



City of Port Hueneme

CITY COUNCIL

June 30, 2005



07 05 2005

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

**REF: REJECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE'S BRAC
RECOMMENDATION REGARDING NAVAL BASE VENTURA COUNTY**

Dear Chair Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

For the following reasons, I am hopeful that you will agree with me and reject the Department of Defense's recommendations to move weapons, range, and electronic warfare functions from Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC) to China Lake.

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

Additionally, most of the people having worked on these projects for many years and detailed to move simply will not move to China Lake/Ridgecrest. As a result, it will take years to reconstitute that expertise. In the meantime the projects will suffer greatly. Many of these people live in Port Hueneme, are respected, are integral parts of the community, and have indicated they will not leave this community for the desert.

Finally, this loss of intellectual capital and interruption of work will be detrimental to our nation's global war on terrorism. Moving essential technology from its proximity to the sea range will be detrimental as well.

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I am hopeful you will reject the DOD's recommendations to move weapons, range, and electronic warfare functions from NBVC to China Lake.

Sincerely,



ANTHONY C. VOLANTE
MAYOR PRO TEM

c: City Council
City Manager