

City of
Whitehall

Office of the Mayor
Lynn Ochsendorf, *Mayor*



August 11, 2005

Chairman Anthony J. Principi
The Defense Base Realignment
and Closure Committee
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi;

In 2001, the total general fund revenue for the City of Whitehall was \$16.6 million. DFAS contributed \$1.8 million which amounted to 64% of our Fire Department's budget. The loss of income DFAS provides would significantly affect the ability of the Whitehall Fire Department, in their role as first responders to DSCC, to protect the lives of the employees and the value the workers provide to the mission of the Department of Defense.

Conversely, the potential growth through consolidation of other DFAS centers to the DSCC would greatly enhance our ability to respond to any potential crisis.

In addition, enclosed is a Resolution adopted by the Whitehall City Council.

Thank you and all other commission members for your continuing service to BRAC, our nation and your dedication to both our warfighters and veterans.

Sincerely,


Lynn Ochsendorf, Mayor

Resolution

URGING THE BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE (BRAC) COMMISSION TO UPHOLD THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DoD) RECOMMENDATIONS WITH REGARD TO DEFENSE SUPPLY CENTER COLUMBUS (DSCC) IN COLUMBUS, OHIO, SPECIFICALLY WITH REGARD TO THE DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE (DFAS), AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

WHEREAS, DSCC is a superior DoD installation with a landscape dominated by modern buildings and protected by modern security facilities that already comply with DoD's Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection Standards; and

WHEREAS, excess capacity is present in this outstanding installation and the Commission should consider not only retaining the proposed DFAS realignment to DSCC, but should also consider bringing additional missions to this premier installation; and

WHEREAS, the DoD proposed plan for DFAS is a natural continuation of the consolidation that DFAS has been pursuing since its inception; and

WHEREAS, DFAS Columbus is the perfect DFAS location to receive the agency's consolidated Commercial Pay and Vendor Pay operations and is consistent with the efforts of DFAS over the past several years to organize the agency according to "Business Line;" and

WHEREAS, numerous other DoD agencies with missions similar to those of DFAS Columbus are also located at DSCC, which strengthen the DFAS presence at DSCC Columbus, as it is mutually beneficial for working on common DoD issues in a more effective manner than if they were geographically separated; and

WHEREAS, further consolidation of DFAS operations in Columbus will allow DoD to achieve one of its principal BRAC goals, which is to create more "jointness" through co-location of complementary missions and operations; and

WHEREAS, the DSCC installation hosting DFAS Columbus contains superior and modern infrastructure and recently added new firefighting and emergency response facilities/equipment, which makes DSCC a logical choice for BRAC expansion; and

WHEREAS, the DSCC installation hosting DFAS Columbus also contains a 90,000 square foot state-of-the-art Data Center with 65,000 square feet of raised floor, suitable for servers and other computer equipment. Back-up generators ensure that power is never interrupted and there are two separate communication lines to ensure the facility is always connected. A significant portion of the Data Center is available for additional missions because of the decreasing footprint of servers and shifts in missions; and

WHEREAS, the DFAS Conference Center hosts DoD and federal agency meetings each year and can accommodate up to 500 attendees. Because DSCC is virtually adjacent to Port Columbus International Airport, the DFAS Conference Center is easily accessible for conference attendees traveling from out of town; and

WHEREAS, the DSCC installation hosting DFAS Columbus possesses a strong array of security provisions that protect its employees, which currently meet the DoD Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection required for installations, and additional upgrades are scheduled for 2006. Security at DSCC has been further enhanced with a new Visitors' Center, opened in June of 2005. This feature segregates visiting traffic from other base-related traffic and entry to buildings is more closely controlled. Additionally, motorized cameras throughout the base can be remotely maneuvered and monitored from a centralized security room; and

WHEREAS, the DSCC installation hosting DFAS Columbus has the capacity to handle an additional 1,000 employees above and beyond the DoD issued BRAC recommendation; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITEHALL, OHIO:

SECTION 1: That the Council and Administration of the City of Whitehall, as strong partners of "Team DSCC," recognize that the DSCC installation hosting DFAS Columbus is an excellent receiver location with plenty of room for mission and employee expansion.

SECTION 2: That the Council and Administration of the City of Whitehall urge the Base Realignment and Closure Commission to recognize that DSCC has 455,000 square feet of excess capacity and can immediately handle up to an additional 1,000 employees above and beyond the DoD recommendation.

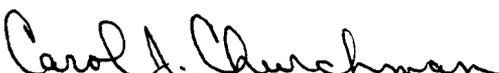
SECTION 3: That the Council and Administration of the City of Whitehall, along with the entire central Ohio community, strongly support DSCC and all of the missions that are located at the installation and urge the Base Realignment and Closure Commission to recognize that this location, due to its demonstrated efficiency, high military value, abilities and for the further reasons stated above, will be of great benefit to the Department of Defense and the entire United States Armed Forces.

SECTION 4: That this Resolution is deemed an emergency measure necessary for the preservation of the health, peace, safety and general welfare of the community for the reasons stated in the preamble hereto. WHEREFORE, this Resolution shall go into effect upon its passage by Council and signature of the Mayor.

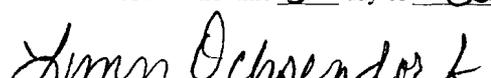
PASSED this 2nd day of August, 2005


President of Council

ATTEST:


Clerk of Council

APPROVED this 3rd day of August, 2005.


Mayor