It is with a genuine twinge or regret that Louisianians note the impending submergence of identity of Camp Beauregard. In connection with establishment of a Central Louisiana district of the Eighth Service Command, and consolidation of numerous functions in camps, posts and civilian areas of 20 parishes, the administrative junction of Camp Beauregard and its great new neighbor, Camp Livingston, under the name of the latter, has been ordered, effective August 1. Thus the establishment which in 1940 was the head and front of federal military activity in Louisiana, goes into eclipse as an entity—though with no lessening of functional importance in the state's vast encampment scheme.

It was during World War one that the camp received its name, in honor of the Great Creole, General P. G. T. Beauregard. The site has had martial significance, however, for nearly 75 years. It was offered to the war department for Louisiana National Guard training purposes in 1905, according to National Guard archives, and bore the name of Adjutant General Stafford, who had controlled the property, until its selection in 1917 as a general national award encampment. It was purchased by the state in 1920 for the reorganized Louisiana National Guard, and from 1921 through 1940, with one year's exception, was host not only to the state's own, but intermittently to the Mississippi and Alabama National Guard, United States Army reserve officers, citizens' military training encampments, the Marine Corps Reserve and the CCC. Meanwhile it had undergone considerable enlargement and improvement, mostly at federal expense; and in 1940 it was turned over promptly, under nominal lease, for national defense training purposes.

On or near the original site of 400 acres, the Louisiana State Seminary of Learning, predecessor of Louisiana State university, was established about 1860. Historic paths crossed in a peculiar way here. William Tecumseh Sherman became superintendent by recommendation of several distinguished individuals, including Major Beauregard. The latter was superintendent of West Point. In 1861 Sherman went North, Major Beauregard, South, each to duty, valor and fame according to his lights. The deserted seminary was designated a state arsenal.

In 1920 the camp measured 200 acres. Ground for an artillery range of 7680 acres was obtained by the federal government in 1926. Additional expansion into a national camp was effected in 1929. Pistol, mortar and rifle ranges and an air field were among facilities that had been added when the army incorporated it in its encampment network. Still it came to be dwarfed by the new camps in its vicinity. In passing temporarily or otherwise as "Beauregard," symbol of military genius, bravery, and personal integrity, as well as of Louisiana military activities of two generations, the old camp rates, at the least, a 21-gun salute.