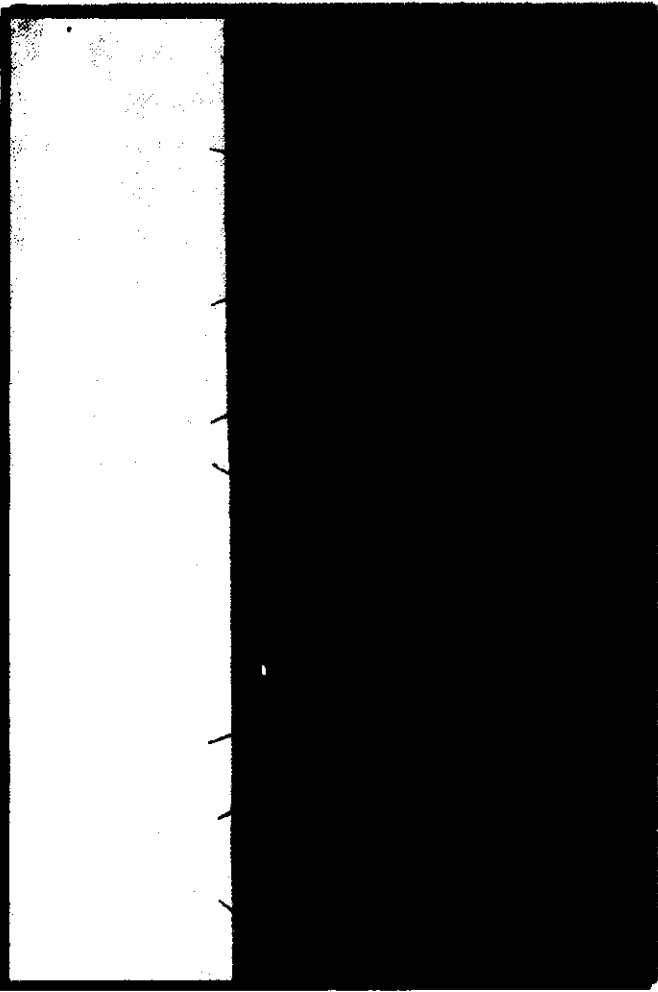
The Air Force is a strong proponent of green energy, and has been a pioneer in developing aviation-compatible wind and solar energy. We are a proponent of windfarm development generally; however, windfarms within a 25-mile radius of Sheppard pose specific challenges not only to our core military missions, but also to safety of flight for military, commercial and civil aircraft traffic in the area.

Wind turbines within 12 miles of the base are likely to have a critical impact on flight operations – military and civilian – in the area. These turbines clutter Sheppard's radar and obscure the air traffic picture our controllers use to ensure that aircraft can transit safely through our airspace. It is not the size, but the motion of the turbines which causes this effect. The tips of the blades move as fast as 200 miles per hour, effectively showing up on radar as false aircraft returns, thereby obscuring real aircraft returns and making it impossible for controllers to safely deconflict aircraft and ensure safety of flight.

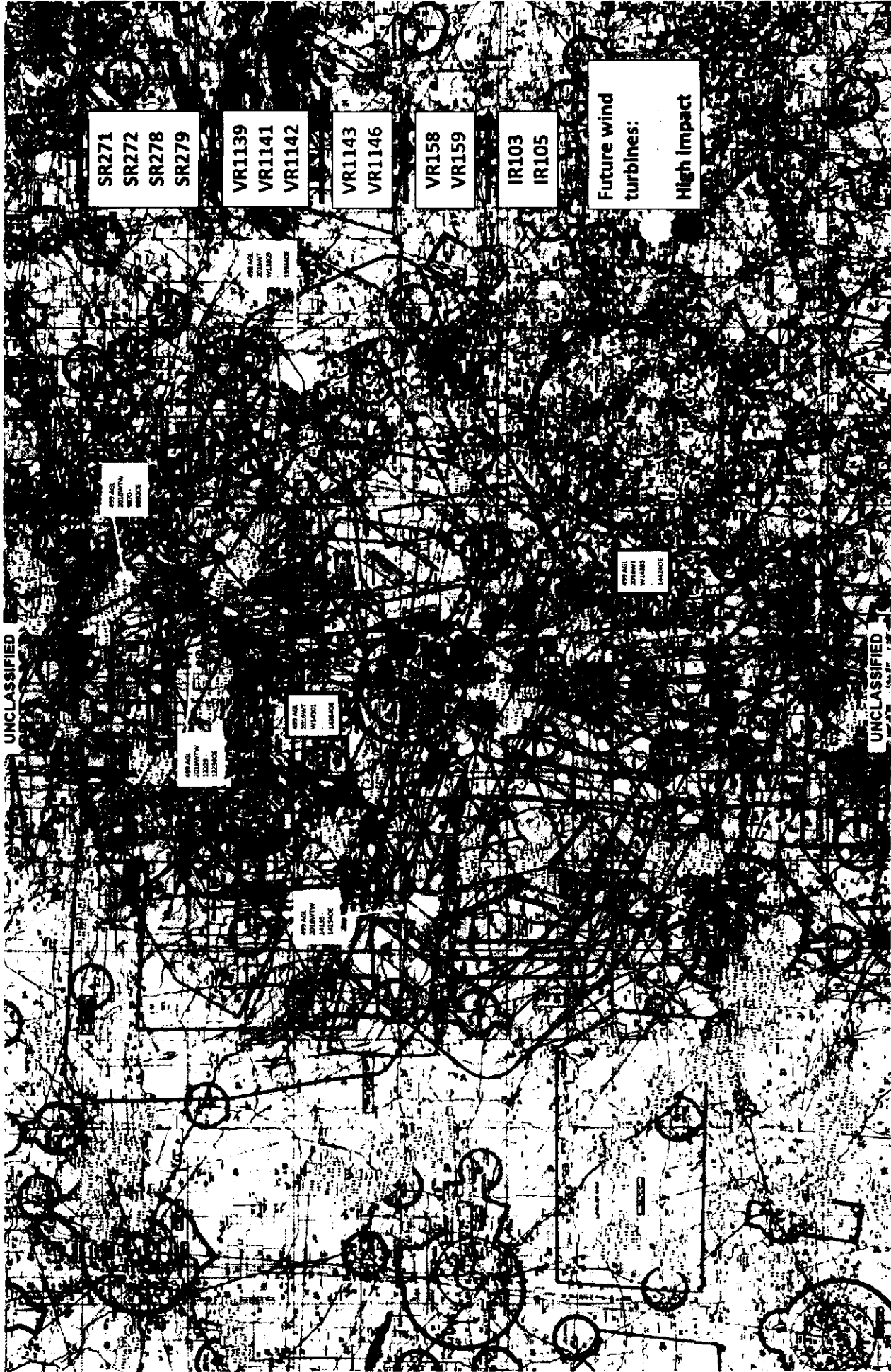
Wind turbines within 25 miles of the base are likely to have a significant impact on military operations due to their height, especially in poor weather. Windfarms will restrict the altitudes at which military and civilian aircraft can be vectored to safely transit the area, given the need to both keep aircraft below the clouds and safely over the windfarms. This is both a safety of flight issue as well as a mission impact issue. Had the proposed windfarms been in place in 2015, Sheppard could have lost training during 104 days – resulting in a serious reduction in pilot production capability.

In considering these issues, it is important to fully understand the scale and scope of flight operations at Sheppard. The 80th Flying Training Wing is significantly more active than most Air Force flying wings. For comparison, Dyess Air Force Base has about 55 aircraft assigned, whereas Sheppard has 201. Because of the nature of our mission, we typically fly about 10 times the number of sorties annually.

This does not account for the responsibility Sheppard has as a joint-use airfield, which Dyess and other Air Force bases typically do not hold. Not only are Sheppard controllers responsible for the safe transit of military aircraft, but also the safety of commercial airline and civil aviation traffic into Wichita Falls Regional Airport and Kickapoo Airport. Thus, the safety implications of windfarm development within 25 miles of Sheppard are not just limited to military traffic, but to commercial and civil aviation as well.



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