



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS &  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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*Governor*

**Michael S. Steele**  
*Lt. Governor*

**Aris Melissaratos**  
*Secretary*

**Christopher C. Foster**  
*Deputy Secretary*

July 26, 2005

BRAC Commission

**JUL 29 2005**

Received

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi  
Chairman  
Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC)  
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED) would like to provide you with updated information which Governor Ehrlich promised in his letter to you dated July 14, 2005. The following is a detailed response to points made by those advocating a reversal of the BRAC recommendations regarding the proposed move of Army Communications-Electronic Command (CECOM) functions to the Aberdeen Proving Ground. This reflects actions accomplished in coordination with our Congressional delegation and local officials.

Maryland stands ready – we have experience. Maryland has experience teaming with the military in establishing the NAVAIR Model – a Center of Excellence - which has received recognition throughout the DoD. The NAVAIR Model consolidated and streamlined functions from 16 separate geographic locations into a single, integrated air warfare research, development, test, evaluation, and acquisition center.

Congressman Hoyer has been an active participant with the Navy in its consolidation at Patuxent River and sent you his thoughts separately. Maryland has shown it can accommodate moves that require quick recapitalization of a technical workforce. Large numbers of personnel moved to St. Mary's County, Maryland from various locations. The percentages of personnel who transitioned significantly exceeded predictions:

- 80% from Crystal City – Naval Air Systems Command;
- 41% from Trenton, New Jersey – Naval Air Propulsion Center (NAPC); and
- 46% from Warminster, Pennsylvania – Naval Air Development Center (NADC).

The 2005 BRAC military value score assigned to Patuxent River is a reflection of the success of the previous relocation of multiple organizations to Maryland.

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Maryland stands ready – we have the workforce. We looked into workforce issues using the Milliken Study as our data point. Here are some of the high points: Maryland is first among states in the nation with the highest percentage of professional and technical workers, and is second among the states in its number of people holding advanced degrees. Maryland has a large labor market for recruiting which can help mitigate these risks. Additionally, the move would create an increased synergy and enhanced program efficiency resulting in the need for fewer individuals to complete the mission.

Finally, it has been suggested that Ft. Monmouth has suffered from a lack of newly trained, highly motivated individuals bringing the latest in skills and technology to complex projects. This movement of CECOM to APG would result in a refreshed, creative, “brain enhanced” workforce. Congressman Ruppberger has sent a letter to the Commission with additional information regarding the opportunities for hiring highly qualified personnel to support the C4ISR mission.

Maryland stands ready – we have the technological know-how. I would like to clarify some of the presentation heard at the July 8, 2005 hearing. Here is what has been reported to me by one of Northrop Grumman’s chief scientists supporting the Aberdeen Proving Grounds (APG): The Army Research Laboratory’s Survivability/Lethality Analysis Directorate (SLAD) at Aberdeen took the initiative to endorse and fund project suggestions by their field test and design group at the White Sands Missile Range. The SLAD designed and developed, in collaboration with New Mexico State University, the countermeasure system that is being fielded, and this design will continue to be fielded. It is one of four concepts that are now managed by the Program Executive Office IEW&S at Ft. Monmouth in a program called Warlock. The alternative designs appear to have been created by contractors, not by the Ft. Monmouth staff, and its contractors who provide the SLAD field support. Every part of the logistics support and program management is, by nature, highly portable. We have been unable to discern a single aspect of this program that would be harmed if the functions and staffing were transferred elsewhere, at any time. The SLAD team was one of ten Army groups honored for their inventions for the year 2004, because their creation works. The Army’s active-duty divisions and the Training and Doctrine Command chose the ten winning programs for their impact on Army capabilities. Nominations for the program were submitted from across the Army laboratory community.

All of the above is all a matter of public record. As you know, contractors from different companies located in a variety of states support programs important to the C4ISR mission area. Program managers are also located at various locations. Fort Monmouth’s role is largely acquisition management and not engineering. This is the case in a number of capabilities which Ft. Monmouth cited. Many of the Army’s leading scientists and engineers located at APG have worked with these and other C4ISR programs. On our visit with the BRAC staff we will present a matrix which identifies the different systems/capabilities along with current locations of the RDTA&E. Rest assured continuity of this and other systems are assured under the DoD recommendation.

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Maryland stands ready - but we have questions. As we continue to analyze the New Jersey portion of the testimony at the July 8, 2005 BRAC hearing in Baltimore, Maryland, there are more and more questions without answers. In particular, the "megabase" proposal raised at the hearing is not well defined, it is incomplete, and the whole argument drew a conclusion without facts and logic to support it. The Army Alliance in Aberdeen is preparing a more detailed paper on this subject and will be sending it to you this week for your consideration. They will also speak to the issue of additional cost avoidance which makes the movement of CECOM even more affordable than current cost models.

Maryland stands ready – to serve. You have received numerous letters of expression of support from Senators Sarbanes and Mikulski, Governor Ehrlich, our State legislators and our local leaders. I assure you that Maryland federal, state and local officials, business leaders and the community will welcome the people from Ft. Monmouth. The State has a team at DBED dedicated to providing strong support throughout the consolidation and continues today and into the future.

Maryland is prepared – and proud. We are prepared to use our vast experience, highly trained workforce, and ability to leverage federal, State and local resources in supporting the establishment of the Land C4ISR Center of Excellence at Aberdeen Proving Ground. We are proud to support our military in its defense of our nation.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me or BGen J.M. "Mike" Hayes, USMC (Ret.), Director, Office of Military and Federal Affairs, DBED, at (410) 767-2988, toll free at 1 (888) 246-6736, or email at [mhayes@choosemaryland.org](mailto:mhayes@choosemaryland.org).

Sincerely,



Aris Melissaratos  
Secretary

cc: BGen J.M. "Mike" Hayes, USMC (Ret.), Director, Office of Military and Federal Affairs, DBED