

Assembly
California Legislature



KEITH S. RICHMAN, M.D.
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- HEALTH
- INSURANCE

BRAC Commission

JUL 13 2005

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July 8, 2005

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

Dear Mr. Principi:

As a representative of portions of Ventura County in the California legislature, I wanted to share my concern with the proposed closure of the Sea Range and its supporting functions at Pt. Mugu and Port Hueneme.

I would appreciate your consideration of the following facts:

- 1) The Sea Range is unparalleled and cannot be duplicated elsewhere in the United States;
- 2) It is not logical to relocate the range support operations to a location 150 miles from Pt. Mugu while keeping the test range and facilities open;
- 3) I have been advised that many civil service and contractor employees have stated that they will retire or not relocate to Ridgecrest of China Lake, 100 miles east of Bakersfield;
- 4) It is my understanding that it would take the Navy years to reconstitute the lost expertise with a resulting loss in the quality of the projects.
- 5) Relocating the sea range and target personnel to a location 150 miles from their primary operating area will increase the employees' response time to range Safety.

I trust that you will reject the DOD's recommendations to move weapons, range and electronic warfare functions from the Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC) to China Lake.

Sincerely yours,

Keith S. Richman, M.D.
Member of the Assembly