



*"Citrus Capital of the World"*

# City of Santa Paula

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July 8, 2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The City of Santa Paula urges the Commission to reject the Department of Defense's recommendations to move weapons, range, and electronic warfare functions from Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC) to China Lake.

The Sea Range and its supporting functions at Pt. Mugu and Port Hueneme are unparalleled and cannot be duplicated anywhere else in the nation. We believe it is not appropriate 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 their response time to range tasking, reduce their on-range time, increase operating costs, and reduce safety,

Additionally, most of the people who have worked on these projects for many years and are 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 they are working on will suffer greatly. Many of these people live throughout Ventura County, are respected and integral parts of our community, and have indicated that they will not leave here for the desert.

On behalf of the Santa Paula City Council, 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,

Mary Ann Krause, AICP  
Mayor

c: City Council