Virginia

Afternoon Session

12:30
BRIEF - MONROE

120 Minutes

VIRGINIA, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, AND PENNSYLVANIA
REGIONAL HEARING
SCHEDULE OF WITNESSES

		Panel 1- Statewide
1:30 - 2:15 PM	10 Minutes	Governor Mark Warner *Virginia Military Bases*
	15 Minutes	Senator John Warner *Virginia Military Bases* *Leased Space*
	15 Minutes	Senator George Allen *Virginia Military Bases* *Military Value and Technology*
	5 Minutes	Governor Mark Warner *Extramural Research*
		Panel 2- NOVA (Leased Space and Extramural Research)
2:15 - 2:45 PM	2 Minutes	Congressman Jim Moran
	2 Minutes	Congressman Tom Davis
	2 Minutes	Chairman Fisette
	10 Minutes	General Kern
	10 Minutes	Technology Workforce Expert
	4 Minutes	Question and Answer

		Panel 3- Peninsula (Ft. Monroe and Ft. Eustis)
2:45 - 3:15 PM	2 Minutes	Congresswoman Thelma Drake
	5 Minutes	Congressman Bobby Scott
	5 Minutes	Mayor Ross A. Kearney
	15 Minutes	Mayor Joe S. Frank
	3 Minutes	Question and Answer
		Wrap Up
3:15 PM		Senator John Warner

SUMMARY

- Close Big Bethel Reservoir – partial closure (499 acres)
- No encroachment
- Major impediments to closure: reversionary clause, unexploded ordnance, National Historic Landmark, environmental impact, and current leases on Fort Monroe
- Fort Monroe has a modernized, well maintained infrastructure to accommodate HQ operations
- Fort Monroe can accommodate SERO and NETCOM with Accessions Command and Cadet Command moving to Fort Knox
- Fort Monroe is an alternative to DOD leases
- Fort Monroe is more cost efficient (only 570 Acres)

$192m
VAO
MMRP

NHL – 144 STRUCTURE
6 LANDSCAPE
11 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

295 OF 570 RELEAT TO STATE

JOINT TASKFORCE CIVIL SUPPORT
160 MIL/CIV – DEPLOYABLE – NORTHCOM
CBRNE CHEM, BIO, RAD, NUCLEAR, & EXPLOSIVE

CHAMBERLAIN HOTEL – SENIOR LIVING 50yr
CATHOLIC CHAPEL – DOF RICHMOND
LIGHT HOUSE – COAST GUARD

FINAL DRAFT 24 June 2005

BASE VISIT REPORT

FORT MONROE, VA

25 MAY 2005

LEAD COMMISSIONER: Honorable Anthony J. Principi - Chairman

ACCOMPANYING COMMISSIONER: General Lloyd W. Newton

COMMISSION STAFF: R. Gary Dinsick, Chief, Army R&A Team

LIST OF ATTENDEES:

General Kevin P. Byrnes, Commanding General, US Army Training and Doctrine Command
LTG Anthony R. Jones, Deputy Chief of Staff, TRADOC
LTG Robert L. Van Antwerp, Commander, Accessions Command
MG Allen W. Thrasher, Commander, Commander Cadet Command
MG Bruce E. Davis, Commander, Joint Task Force-Civil Support
John Nerger, Deputy Chief of Staff Personnel, Infrastructure and Logistics
Diane M. Devens, Director Northeast Region, Installation Management Command
Thelma Pankoke, Deputy Garrison Commander, and Garrison staff
Honorable Ross Kearney II, Mayor of Hampton and Congressional staff representatives
Robert Edwards, Garrison POC for visit.

BASE'S PRESENT MISSION: Fort Monroe provides base operations support to National Defense Agencies through facilities, infrastructure, well being and force protection. It presently supports in a significant historic setting three Army major headquarters; three Army commands and one field office; one Joint Command; one Defense agency and one Navy activity.

The significant missions supported by this installation are: (1) Headquarters of the Army's Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC). TRADOC supports the Army's operational fighting forces through the development of doctrine and equipment requirements, in designing organization, and in training for combat. (2) The Army's Accessions Command and its subordinate the Cadet Command and school. These TRADOC subordinate commands have missions to transform volunteers into quality Soldiers, leaders and team leaders while instilling a warrior and winning spirit while meeting the Army's manpower and readiness requirements and standards. The Cadet Command is concerned with commissioning the future officer leadership of the Army and motivating young people to be better citizens; (3) The Joint Task Force - Civil Support plans and integrates DoD support to the designated Lead Federal Agency for domestic Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and high yield Explosive (CBRNE) consequence management operations, and (4) The Northeast Region Headquarters and associated elements of

the Army's Installation Management Command which provides management of all Army installations within the region.

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE RECOMMENDATION: Close Fort Monroe, VA. Relocate the US Army Training & Doctrine Command (TRADOC) Headquarters, the Installation Management Agency (IMA) Northeast Region Headquarters, the US Army Network Enterprise Technology Command (NETCOM) Northeast Region Headquarters and the Army Contracting Agency Northern Region Office to Fort Eustis, VA. Relocate the US Army Accessions Command and US Army Cadet Command to Fort Knox, KY.

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE JUSTIFICATION: This recommendation closes Fort Monroe, an administrative installation, and moves the tenant Headquarters organizations to Fort Eustis and Fort Knox. It enhances the Army's military value, is consistent with the Army's Force Structure Plan, and maintains adequate surge capabilities to address future unforeseen requirements. The closure allows the Army to move administrative headquarters to multi-purpose installations that provide the Army more flexibility to accept new missions. Both Fort Eustis and Fort Knox have operational and training capabilities that Fort Monroe lacks and both have excess capacity that can be used to accept the organizations relocating from Fort Monroe. The recommended relocations also retain or enhance vital linkages between them relocating organizations and other headquarters activities. TRADOC HQs is moved to Fort Eustis in order to remain within commuting distance of the Joint Forces Command (JFCOM) HQs in Norfolk, VA. JFCOM oversees all joint training across the military. IMA and NETCOM HQs are moved to Fort Eustis because of recommendations to consolidate the Northeastern and Southeastern regions of these two commands into one Eastern Region at Fort Eustis. The ACA Northern Region is relocated to Fort Eustis because its two largest customers are TRADOC and IMA. The Accessions and Cadet Commands are relocated to Fort Knox because of recommendations to locate the Army's Human Resources Command at Fort Knox. The HRC recommendation includes the collocation of the Accessions and Cadet Commands with the Recruiting Command, already at Fort Knox and creates a Center of Excellence for

MAIN FACILITIES REVIEWED: Meetings with the Commissioners were held at both the Community Center and in the TRADOC headquarters facility. Upon conclusion of the meetings a thirty minute driving tour was conducted through Fort Monroe. The Commissioners were able to observe the historic sites, museum and all significant installation facilities affected by the closure.

KEY ISSUES IDENTIFIED

- The most significant challenges appear to be in the BRAC implementation of the closure of Monroe. However the TRADOC Command has organized a staff to effectively work implementation so as not to adversely affect the training mission.
- Accessions/Cadet Command see no serious implementation problems both departing Monroe and establishing at Knox. Some discretionary moves of MEPS Station in Atlanta will be necessary. However, they are starting to canvas this largely civilian work force to ascertain how many will move to Knox. A possible resource is the people at Fort Knox who won't relocate to Fort Benning with planned relocation of the Armor school out.

- The Joint Task Force-Civil Support a major tenant on Fort Monroe which was not identified in the Secretary of Defense's recommendations will not move to Fort Eustis but prefers to remain in the Hampton Roads Area for synergy w/Navy and the Joint Forces Command. Desired locations-Norfolk, Langley, Eustis, Yorktown, and Little Creek.

INSTALLATION CONCERNS RAISED

The following concerns were raised by the installation during the visit and appear to be implementation issues which have been encountered at other base closure sites. The issues were transmitted back to the Army for further analysis to determine if they were considered during the recommendation development process and if not whether there will be any impact on the DoD recommendation to close Fort Monroe.

- Unexploded Ordnance (UXO)
- National Historical Landmark
- Real estate -Reversionary Clause-Commonwealth of Virginia
- Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC) Range House – continuing Navy mission
- Cemetery near Walker Airfield archaeological investigation
- Federal leases in Hampton Roads area

COMMUNITY CONCERNS RAISED:

- The Community raised the concern that the secrecy of the BRAC process precluded the Community from talking to Army headquarters to formulate their appeal, if one was necessary.
- Insufficient dollars have been allocated to cleanup the base.
- The closure will have a significant adverse effect on the local economy.
- The community is prepared to partner with the Army through the Hampton Industrial Development Agency and offered to construct an office complex and lease back arrangement w/Army costing about $13/SF if they stay at Fort Monroe.

REQUESTS FOR STAFF AS A RESULT OF VISIT:

- The Army R&A Staff has requested further analytical work from the Army on some of the issues raised.
- The Navy R&A Staff needs to be aware of the NSWC mission on Fort Monroe to determine if this issue can be addressed during implementation or if the Commission needs to address the mission.
- Further analysis on the actual sighting of TRADOC building may require additional COBRA runs.

ADDENDUM TO BASE VISIT REPORT

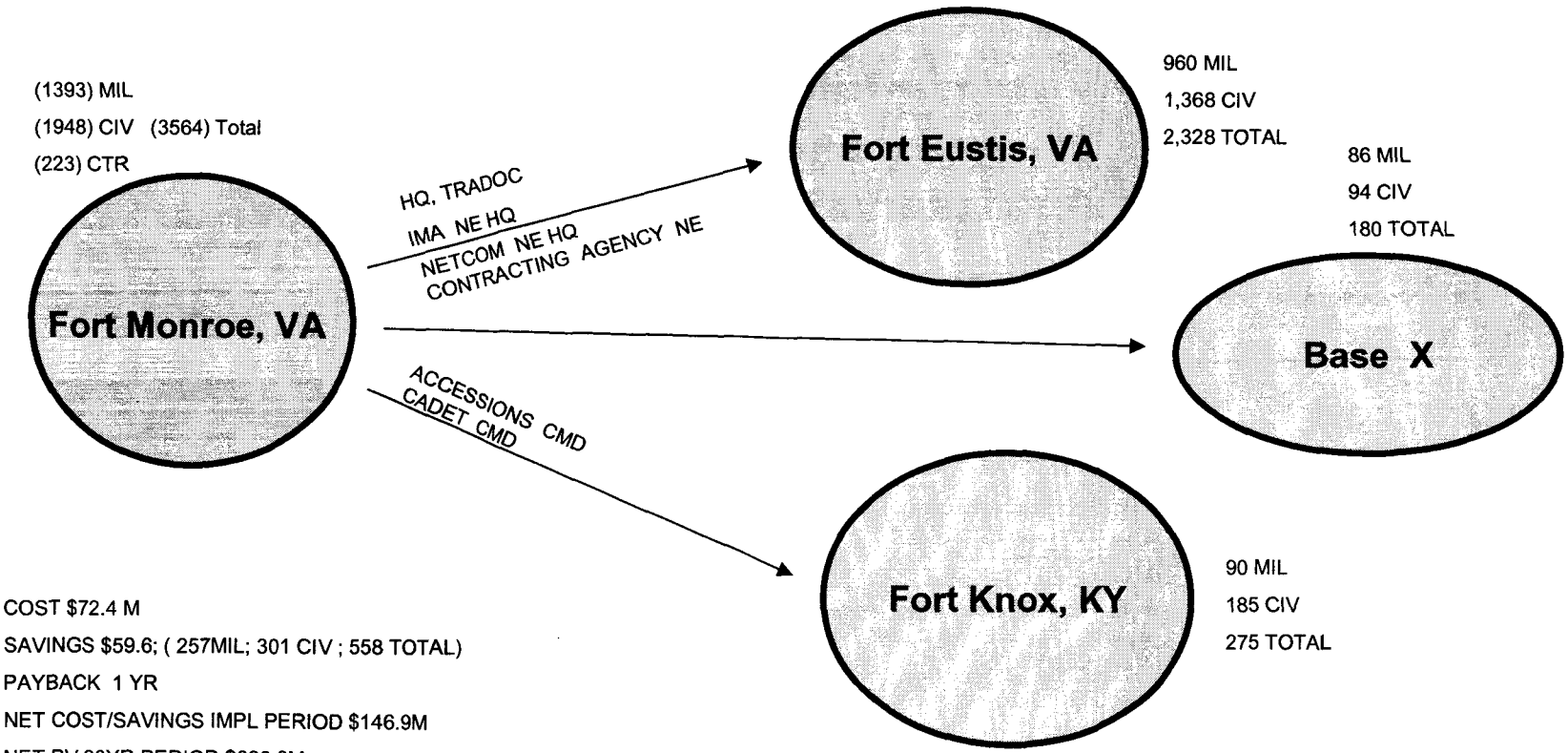
FORT MONROE, VA

FINAL DRAFT 24 June 2005

The attached briefing outlining issues, concerns and questions presented to the Commission during the Fort Monroe base visit was forwarded to the DoD Clearinghouse. DoD's response is attached noting that the issues are implementation issues and that Fort Eustis has a higher military value and offers DoD more capabilities than Fort Monroe.

Fort Monroe, VA
Close

Recommendation: Close Fort Monroe, VA. Relocate the US Army Training & Doctrine Command (TRADOC) Headquarters, the Installation Management Agency (IMA) Northeast Region Headquarters, the US Army Network Enterprise Technology Command (NETCOM) Northeast Region Headquarters and the Army Contracting Agency Northern Region Office to Fort Eustis, VA. Relocate the US Army Accessions Command and US Army Cadet Command to Fort Knox, KY.



COST $72.4 M

SAVINGS $59.6; (257MIL; 301 CIV ; 558 TOTAL)

PAYBACK 1 YR

NET COST/SAVINGS IMPL PERIOD $146.9M

NET PV 20YR PERIOD $686.6M

DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

BASE SUMMARY SHEET

Fort Monroe, VA

INSTALLATION MISSION

Fort Monroe, Home of Headquarters TRADOC, is located in the city of Hampton, close to Norfolk, Virginia Beach, Yorktown, Newport News, and Williamsburg. Rich in history and beauty, it is one of the best family vacation areas in Virginia. Historic sites, unique museums, and countless miles of scenic waterways are here for your discovery. Not only are the base facilities outstanding, but we've also been blessed with an outstanding location. Fort Monroe is located at the tip of the Virginia Peninsula and is at the heart of extensive historical, commercial, vacation and defense activities. When Fort Monroe construction was completed in 1834, it was referred to as the "Gibraltar of Chesapeake Bay."

Today its significance has expanded as the home of the Army's Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC). TRADOC supports the Army's operational fighting forces through the development of doctrine and equipment requirements, in designing organization, and in training for combat. To carry out its mission, Fort Monroe supports a daytime population of about 2,096, including 1,105 people in uniform, 1,991 civilian and contract employees, and about 814 family members residing on post. Fort Monroe is surrounded by historic civilian communities that are well known for their beautiful beaches, recreational sports, water activities, parks, and cultural opportunities.

Fort Monroe was built between 1819 and 1834, but the history of fortifications on the site goes back much further. As early as 1608, Captain John Smith recognized the importance of building a fort at Point Comfort, as the English colonists called this land. In 1609 they built Fort Algernourne here, with the mission of protecting the approaches to the colony at Jamestown. Throughout the colonial period, there were other fortifications at this site, but none lasted very long.

When the United States entered the War of 1812 against Great Britain, the young nation soon found that its old systems of defense were inadequate to protect its coasts and port cities. The capture and burning of Washington, D.C. in 1814 was a hard lesson. But from that experience grew a new system of coastal defenses, of which the first and largest was Fort Monroe.

Fort Monroe's original mission was to protect the entrance to Hampton Roads and the several port cities that had access to its waters. The fort accomplished this mission by mounting an impressive complement of the most powerful artillery of the time, 32-pounder guns with a range of over one mile. This was just enough range to cover the main shipping channel into the area. In 1824, the fort received another important mission when it was chosen as the site for the Army's new Artillery School of Practice.

During the Civil War, Fort Monroe was quickly reinforced so that it would not fall to Confederate forces. In cooperation with the Navy, troops from Fort Monroe extended Union control along the coasts of the Carolinas. Several land operations against Confederate forces also

were mounted from the fort, notably the battle of Big Bethel in June 1861, Major General George McClellan's Peninsula Campaign of 1862 and the siege of Suffolk in 1863. In 1864 the Army of the James was formed at Fort Monroe. Fort Monroe is also the place at which Major General Benjamin Butler made his famous "contraband" decision, by which escaping slaves reaching Union lines would not be returned to bondage.

Over time the armament at the fort was improved, taking advantage of new technologies. In addition, the fort controlled several subinstallations around Hampton Roads, making the area one of the most heavily defended in the United States. By World War II Fort Monroe served as headquarters for an impressive array of coast artillery guns ranging from 3-inch rapid fire guns to 16-inch guns capable of firing a 2,000 pound projectile 25 miles. In addition, the Army controlled submarine barriers and underwater mine fields. But this vast array of armaments was all made obsolete by the development of the long-range bomber and the aircraft carrier.

After the operational armament was removed, Fort Monroe received a mission that it still maintains to this day. Since World War II the major headquarters that have been stationed here have all been responsible for training soldiers for war. Since 1973 Fort Monroe has been home to the Training And Doctrine Command, which combines the training of soldiers with the development of operational doctrine and the development and procurement of new weapons systems.

DOD RECOMMENDATION

Close Fort Monroe, VA. Relocate the US Army Training & Doctrine Command (TRADOC) Headquarters, the Installation Management Agency (IMA) Northeast Region Headquarters, the US Army Network Enterprise Technology Command (NETCOM) Northeast Region Headquarters and the Army Contracting Agency Northern Region Office to Fort Eustis, VA. Relocate the US Army Accessions Command and US Army Cadet Command to Fort Knox, KY.

DOD JUSTIFICATION

This recommendation closes Fort Monroe, an administrative installation, and moves the tenant Headquarters organizations to Fort Eustis and Fort Knox. It enhances the Army's military value, is consistent with the Army's Force Structure Plan, and maintains adequate surge capabilities to address future unforeseen requirements. The closure allows the Army to move administrative headquarters to multi-purpose installations that provide the Army more flexibility to accept new missions. Both Fort Eustis and Fort Knox have operational and training capabilities that Fort Monroe lacks and both have excess capacity that can be used to accept the organizations relocating from Fort Monroe.

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VA. JFCOM oversees all joint training across the military. IMA and NETCOM HQs are moved to Fort Eustis because of recommendations to consolidate the Northeastern and Southeastern regions of these two commands into one Eastern Region at Fort Eustis. The ACA Northern Region is relocated to Fort Eustis because its two largest customers are TRADOC and IMA. The Accessions and Cadet Commands are relocated to Fort Knox because of recommendations to locate the Army's Human Resources Command at Fort Knox. The HRC recommendation includes the collocation of the Accessions and Cadet Commands with the Recruiting Command, already at Fort Knox and creates a Center of Excellence for military personnel and recruiting functions by improving personnel life-cycle management.

COST CONSIDERATIONS DEVELOPED BY DOD

- One-Time Costs: $72.4 million
- Net Savings (Cost) during Implementation: $146.9 million
- Annual Recurring Savings: $56.9 million
- Return on Investment Year: Calendar Year 1 Year
- Net Present Value over 20 Years: $686.6 million

MANPOWER IMPLICATIONS OF THIS RECOMMENDATION (EXCLUDES CONTRACTORS)

	Military	Civilian	Students
Baseline			
Reductions	257	301	
Realignments	1116	1647	20
Total			

MANPOWER IMPLICATIONS OF ALL RECOMMENDATIONS AFFECTING THIS INSTALLATION (INCLUDES ON-BASE CONTRACTORS AND STUDENTS)

	Out		**In**		**Net Gain (Loss)**	
	Military	Civilian	Military	Civilian	Military	Civilian
This Recommendation	1393	1948			(1393)	(1948)
Other Recommendation(s)	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Total						

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

Closure of Fort Monroe will necessitate consultations with the State Historic Preservation Office to ensure that historic properties are continued to be protected. Increased operational delays and costs are likely at Fort Knox in order to preserve cultural resources and tribal consultations may be necessary. An Air Conformity determination and New Source Review and permitting effort will be required at Fort Eustis. Significant mitigation measures to limit releases may be required at Fort Eustis to reduce impacts to water quality and achieve US EPA water quality standards. This recommendation will require spending approximately $2.0M for environmental compliance activities. These costs were included in the payback calculation. Although no restoration costs were reported, Fort Monroe has a probable Military Munitions Response Program site that may require some combination of UXO sweeps, clearance, munitions constituent cleanup, remediation, and land use controls. Because the Department has a legal obligation to perform environmental restoration regardless of whether an installation is closed, realigned, or remains open no cost for environmental remediate was included in the payback calculation. This recommendation does not otherwise impact the costs of environmental restoration, waste management, and environmental compliance activities. The aggregate environmental impact of all recommended BRAC actions affecting the installations in this recommendation has been reviewed. There are no known environmental impediments to implementation of this recommendation.

REPRESENTATION

Governor: Mark Warner
Senators: Senator Warner
Senator Allen

Representative: Congresswoman Thelma Drake

ECONOMIC IMPACT

- Potential Employment Loss: 7,982 jobs (3,564 direct and 4,418 indirect)
- MSA Job Base: 978,888 jobs
- Percentage: .8 percent decrease
- Cumulative Economic Impact (2006-2011): 0.0 percent decrease

MILITARY ISSUES

The disruption associated with the relocation of Army headquarters responsible for training and doctrine the acquisition of new soldiers.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS/ISSUES

The community is concerned with the preservation of the historic sites associated with Fort Monroe and how this unique property can be reused. The Fort Monroe real property will revert to the State of Virginia upon the completion of the Army's mission. Caretaker costs will be an issue with the state.

There is a perception in the community that environmental restoration will be significant. Historically, the Virginia has been very aggressive with DoD on environmental cleanup.

ITEMS OF SPECIAL EMPHASIS

Will the relocation of the headquarters organizations from Fort Monroe create an unacceptable impact on the Army's training, recruitment and installation management?

Is the Army prepared to preserve and care take Fort Monroe's significant historic sites?

Is there any concern that the Army will lose expertise that cannot be replaced as a result of this closure?

How significant will the cleanup of munitions be and is it doable?

Donald Manuel/Army/20 May 2005

National BRAC Commission
July 7, 2005
Sheraton National Hotel
Arlington, Virginia

- Mr. Chairman and members of the Commission, my name is Mark Warner and I am the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

- I know I speak on behalf of all of us here today in expressing our grief and concern for the victims of the terrorist bombings in London today. We condemn the murderers who commit such acts.

- We are united with the President in our national efforts to defeat terrorism at home and abroad. I know that we will ultimately win this struggle.

(Pause)

- I would like to thank you for providing us today with the opportunity to present our views of the Virginia BRAC recommendations. Virginians are united in our recognition of the tremendous responsibility entrusted to each of you and to the

Commission as a whole. We thank you for your service to our country.

(Pause)

Let me briefly describe to you the agenda for our oral presentations today. In my remarks, I will provide an overview of BRAC issues that affect various parts of Virginia.

Senator Warner will then address the BRAC process and specific issues associated with the legislation creating and implementing BRAC. Senator Allen will follow him and will speak to the unique benefits and synergies of Virginia to the military and its missions.

Following Senator Allen, we will have a panel of speakers on issues of concern to Northern Virginia, followed by a panel addressing issues of concern to Hampton Roads and, if time permits, the Fredericksburg region.

In addition, we have submitted for the record accurate and important written material which we believe is critical to your deliberations.

- In our remarks today, we want to emphasize to you 4 key points:

  - First, Virginia remains committed to its centuries long tradition of supporting the needs of America's military.

  - Because of the concentration of military bases in Virginia from all branches of service, we are uniquely positioned to provide common security, to support the transformation to joint military activities, and to be accessible both to the Pentagon and to other national capital region agencies. We have the Virginia Military Advantage

  - Second, Virginia and its communities are well-equipped to handle the proposed expansions of Ft. Belvoir, Quantico, Ft. Lee and the Norfolk Naval Base and Shipyard.

  - Third, we believe that the recommendation to close Ft. Monroe and to shift missions and personnel from Ft. Eustis and Dahlgren are not supported by sound factual or strategic analysis.

- And fourth, the recommendation to vacate over 8 million square feet of leased space in Northern Virginia is unnecessary for the security of our military forces, inordinately expensive, inconsistent with the BRAC legislation and inconsistent with the treatment afforded leased space in other areas of the county.

- In particular, the DoD's recommendation to move 5 Extramural Research Commands from Northern Virginia to Maryland is flawed because it failed to consider reasonable lower cost alternatives available in close proximity to the current locations for those agencies – close-by alternatives that provide a greater military advantage, maintain and enhance our existing research Centers of Excellence and do so at a lower cost than the moves proposed by DoD.

- These points will also be elaborated upon by subsequent speakers.

The Virginia Military Advantage

- The Commonwealth of Virginia, our communities, our Congressional Delegation and our local elected

officials consider the needs of the military in Virginia to be the highest of priorities.

- This has been true since the early days of our nation and remains true today. If there was ever any doubt about that, consider the origins of Ft. Monroe. In 1821, over 184 years ago, Virginia donated the land to the United States for the construction of Fort Monroe.

- Virginia continues today to provide unique location, strategic and quality of life advantages for America's military forces. Senator Allen will address these issues in more detail in his remarks. Suffice it to say, there is a distinct Virginia Military Advantage that is alive and well today.

Support for Base Expansions

- Let me turn now to my second point -- our ability to support the recommendations for base expansions in Virginia.

- Virginia and its communities are ready, willing and able to support the proposed expansions at installations throughout Hampton Roads, Central Virginia and Northern Virginia.

- More than 220,000 defense related workers already live in Virginia. As a result, we know well what our military needs and wants in terms of community support, public infrastructure and quality of life.

- Simply put, Virginia is a state where BRAC recommended growth, and future non-BRAC growth can be solidly planned for and accommodated.

- In fact, we are already engaged in the process of planning for the transportation improvements that will be needed if and when the BRAC recommendations are implemented.

- For instance, I have recently directed the Commissioner of Transportation to update the Six Year plan to address new military needs as BRAC recommendations are finalized. This action will help address:

    - Transportation needs on Route 1 around Fort Belvoir;
    - The I-564 inter-modal connector and Chambers Field interchange at Norfolk Naval Station;

- And similar issues at other expanding bases.

  - I have also asked our Department of Education to work with those local school divisions that may be affected by the impact of the BRAC recommendations. Those school systems must be, and will be, ready for expected growth.

- Military families that transfer to Virginia will be greeted with the highest quality of life. They will quickly discover why more than 700,000 military retirees choose to stay in Virginia when their service is complete.

- Let me turn now to some specific observations about the expected significant growth at Norfolk Naval Station and Norfolk Naval Shipyard.

- Norfolk Naval Station and Norfolk Naval Shipyard enjoy phenomenal access to well-trained workforces and superb military resources for Naval personnel and their dependents. In addition, these facilities have plenty of available space for expansion and surge capacity in the Port of Hampton Roads.

- The movement of submarines and other maintenance activities can be easily accommodated within the military facilities and the Port.

- The infrastructure inside and outside the fences of these installations is more than adequate to absorb 6,000 plus new workers, the ships and equipment those workers serve and use, and the expanded mission assigned to those bases.

- There is total docking capacity of more than 97 cruiser equivalents at Norfolk Naval Station and with post Cold War fleet reductions this leaves ample space – more than 25 % available capacity.

- To give you an idea of the space available at the Naval Station, if all of the 16 home ported subs at New London Connecticut were sent to Norfolk, the Norfolk Naval Station could easily accept all of them … space is not an issue.

- Moreover, the Norfolk Naval Station and the Norfolk Naval Shipyard, as well as the other many defense facilities throughout Hampton Roads, are in a particularly secure environment.

- Aggressive state and local security and initiatives have been fully integrated with military force protection and readiness activities throughout the region.

- As these examples illustrate, Virginia and its communities will continue to work side by side with our military partners to make sure that the growth recommended for Virginia bases is smoothly and effectively accommodated.

Base Closures

- Let me turn my attention now to proposed closures and reductions.

- We recognize that DOD is always faced with hard base closing decisions in any BRAC process. We recognize further that many of the DOD recommendations regarding re-alignment and reductions at Virginia bases are well supported by the data and are consistent with DOD's effort to better align its facilities with current force structure and war fighting needs.

- For that reason, we have chosen to focus on a few specific DOD recommendations that affect

Virginia bases. In those specific cases, we feel that DOD did not make the right recommendation. We hope that this Commission will decide to reconsider those flawed recommendations based on the information we present today and which we have included in our written submissions.

- Let me give you several examples that highlight why we believe that specific DOD recommendations either will not produce real cost savings or will not produce the anticipated military advantage.

    - Consider first the recommended closure of Fort Monroe. We believe that the environmental clean-up costs at Fort Monroe will be as much as four times the amount estimated by DOD in its BRAC calculations. For that reason, among others, we encourage a close re-examination of this closure recommendation.

- The recommendations concerning specific activities at Fort Eustis are also based on incomplete data.

    - The City of Newport News has offered to construct at the City's expense a new facility to

house the Surface Deployment and Systems Command. DOD's cost savings analysis is inaccurate because it does not take into account the substantial savings available under the City's proposal.

- In similar fashion, the recommendation to move the Navy's large gun weapon and ammo testing from Dahlgren to the Army's facility in New Jersey fails to take into account the significant differences between the Army and Navy in how they test and evaluate large guns and ammunition.

- So in each of these cases at Ft. Monroe, Ft. Eustis and Dahlgren, incomplete data has led DOD to the wrong recommendation.

- I know that this Commission has asked some specific questions related to Naval Air Station Oceana, although DOD did not recommend its closure.

- There has been much misinformation about Oceana. I urge this Commission to deal with the facts and not the myths. For example, in our written material I think you will find compelling data that refutes perceptions of encroachment.

- Oceana and its surrounding area continue to co-exist well. More than 3,600 acres of restricted easements outside the fence of the main base and another 8,700 acres of restricted easements near the Fentress Auxiliary landing Field, provide needed buffer for operations.

- The City of Virginia Beach has committed more than 200 million dollars during the past decade to improve transportation around the base.

- In a scientifically conducted survey last year, more than 86% of Virginia Beach residents surveyed said they oppose closing Oceana and believe the facility is good for Virginia Beach. The opponents may be loud but, more importantly, they are few in number.

- The Oceana-based air wings are now close to the air-craft carriers to which they are assigned and close to other existing military support activities. This proximity ensures the highest levels of readiness for personnel and equipment and makes possible extremely rapid deployments.

- The Commonwealth is also committed to assisting the Navy with fulfilling its need for an Outlying Landing Field for Oceana.

- We fully support the site in Washington County NC. If that site does not proceed, and we hope it will, we will be responsive in helping the Navy explore alternatives already suggested by Virginia.

Northern Virginia Leased Space

- Among the most troublesome of DoD's BRAC recommendations, are those that call for DoD to move out of over 8 million square feet of leased space in Northern Virginia.

- DoD recommendations on leased space in Northern Virginia clearly deviate from the criteria established by law.

- Furthermore the leased space recommendations are not supported by facts. Instead they are the product of a BRAC process that was not intended to handle the issues posed by security concerns for millions of square feet of leased space.

- If enacted, DOD's Northern Virginia leased space recommendations will, in our opinion, severely degrade military effectiveness and strategic value.

- The National Capital Region is one of the best-protected places on earth. As a nation, we will never be 100% risk free. Achieving appropriate levels of security for DOD and every American requires a reasonable approach and one that reassures our citizens.

- The state and our communities have long worked with DOD on security issues and can offer the right level of security in a manner consistent with national goals. Moving every military mission or operation behind the fence lines of installations is not the answer.

- My colleagues – Senator Warner and Senator Allen will discuss these issues as a precursor to follow-up comments from me with respect to leased space in Northern Virginia.

- Senator Warner Speaks

- Senator Allen Speaks

- Senator Allen Transitions Back To You

- Both Senators have provided additional views of our concerns about leased space. Like the Senators I would like to highlight for the Commission the issue of the extramural scientific research agencies and other functions in leased space that illustrates these issues in very practical dollar terms.

- I see the leased space issue and research agency issues from a very personal perspective. For 20 years before becoming Governor, I was engaged in high tech businesses in Northern Virginia.

- I know that the dynamic environment that allows creative researchers to live, work, eat, play and thrive in and around Ballston and other Northern Virginia areas cannot be replicated.

- The issues of leased space, and the potential solutions to those issues, are very fact specific and location specific. Unfortunately, the BRAC process was not designed to deal with those specifics. For example, it treats research agencies and their unique personnel requirements the same as administrative offices.

- The dynamic of the BRAC process, including its rules regarding confidentiality, prevented DOD from having the kinds of discussions with localities and building owners that could have produced – and still can produce -- leased space solutions with lower costs, suitable security and higher military value.

- For example, Skyline in Fairfax County and the buildings previously occupied by the Army Material Command in Alexandria are sites for which sensible discussions among local government, building owners and DOD could have produced viable, lower cost and highly secure leased space options.

- These examples underscore what has been stated earlier. The DOD security focus after the September 11th events coincided with internal guidance by DOD on the BRAC process.

    - The end result was that military officials have been reluctant to work with private sector and local officials to fully explore lease and security options for fear that they would be perceived to be in violation of BRAC confidentiality guidance.

- Or to say it otherwise, the BRAC process simply did not allow DOD to do the kinds of things it needed to do in order to produce a series of better, cheaper and more secure leased space options.

- The case in Arlington County relative to the Extramural Research Programs applies to the following entities;

  - Defense Applied Research Projects Agency
  - Office of Naval Research
  - Army Research Office and
  - Air Force Office of Scientific Research

- We are providing the Commission with documentation that supports two different options for retention of these activities in Arlington. The first option is referred to as the Ballston site and the second is referred to as the Arlington Hall site.

- Both options maximize military value for two important reasons. First, they will not disrupt the highly skilled workforce that serves these research activities. And second, these options will maintain the synergies now achieved

between the 4 extramural research programs and similar activities located nearby, such as the National Science Foundation.

- In addition, the two Arlington options provide better strategic military value than the DoD recommendations because:

    - They both cost less than the recommended movement to the National Naval Medical Center both in the short term and the long term.
    - They both would comply with DOD force protection criteria, and
    - They both represent actual buildable, quantified proposals and not theoretical options.

- The Ballston proposal provides for a 485,000 square foot facility that meets all of the needed DOD security standards.

- The second alternative is a secure Arlington Hall site less than 1.5 miles from the current location of these research functions. This site currently houses both National Guard and State Department activities.

- Both of these alternatives provide millions of dollars of cost savings over the DOD recommendations. The details of these savings are set forth in the written material submitted by Arlington and the Commonwealth.

- In addition, both the Ballston and the Arlington Hall alternatives can be structured to provide for a federal ownership option. Or, both options can be financed through the Virginia Resources Authority, a state conduit financing agency that has a triple A credit rating and a specific legislative authority to finance BRAC related costs.

- Finally, both the Ballston and Arlington Hall alternatives will be supported by local and state investment which helps reduce the costs of those options.

- Each of the Ballston and Arlington Hall sites are located close to the existing locations of the affected extramural research offices. This will enable these programs to retain without interruption the tight existing relationships they now have with the National Science Foundation,

other federal civilian agencies and private sector supporting organizations.

- Because the Balston and Arlington Hall sites are close to the existing sites for these research offices, a move to either the Balston or Arlington Hall sites would cause no loss of the current specialized workforce that is key to the effective functioning of these research operations.

- In contrast, a move of these programs to the National Naval Medical Center in Maryland will undoubtedly cause a substantial loss of specialized and experienced personnel who cannot be easily replaced.

- These are not simply fungible researchers who can be replaced at the drop of a hat. They and their missions are unique and need to be treated as such in the BRAC process.

- Either of the two Arlington options will significantly reduce key workforce losses and will allow for continued synergies across a range of public and private research operations. As a result, both of the Arlington options offer DOD better military value at a secure location with

lower cost than DOD's recommendation for moving these research programs.

- You will hear additional discussions on leased space issues in the subsequent panel discussions. Rest assured that the communities in Northern Virginia and the Commonwealth of Virginia stand ready to meet DOD's needs.

- In closing let me reiterate the commitment of Virginia and our local communities to working with you in the coming days and weeks. Virginia stands ready to deliver. We hope that our findings will be helpful to you in your analysis of the DOD BRAC recommendations and will help you to make the best possible decision for realigning America's military bases. Thank you.