BASE VISIT REPORT

NAVAL STATION, NEWPORT, RI

June 27-28, 2005

LEAD COMMISSIONER: None

ACCOMPANYING COMMISSIONER: None

COMMISSION STAFF: David Epstein

LIST OF ATTENDEES: I attended four primary meetings. These were:

- **Naval Station Newport Introduction**:

CAPT Robert P. McLaughlin	Commanding Officer	401 841-3715	Robert.p.mclaughlin@navy.mil
CDR Stephen V. Burke	Executive Officer	401 841-3932	Stephen.v.Burke@navy.mil
CDR Mike Stoll	Public Works Officer	401 841-3841	Michael.j.Stoll@navy.mil
David Dorocz	Environmental Head	401 841-7671	David.Dorocz@navy.mil
Mark Silvia	Housing Storefront	401 841-4209	Mark.silvia@navy.mil
Rachel Coston	VQ/BH Storefront	401 841-1311	Rachel.Coston@navy.mil

Base visit Report
Installation or Community: Naval Station Newport RI
Source: Commission Generated
Certified Material? ____ yes ✓ no
Analyst / Provider: David Epstein Date Received: ____

- **Naval Station Newport Overview Brief:**

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Anthony D'Agnenica	Navy Region Northeast		
LT Loren Reinke	OTCN Support Services		
Dan Murphy	Naval Warfare Development Command	401 841-7814	murphyd@nwdc.navy.mil
John Woodhouse	Naval Warfare Development Command		
Mark Averyt	OTCN	401 841-7240	mark.averyt@navy.mil
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David Berger	FISC Newport		
David Sanders	NAVSTA Public Affairs		
Paul Parnagian	NUWC	401 832-1354	parnagianpo@npt.nuwc.navy.mil
Frank Molino	NUWC BRAC Manager	401 832-8287	molinofw@npt.nuwc.navy.mil
Russ Racette	NUWC Senior Staff	401 832-1392	
CAPT Tim Davison	COS, NWDC	401 841-4262	timothy.davison@nwdc.navy.mil
CAPT James E. Pillsbury	CO, OTCN	401 841-1171	james.pillsbury@navy.mil

- **Officer Training Command:**

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CDR Douglas Rosander	Assistant Director, Chaplain School	401 841-1967 or ext 216	Douglas.rosander@navy.mil
CAPT Tierian Cash	Director, Chaplains School	401 841-2558 -12533 ext 233/212	tierian.cash@navy.mil
LCDR Michael Wieczorek	Director, Damage Control School	401 841-7402	michael.wieczorek@navy.mil

- **Naval Undersea Warfare Center**

Dr. Jerry Exley	Department Head, Comms Imaging and Electronic Warfare Department, Code 34	401 832-5588	ExleyGM@npt.nuwc.navy.mil
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During the base "drive-by," we went into the building occupied by Naval Warfare Development Command and the CNO's Strategic Studies Group. NWDC, was previously part of the Naval War College, and is currently proposed to be relocated to Norfolk. SSG, which reports directly to CNO, will remain at Newport.

BASE'S PRESENT MISSION: The mission of NAVSTA Newport is to maintain and operate facilities and provide ser vices and material to support operations for tenant activities, supported activities and visiting fleet units, and to perform such other functions and tasks as may be

directed by higher authority. Services are provided in nine major departments. (Attachment #1 applies.)

I visited the facilities and/or met with representatives from Naval Station Newport and several of its major tenants, including Naval Undersea Warfare and Naval Officer Training Command. Each of those commands has its own mission.

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE RECOMMENDATION: There are seven recommendations that affect Naval Station Newport. In some cases, Newport is but one of three or more affected bases.

- Close the Bristol Army Reserve Center, Bristol, RI, the Harwood Army Reserve Center, Providence, RI, the Warwick Army Reserve Center and Organizational Maintenance Shop, Warwick, RI. Relocate all units to a new Army Reserve Center **on Newport Naval Base, RI.**

- Realign Naval Air Station Pensacola, FL by relocating Officer Training Command Pensacola, FL to Naval Station Newport, RI, and **consolidating with Officer Training Command Newport, RI.**

- Close the naval installation at Athens, GA. Relocate the Navy Supply Corps School and the Center for Service Support **to Naval Station Newport, RI**. Disestablish the Supply Corps Museum.

- Realign Naval Station Newport, RI by relocating the Navy Warfare Development Command **to Naval Station Norfolk, VA**.

- Realign Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, TX, by consolidating Navy Reserve Readiness Command South with Naval Reserve Readiness Command Midwest at Naval Station Great Lakes, IL. Realign Naval Station Newport, RI, and the Washington Navy Yard, Washington, DC, by consolidating Naval Reserve Readiness Command Northeast with Naval Reserve Readiness Command Mid-Atlantic and relocating the consolidated commands **to Naval Station, Norfolk, VA.**

- Realign Maxwell Air Force Base, AL; Naval Air Station Meridian, MS; and Naval Station Newport, RI, by relocating religious training and education **to Fort Jackson, SC,** establishing a Joint Center of Excellence for religious training and education.

- Realign Washington Navy Yard, DC, by disestablishing the Space Warfare Systems Center Charleston, SC, detachment Washington Navy Yard and assign functions to the new Space Warfare Systems Command Atlantic Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek, VA.

  Realign Naval Station, Norfolk, VA, by disestablishing the Space Warfare Systems Center Norfolk, VA, and the Space Warfare Systems Center Charleston, SC, detachment Norfolk, VA, and assign functions to the new Space Warfare Systems Command Atlantic Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek, VA.

Realign Naval Weapons Station Charleston, SC, as follows: relocate Surface Maritime Sensors, Electronic Warfare, and Electronics Research, Development & Acquisition, and Test & Evaluation of the Space Warfare Center to Naval Surface Warfare Center Division, Dahlgren, VA; relocate Subsurface Maritime Sensors, Electronic Warfare, and Electronics Research, Development & Acquisition, and Test & Evaluation of the Space Warfare Center **to Naval Station Newport, RI**; and relocate the Command Structure of the Space Warfare Center to Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek, VA, and consolidate it with billets from Space Warfare Systems Command San Diego to create the Space Warfare Systems Command Atlantic, Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek, VA. The remaining Maritime Information Systems Research, Development & Acquisition, and Test & Evaluation functions at Naval Weapons Station Charleston, SC, are assigned to Space Warfare Systems Command Atlantic, Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek, VA.

Realign Naval Base Ventura County, CA, Naval Surface Warfare Center Division, Dahlgren, VA, and Naval Station Newport, RI, by relocating Maritime Information Systems Research, Development & Acquisition, and Test & Evaluation **to Naval Submarine Base Point Loma, San Diego, CA**, and consolidating with the Space Warfare Center to create the new Space Warfare Systems Command Pacific, Naval Submarine Base Point Loma, San Diego, CA.

Realign Naval Submarine Base Point Loma, San Diego, CA, as follows: relocate Surface Maritime Sensors, Electronic Warfare, and Electronics Research, Development & Acquisition, and Test & Evaluation of the Space Warfare Center to Naval Surface Warfare Center Division, Dahlgren, VA; relocate Subsurface Maritime Sensors, Electronic Warfare, and Electronics Research, Development & Acquisition, and Test & Evaluation of the Space Warfare Center **to Naval Station Newport, RI**; disestablish Space Warfare Systems Center Norfolk, VA, detachment San Diego, CA, and assign functions to the new Space Warfare Systems Command Pacific, Naval Submarine Base Point Loma, San Diego, CA; disestablish Naval Center for Tactical Systems Interoperability, San Diego, CA, and assign functions to the new Space Warfare Systems Command Pacific, Naval Submarine Base Point Loma, San Diego, CA; and disestablish Space Warfare Systems Command San Diego, CA, detachment Norfolk, VA, and assign functions to the new Space Warfare Systems Command Atlantic, Naval Amphibious Base, Little Creek , VA.

Realign Naval Air Station Patuxent River, MD, by relocating Subsurface Maritime Sensors, Electronic Warfare, and Electronics Research, Development & Acquisition, and Test & Evaluation of the Naval Air Warfare Center, Aircraft Division **to Naval Station Newport, RI.**

Realign Naval Air Station Jacksonville, FL, by disestablishing the Space Warfare Systems Center Charleston, SC, detachment Jacksonville, FL.

Realign Naval Air Station Pensacola, FL, by relocating the Space Warfare Systems Center Charleston, SC, detachment Pensacola, FL, to Naval Weapons Station Charleston, SC.

Realign Naval Weapons Station Yorktown, VA, by relocating the Space Warfare Systems Center Charleston, SC, detachment Yorktown, VA, to Naval Station Norfolk, VA, and consolidating it into the new Space Warfare Systems Command Atlantic detachment, Naval Station Norfolk, VA.

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE JUSTIFICATION:

The justifications for the seven recommendations listed above are in the same order as the recommendations.

- This recommendation transforms Reserve Component facilities in the State of Rhode Island. The implementation of this recommendation will enhance military value, improve homeland defense capability, greatly improve training and deployment capability, create significant efficiencies and cost savings, and is consistent with the Army's force structure plans and Army transformational objectives.

  This recommendation is the result of a state-wide analysis of Reserve Component installations and facilities conducted by a team of functional experts from Headquarters, Department of the Army, the Office of the State Adjutant General, and the Army Reserve Regional Readiness Command.

  This recommendation closes three Army Reserve Centers in Bristol, Harwood and Warwick, RI; and closes one Army Reserve Organizational Maintenance Shop in Warwick, RI and constructs a multi functional Army Reserve Center (AFRC) on Newport Naval Base, RI. This recommendation reduces the number of separate DoD installations by relocating to an existing base.

  The implementation of this recommendation will enhance military value, improve homeland defense capability, greatly improve training and deployment capability, create significant efficiencies and cost savings, and is consistent with the Army's force structure plans and Army transformational objectives.

  This recommendation considered feasible locations within the demographic and geographic areas of the closing facilities and affected units. The site selected was determined as the best location because it optimizes the Reserve Components ability to recruit and retain Reserve Component soldiers and to train and mobilize units impacted by this recommendation.

  This recommendation provides the opportunity for other Local, State, or Federal organizations to partner with the Reserve Components to enhance Homeland Security and Homeland Defense at a reduced cost to those agencies.

Although not captured in the COBRA analysis, this recommendation avoids an estimated $20.8M in mission facility renovation costs and procurement avoidances associated with meeting AT/FP construction standards and altering existing facilities to meet unit training and communications requirements. Consideration of these avoided costs would reduce costs and increase the net savings to the Department of Defense in the 6-year BRAC implementation period, and in the 20-year period used to calculate NPV.

- Navy Officer Accession Training is currently conducted at three installations: (1) U.S. Naval Academy Annapolis, MD hosts Midshipman Training; (2) Naval Station Newport hosts Naval Academy Preparatory School and Officer Training Command Newport, which includes Officer Indoctrination School and Seaman to Admiral-21 Program courses; and (3) Naval Air Station Pensacola hosts Officer Training Command Pensacola which includes Navy Officer Candidate School, Limited Duty Officer Course, Chief Warrant Officer Course, and the Direct Commissioning Program. Consolidation of Officer Training Command Pensacola and Officer Training Command Newport will reduce inefficiencies inherent in maintaining two sites for similar training courses through reductions in facilities requirements, personnel requirements (including administrative and instructional staff), and excess capacity. This action also supports the Department of the Navy initiative to create a center for officer training at Naval Station Newport.

- This recommendation closes a single-function installation and relocates its activities to a multi-functional installation with higher military value. Naval Station Newport has a significantly higher military value than Navy Supply Corps School and the capacity to support the Navy Supply Corps School training mission with existing infrastructure, making relocation of Navy Supply Corps School to Naval Station Newport desirable and cost efficient. Relocation of this function supports the Department of the Navy initiative to create a center for officer training at Naval Station Newport.

  Center for Service Support, which establishes curricula for other service support training, is relocated to Naval Station Newport with the Navy Supply Corps School to capitalize on existing resource and personnel efficiencies.

  Relocation of the Navy Supply Corps School and Center for Service Support to Naval Station Newport removes the primary mission from the naval installation at Athens and removes or relocates the entirety of the Navy workforce at the naval installation at Athens, except for those personnel associated with base support functions. As a result, retention of the naval installation at Athens is no longer required.

- Navy Warfare Development Command performs the functions of warfare innovation, concept development, fleet and joint experimentation, and the synchronization and dissemination of doctrine. Relocating the Navy Warfare Development Command to Norfolk better aligns the Navy's warfare development organization with those of the other joint force components and Joint Forces Command, as well as places Navy Warfare Development Command in better proximity to Fleet Forces Command and the Second Fleet Battle Lab it supports, resulting in substantial travel cost savings to conduct experimentation events. Location of Navy Warfare Development Command in Hampton

Roads area places it in proximity to Army Training and Doctrine Command, Fort Monroe, VA and Marine Corps Combat Development Command, Quantico, VA, as well as in closer proximity to the Air Force Doctrine Center at Maxwell Air Force Base, AL, which furthers joint interoperability concepts.

- This recommendation enhances the Navy's long-standing initiative to accomplish common management and support on a regionalized basis, by consolidating and collocating reserve readiness commands with the installation management Regions. This collocation aligns management concepts and efficiencies and ensures a reserve voice at each region as well as enabling future savings through consolidation of like functions. This recommendation will result in an increase in the average military value for the remaining Naval Reserve Readiness Commands and ensures that each of the installation management Regions has an organization to manage reserve matters within the region.

- Consolidation at Fort Jackson, SC, creates a synergistic benefit by having each Services' officer and enlisted programs conducted in close proximity to operational forces. Realized savings result from consolidation and alignment of similar officer and enlisted educational activities and the merging of common support functions. This recommendation supports the following DoD transformational options: 1) establish center of excellence for joint education and training by combining like schools; and 2) establish joint officer and enlisted specialized skills training.

- These recommended realignments and consolidations provide for multifunctional and multidisciplinary Centers of Excellence in Maritime C4ISR. This recommendation will also reduce the number of technical facilities engaged in Maritime Sensors, Electronic Warfare, & Electronics and Information Systems RDAT&E from twelve to five. This, in turn, will reduce overlapping infrastructure increase the efficiency of operations and support an integrated approach to RDAT&E for maritime C4ISR. Another result would also be reduced cycle time for fielding systems to the warfighter.

MAIN FACILITIES REVIEWED (attachment #1 applies):
The primary facilities visited included:

- Naval Station Newport: Conference Center, base "drive-by" (attachments #2-3 apply);
- Officer Training Command, Newport: Dormitories, pistol range, auditorium, classrooms
- Naval Warfare Development Command;
- Naval Undersea Warfare Center: Submarine radio laboratory, submarine combat control laboratory, periscope I-level maintenance facility, periscope testing facility, submarine over water antenna test facility, two anechoic chambers, and others (attachment #4 applies).

KEY ISSUES IDENTIFIED:

- There are several vacant buildings, including two 20K square foot buildings that are vacant. This is in addition to sufficient space to absorb all incoming organizations on the non-technical side, using major rehabilitation of existing spaces. (attachments #5-6 apply)
- There is a convention center which has adjacent bachelor quarters. There appears to be substantial use by various customers, including the IRS. They can cater from the Officers Club. It appears to have a lower level of IT sophistication.
- Naval Station Newport family housing is under a privatization contract. The number of housing units is being reduced from 1351 to 869 (plus 5 units which will remain under Navy auspices). The reduction is attributable to the sale of 321 units and the demolishment of 242. 86 new units will be built. (attachment #7 applies)
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Army Reserve Center:
There was no discussion of the Army Reserve Center and nobody to discuss it.

Officer Training Command:
Officer Training Command Newport (OTCN) and Officer Training Command Pensacola both report to Naval Service Training Command, which is part of Naval Education and Training Command. OTCN is comprised of three parts –

- Officer Indoctrination School which has the mission of preparing newly commissioned Medical, Medical Service Corps, Nurse Corps, Dental Corps, JAG Corps, and Nuclear Power Instructors as Naval leaders supporting the Fleet and Fleet Marine Force. It conducts nine classes per year, each with up to 150 students. Students in this class average about 30% ex-enlisted. Students range from ENS-LCDR; from early 20s to 50s.
- STA-21 (Seaman to Admiral – 21) which prepares selected sailors and marines academically and professionally for success in NROTC. STA-21 includes BOOST and Naval Science curriculum. BOOST provides remedial training in math, science, and English in 3, 6, or 9 month programs. As the quality of Navy enlistees has improved, the enlisted –sourced NROTC applicants have had less and less need for this program, while the Marines still tend to use the nine-month program. BOOST students may come with their families. There is also a Naval Science Institute, which teaches all of the courses normally taken by an NROTC midshipman, so that NROTC midshipman can graduate in three years.
- Naval Chaplains School prepares Navy Chaplains for institutional ministry and professional leadership throughout and beyond the Sea Services. The Basic Course is given 3 times per year, each ten week class with 65-70 chaplains who start as)-2s or O-3s and enter at ages ranging from their mid-20s to age 62. There are also three advanced courses, each 3-4 weeks in durations. There are also Professional Development Training Courses and a Chaplain Candidate course for prospective chaplains.

OTCN also conducts a variety of one and two-day damage control courses (fire fighting, wet trainer, and water survival) for a total of about 7000 students per year.

OTCN has sufficient physical capacity to accommodate all of OTCP's students with rehabilitation of existing spaces. There would be some efficiencies obtaining through the merging of the two staffs (Commanding Officer, Comptroller, Curriculum Control, etc.).

OTC students ?? do not receive PCS orders and bring their families only at their own expense.

OTCN experiences a significant spike in student load during the summer – about 50% higher than the peaks at other times during the year. (attachment #8-11 apply)

Navy Supply Corps School:
There was no discussion of NSCS except as relevant to BQs and the Conference Center. (attachment #12 applies)

Navy Warfare Development Command:
We visited the building which NWDC occupies. CAPT Davison, the Deputy Commander, accompanied us as we toured the building. Mr. Dan Murphy and several other key personnel were also part of the touring party. NWDC was previously part of the Naval War College. NWDC does some key parts of the Navy SEATRIAL process. (attachments #13- 14 apply.)

Naval Reserve Readiness Command:
A representative was present from Naval Reserve Readiness Command, but no objections were raised and I saw no reason to doubt the wisdom of the proposed move.

Navy Chaplains School:
At my request, CDR Douglas Rosander, the Assistant Director, joined the meeting at the Officer Training Command

Naval Undersea Warfare Center: (Attachment #15)

- There is considerable concern about "brain drain." They point to the high percentage of employees who did not move in BRACs 1993 and 1995. (Attachment #16 applies)

- NUWC has the electronics of a virtual submarine. However the timing associated with cross-country transmissions precludes testing. Also, because of the classified nature of the communication, transmissions go through closed circuit fiber optic cable. Thus, performing testing through cross-country facilities would be virtually impossible. (Attachments #17-18 apply to this and all questions.)

- Here, like elsewhere, I was told of the manner in which military value and the granularity that lead to the division into the 13 categories improperly drove illogical decisions.

- NUWC, unlike San Diego, has over-water ranges to test transmissions, periscopes, etc.

- NUWC has sufficient capacity to accommodate all existing personnel and all personnel slated to come to Newport using existing space and approved MILCON. (Attachment #19 applies)

INSTALLATION CONCERNS RAISED

- See comments on cost of move in write-up on Navy Supply Corps School, Athens, GA;

- Naval Warfare Development Command pointed out
  - "Brain drain" issues; however, they acknowledged that the Norfolk area should have plenty of qualified military retirees who are willing and able to start quickly.
  - The cost of a 12K square foot modeling and simulation lab and of a 4400 square foot TS and SAP SCIF was not included in the COBRA.

- Naval Undersea Warfare Center pointed out:
  - They have the electronics of a virtual submarine. If sensors or other parts of the submarine were placed under Pt. Loma, the timing differences with different parts of the virtual submarine in different places would interfere with operations. They pointed out that sometime they have to bring parts of key assemblies by cart to get the elements side-by-side instead of in different buildings.
  - Extensive, expensive procurements would be needed to replace equipment being moved to Southern California.
  - They discussed the "brain drain" and provided Handout #9 which supports expectations of significant personnel losses. They have a highly educated work force, with 159 PhDs (8%) and 735 Master's (37%)
  - The COBRA cost does not reflect certain costs. (Attachment #20 applies)
  - There are timing issues that would preclude successful testing of the virtual submarine when parts of the "submarine" are at opposite ends of the country.

COMMUNITY CONCERNS RAISED:

- See remarks above on Navy Warfare Development Command;
- See remarks above on Naval Undersea Warfare Center.

REQUESTS FOR STAFF AS A RESULT OF VISIT:

- N/A