



CITY OF SIMI VALLEY

Home of The Ronald Reagan Presidential Library

July 1, 2005

Anthony Principi, Chairman
and BRAC Commissioners
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202



Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

On behalf of the City of Simi Valley, I am writing to respectfully request you reject the Department of Defense's (DOD) recommendations to move weapons, range, and electronic warfare functions from Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC) to China Lake.

The Sea Test Range and its supporting functions at Pt. Mugu and Port Hueneme are unparalleled and cannot be duplicated anywhere else in the nation. Relocating the range and aerial target functions, plus supporting aircraft to China Lake, 150 miles away from the primary operating range, would only increase response time to range tasking, reduce on-range time, increase operating costs, and reduce safety.

It is unrealistic to expect that many of the civil service and contractor employees who have worked on these projects would move to the China Lake/Ridgecrest area. Consequently, years of valuable expertise will be lost and will take years to reconstitute. In the meantime, the projects that they have worked on will suffer greatly.

Moreover, this loss of intellectual capital, work interruption, and the distancing of essential technology from the Sea Test Range will be detrimental to our nation's Global War on Terrorism.

Thank you for considering these comments; I am hopeful that you will agree with us and reject the DOD's recommendations to move weapons, range and electronic warfare functions from NBVC to China Lake.

Sincerely,


Paul Miller
Mayor

cc: City Council
City Manager