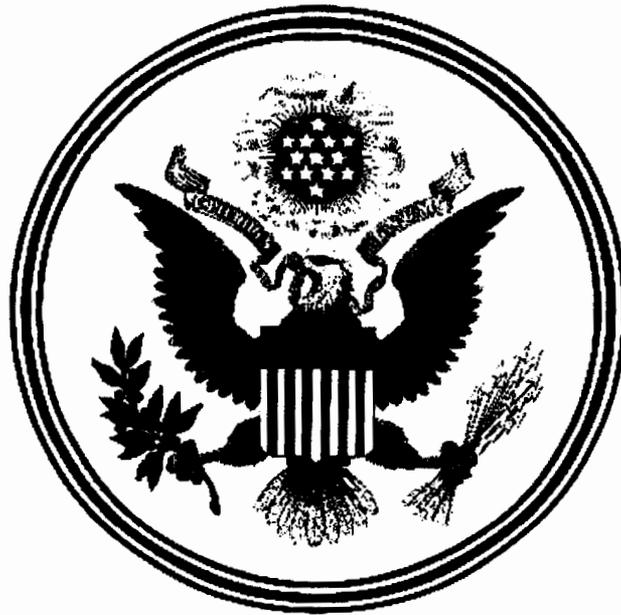


The Honorable Anthony J. Principi
Chairman

**DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND
REALIGNMENT COMMISSION**



**WASHINGTON, DC
REGIONAL ADDS HEARING**

AUGUST 10, 2005

Good Afternoon.

I'm Anthony Principi, and I will chair this Regional Hearing of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission. I'm pleased to be joined by my fellow Commissioners Hill, Newton, Skinner, ^{Harrison Lynch & DeLoach} and Turner for today's session.

We are honored that Senator Lugar, Governor Daniels, and members of the Indiana Congressional Delegation are here to represent Indiana in today's hearing.

On July 19th, this Commission voted to consider closure or realignment of eight installations not included in the Defense Department's recommendations. We took this action ---- not because of any desire to close more bases than the Secretary of Defense recommended, but to meet our obligation to the American people, and to the uniformed men and women defending our freedoms. That obligation compels us to examine the BRAC proposals of the Department of Defense from every angle and perspective.

We are committed to a thorough, impartial, transparent and non-political process that will shape our military capabilities for

Today we will hear testimony from the states of Indiana, Ohio, Maine, North Carolina, Virginia, and the District of Columbia. Each state's, and the District's, elected delegation has been allotted a block of time determined by the overall impact of the proposed recommendation added by the Commission. I am certain their testimony will provide information and insight that will make up a valuable part of our review. We would greatly appreciate it if you would adhere to your time limits, every voice today is important.

I now request our witnesses to stand for the administration of the oath required by the Base Closure and Realignment statute. The oath will be administered by Rumu Sarkar, the Commission's Designated Federal Officer.



BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

Chairman's Opening Statement

Regional Hearing
of the
2005 Base Closure and Realignment Commission

for

Indiana, Ohio, Maine, North Carolina, Virginia, D.C.

*

Washington, D.C.

August 10, 2005

decades to come, but also one that we know will also have profound effects on our communities and on the people who bring our communities to life.

The Commission's July 19 action was not a vote to close these facilities. Our action merely allows the Commission to compare directly those facilities included in the DoD package of recommendations with facilities that are not.

No decision has been reached and no decision will be reached until the Commission has time to hear and consider evidence and input from all interested parties. This hearing is an important part of that process.

Our site visits and public hearings, combined with citizen input provide us with information and views on the substance of the proposals as well as the methodology and assumptions behind them.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the thousands of involved citizens who have already contacted the Commission and shared with us their thoughts, concerns, and suggestions.

We're honored that Sen. Warner & Com. Moran
are here to report to the State of VA at least in
person and heavy on the Commission's consideration of
considerably military personnel

Statement of Senator John Warner
Before the Base Closure and Realignment Commission
August 10, 2005

Mr. Chairman, thank you for the opportunity to testify today regarding the Commission's proposal to establish a Joint Medical Command Headquarters by consolidating activities from leased office space in Northern Virginia with other activities from military installations in the National Capitol Region. My Colleague Senator Allen and Governor Warner have asked me to express their regrets for not being able to attend today's hearing because of prior commitments elsewhere in the Commonwealth. I request that their prepared statements be submitted for the record.

I understand the initial logic of the scenario that the Commission developed in regards to a Joint Medical Command Headquarters. However, before you decide to pursue such a concept you must first determine, as required by section 2903 of the BRAC law, if the Secretary deviated substantially from the legislative criteria or force structure plan

when he did not make such a recommendation—he did not. You must also determine if your proposal will result in a savings to the Department—it will not. Finally, you must determine if moving activities from leased office space requires the authority of a BRAC—it does not. As I stated in my earlier testimony, closure and realignment decisions must be based on the legal framework provided by the BRAC law. Any decision which is not grounded in that law, must be addressed separately and outside the BRAC process.

Mr. Chairman, on July 7, 2005, I presented to the Commission sworn testimony and documentation to support my position that the law authorizing the Defense Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process simply did not provide the legal framework to support the Department's recommendations to vacate leased office space in the National Capitol Region.

I also stated at that hearing that I would provide the Commission facts further supporting my determination that the Department failed to treat all installations equally, failed to make decisions based solely on the selection criteria and the force structure, and failed to ensure that the analysis

supporting the recommendations was based on certified data, as the BRAC law clearly requires.

In the past month, I have further reviewed the extensive public record of the internal deliberations of the Department of Defense. I also requested, and received from the Department additional information and written clarification of their process. After this latest review, I am convinced beyond any shadow of doubt, that the Department of Defense inappropriately used the BRAC process to carry out a predetermined objective to reduce the number of functions and installations in the National Capital Region (NCR). The analytical process that the Department used to reach targeted recommendations to vacate leased office space within the National Capitol Region violated section 2903(c)(3)(A) of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act, which requires that all installations within the United States to be treated equally. The process also violated section 2913 of the BRAC law which specifies the selection criteria to be used by the Department in making its recommendations--and mandates that these be the only criteria used. Furthermore, the process violated section

2903(c)(5)(A) which requires that only certified data be used when making decisions regarding the closure or realignment of a military installation.

• I have already provided you with one legal brief on this subject. I trust that you have considered the evidence contained therein. I will submit the entire second brief for the record which I have prepared as well.

• The Department's internal deliberative records illustrate the intent to justify certain closure recommendations for leased space within the NCR, by citing specific objectives outside the legislative selection criteria--a violation of law. Among the minutes of the Technical Joint Cross-Service Group of January 19, 2005, as it relates to the recommendation to move these activities to either Bethesda or Anacostia, is the statement that "*the military value analysis is irrelevant as this scenario strives to get out of leased space per the OSD imperative.*" Military capacity assessment and military value analysis were either ignored or tailored with these goals in mind, and carried out without the use of certified data. Regardless of the reasons used by the Department to justify the decision to reduce the military footprint in the NCR, the BRAC law simply does not allow this type of regional targeting to occur.

In a memo of July, 14, 2005 entitled, Discussion of Legal and Policy Considerations Related to Certain Base Closure and Realignment Recommendations, your Deputy General Counsel opined on the use of the Base Closure Act to effect changes that do not require the authority of the Act. Your counsel correctly stated:

“In order to protect the Base Closure Act process, where a recommendation to close or realign and (sic) installation falls below the threshold set by Section 2687 of Title 10, United States Code, but does not otherwise conflict with existing legal restrictions, it would be appropriate for the Commission to consider even a minor deviation from the force structure report or the final selection criteria to be a substantial deviation under the meaning of the Base Closure Act. Where a recommendation to close or realign and (sic) installation falls below the threshold set by Section 2687 and conflicts with existing legal restrictions, the Commission must act to remove that recommendation from the list.”

I wholeheartedly agree with that assessment. The Department does not require the BRAC process, which is time and resource intensive, to vacate existing administrative facility leases. The Commission must protect the BRAC process by removing from consideration the Department's recommendations to vacate leased office space within the NCR, if the Commission determines the Department “deviated substantially” from the legal process in making recommendations. Mr. Chairman and

commissioners--the record is absolutely clear--the Department substantially deviated in this case.

The concentration of our finest leaders in, and around the Nation's Capitol grew as a result of deliberate and pain-staking efforts over 50 years to maximize the cooperation and effectiveness of our military command structure. Any attempt to dismantle this unity overnight should be assessed and debated in the light of day, not forced upon us by recommendations using half-hazard justifications which do not satisfy the minimum requirements of BRAC law. The Commission's action to set aside these recommendations will allow the Department to pursue more flexible and innovative opportunities, such as was considered with regards to U.S. Southern Command's Headquarters in Miami, Florida, to satisfy requirements for secure, affordable office space across the United States.



Columbus Workforce

- Growing more workers
 - More than 100,000 people enrolled in region's 18 colleges and universities
 - Nationally ranked accounting program at The Ohio State University Fisher College of Business
 - Others include: Capital University, Franklin University, Ohio Dominican University, Otterbein College, Columbus State Community College
 - More around the state



The Questions

- Why DFAS Columbus?
- Can DFAS Columbus perform the work?
- Is Columbus the right location to grow DFAS?

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Columbus



Columbus

YES!

- A big city with **Midwest** character and work ethic
- Regional population of **1.7 million people**
 - Growth of nearly 100,000 in next 5 years
 - More than 400,000 new residents in next 20 years
- Accounts for **two-thirds of Ohio's** growth



Columbus

- Ranks in top-10 for **shortest commute time** for major cities
- **Affordable** cost of living
- Reduced state income tax
- Nationally ranked public high **schools**
- **Quality of life**: arts, culture, sports
- Low violent crime rate



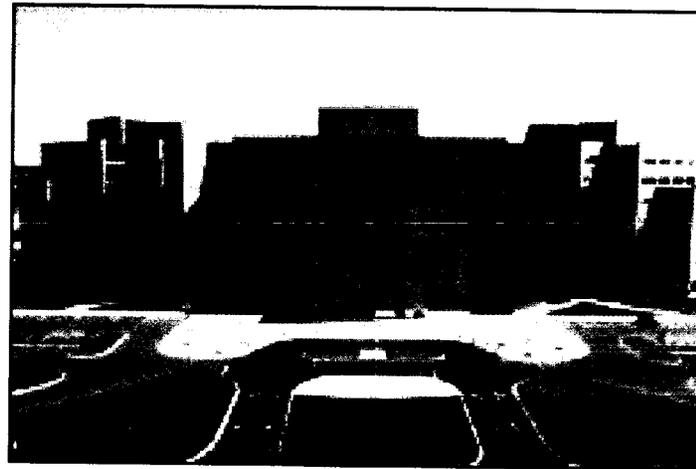
We Are Your Partner

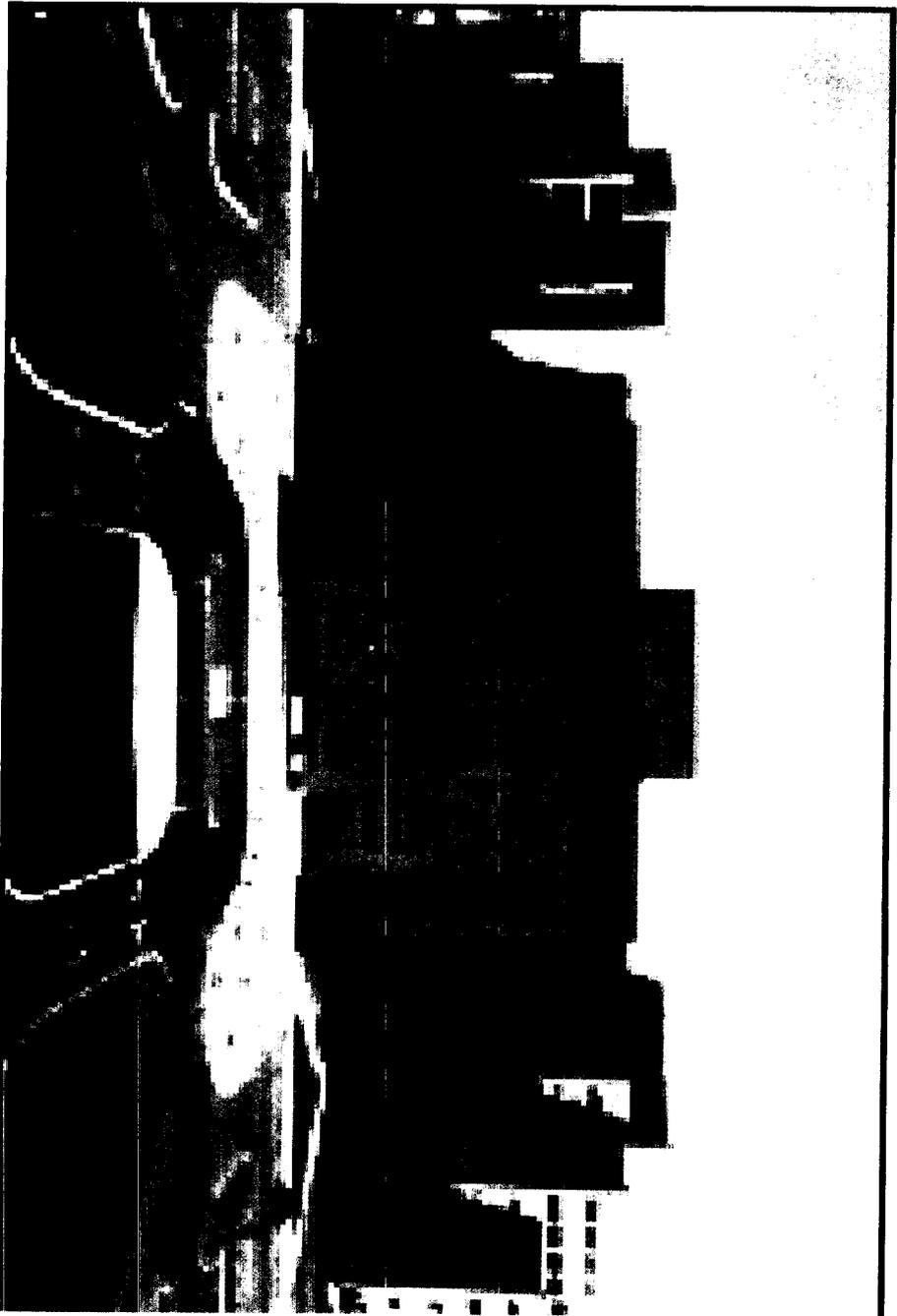
- Relocation expertise and resources
 - Employment campaign for DFAS
- Conduit to government, academic and private industry resources



DFAS Columbus...Has It All

- The facility.
- The workforce.
- The community.





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Columbus

1-2000



The Questions

- **Why DFAS Columbus?**
- **Can DFAS Columbus perform the work?**
- **Is Columbus the right location to grow DFAS?**



DFAS Columbus

- **Military value**
 - Superior infrastructure
 - Capacity
 - Jointness
 - Security

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Columbus



DFAS Columbus

Thank You

Chamber



DFAS Columbus

**Presentation to
BRAC Commissioners**
August 10, 2005

Chamber