

California State Senate



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SEVENTEENTH SENATE DISTRICT

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June 30, 2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi:

I want to lend my voice to the chorus of Ventura County cities and officials asking that you reconsider the proposed move of Naval Base Ventura County electronic warfare functions, weapons and range support operations 150 miles away to China Lake.

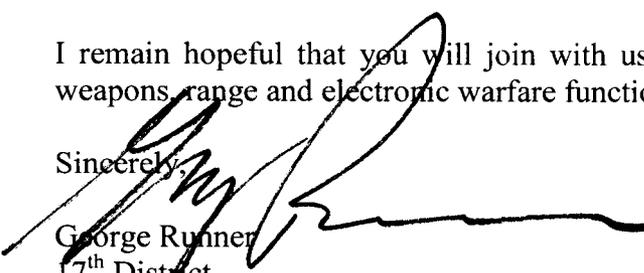
Moving the Sea Test Range from Pt. Mugu and Port Hueneme does not make sense in that the supporting functions at this location cannot be duplicated anywhere else in the world. To relocate the range and aerial target functions, along with the supporting aircraft, 150 miles from the operating Range does not appear to be a sound economic or logical arrangement.

The possibility of civil service and contractor employees not following the move to this fairly remote area means that the Navy will spend years reconstituting this loss of expertise, a set-back to the continuation of programs already in place for the protection of our nation in its Global War on Terrorism.

The move will increase the employees' response time to range tasking, reduce their on-range time, increase operating costs and reduce safety, all of which seem counterproductive to the DOD's quest for cost reduction in consolidation.

I remain hopeful that you will join with us in rejecting the recommendation to move weapons, range and electronic warfare functions from NBVC to China Lake.

Sincerely,


George Runner
17th District