

March 1, 1995

Base Realignment and Closure Commission
18th Floor
1700 N. Moore Street
Arlington, VA 22209

We are writing this letter in relation to the Pentagon's recommendation to close the U.S. Army Aviation and Troop Command (ATCOM).

Despite the rationale provided by the Department of Defense, one of the fundamental reasons that the Army Materiel Command (AMC) and the Department of the Army volunteered to close ATCOM was due to their collective failure to resolve the problems of racial discrimination promulgated by ATCOM management. For years now, the numbers of Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) complaints filed by ATCOM's minority workforce has continued to be among AMC's and the Army's highest. Now, due to the Army's inability to successfully resolve these issues, the Army plans to punish these employees for effectively exercising their civil rights. In reprisal for speaking out against injustice and violations of the civil rights of ATCOM employees, the Army is committing its ultimate act of control, exertion of power and blatant discrimination, by attacking the financial security of those employees so bold to have challenged the Army.

If meaningfully scrutinized, the Army's claims of efficiency and savings will collapse under its own heavy handed tactic. What will remain is an organization attempting to misuse and pervert the true intent of the BRAC in order to accomplish its retribution against those minority workers of conscience that could no longer stand by and let the Army's blatant violations of justice go unchallenged.

We, the loyal and dedicated workers of ATCOM call for a full investigation of the EEO problems at ATCOM. Once accomplished, we are confident that AMC and the Army's true motivation for attempting to close ATCOM will be revealed. We are further confident that with effective leadership the ills of ATCOM can be corrected and it can continue intact to effectively contribute to the defense of our nation.

We are requesting your assistance in making this issue known and resolving the problem so that success can be achieved in the fight to keep ATCOM open as a thriving, beneficial organization.

CONCERNED BLACK ATCOM EMPLOYEES

6 March 1995

JH US
ATCOM
WNS
3-10

Base Closure and Realignment Commission
Suite 1425
1700 North Moore Street
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Commissioners,

Along with a large portion of the American public, I have read with great interest the recommendations of the Secretary of Defense, Mr. William Perry, with respect to the closings and realignments of Department of Defense facilities. It is my understanding that these recommendations were forwarded to you and that you now have the responsibility to make any changes that you deem important. I am one of those people that would be greatly affected by the changes that Mr. Perry has proposed. I am an employee of the U.S. Army Aviation and Troop Command (ATCOM) in St. Louis, Missouri.

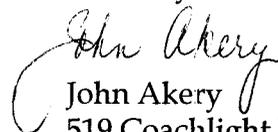
I realize that the entire process is intended to save taxpayer dollars which are being spent by the Department of Defense. Although many of my co-workers may write to you and ask that you not approve the Secretary's recommendations, I know that is not prudent. I believe that your Commission has a very important function to perform which goes much deeper than just ignoring the Secretary's recommendations. Secretary Perry has done extensive work to prepare this list and he believes in it. I also understand that your chairman, Senator Alan Dixon of Illinois, has stated that he does not intend to make any alterations to the Secretary's recommendations.

With these things in mind, I have a couple of questions that I would like for you to consider as you make your recommendations to the President. First, I am concerned when the Chairman of your Commission states flatly that he won't make any changes to the Secretary's recommendations. That seems to be a very narrow viewpoint, and very political in nature. He is stating, in effect, that it doesn't matter how many reasonable changes are proposed or how good the rationale is for an alteration. I am concerned that your Commission has been reduced to nothing more than a rubber-stamp group for the Secretary of Defense. Surely, that was not the original intent of the Commission. I believe that you should take a much more critical look at what the Secretary is saying and his rationale for the recommendations.

The second thing that concerns me is in the area of the benefit and cost analyses that were performed by the Secretary's staff. As a trained economist, I am aware that there is a very large area of cost/benefit analysis that is only now being investigated. That area is the costs associated with human trauma. Did the Secretary really consider ALL of the costs associated with these transfers and closures? The U.S. Government has been consistently downsizing for the past several years and, during this time, there have been multitudes of reductions-in-force and adverse personnel actions. These were bad enough, but they have contributed to build an environment that is continually more hostile to Federal employees that are being separated. Thus, the human trauma costs that were applicable in 1980 or 1985 are significantly higher in 1995.

I hope that you will consider these things as you review the Secretary's recommendations and as you prepare your package for Mr. Clinton. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



John Akery
519 Coachlight Lane
Hazelwood, MO 63042-1913



DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION
1700 NORTH MOORE STREET SUITE 1425
ARLINGTON, VA 22209
703-696-0504

March 10, 1995

Mr. John Akery
519 Coachlight Lane
Hazelwood, MO 63042-1913

Dear Mr. Akery:

Thank you for providing the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission with information pertinent to the present round of base closure and realignment recommendations. I appreciate your interest in the future of U.S. Army Aviation and Troop Command (ATCOM).

You may be certain that the Commission will thoroughly review the information used by the Defense Department in making its recommendations. I can assure you that the information you have provided will also be used in the Commission's review and analysis process.

I appreciate your interest in the work of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission.

Sincerely,

David S. Lyles
Staff Director

March 6, 1995

ATCOM
3-10

Dear Chairman Dixon:

We are both employees of ATCOM and we are writing this letter in regard to the recent announcement of its closure and relocation. This decision would severely impact our family because we depend on both our salaries to support our three young children and ourselves.

We feel we have both been treated unjustly because a decision of this magnitude was made without ATCOM awareness. It seems like our leadership has intentionally left us ignorant of our future. If the closure is due to being located on leased property, we should have been advised of such prior to the DOD decision. Therefore, we could have had prior knowledge of and could have planned for our destiny accordingly.

In fact, an Army (or DOD) study was conducted showing that ATCOM is cheaper to operate than other major subordinate commands that were on the initial BRAC List (i.e., U.S. Army Armament, Munitions, and Chemical Command, Rock Island, IL and U.S. Army Communications and Electronics Command, Ft. Monmouth, NJ). It appears strange to us that those two commands didn't make the recommended list. Seemingly, cost is not a driving force in DOD's decision. If ATCOM being on leased property is the issue, then a more economic/cost effective solution would be to relocate ATCOM to one of the many DOD facilities located in the St. Louis area (i.e., Charles Melvin Price Support Center, St. Louis Army Ammunition Plant, Scott Air Force Base, or the new proposed Defense Mapping Center).

The point we are trying to make is we have come up with three or four viable solutions in a matter of ten minutes and if DOD really wanted to save ATCOM, then our leaders could have directed us to develop a strategy to do so. ATCOM then could have developed and recommended an implementation plan being of sound economic solution saving the Army more money than the Huntsville solution.

Another factor that must be considered in this decision is the effect the relocation will have on our customers - *the soldier*. Statistics show that when large corporations or Government agencies make a move such as this, that only 20% of the work force actually makes the move. If this were to happen, the 80% to leave would be the portion holding all the corporate knowledge. While the Army is rehiring and training personnel to take the place of these employees, it would take years before ATCOM could recover to provide the support the soldier has become accustomed to expect. In those years that it would take ATCOM to recover, the readiness of Army Aviation would be gravely affected.

Based on the above, we feel the Government decision to relocate ATCOM was decided several years ago, and we, the employees, were pawns in some political game. We feel

like we have been slighted. We employees had neither insight nor knowledge of the magnitude of this adverse action taken against us, as well as all the hard work and dedication to put Army Aviation at the level it is today.

We, not only as affected employees, but also as concerned taxpayers feel that the BRAC Commission should be directed to reinvestigate DOD's substantiation for their decision of ATCOM's plight. Along with the reinvestigation, we would like an explanation as to the sequence of events and factors that led to their decision during the public hearings that will be held in St. Louis. We feel this is the least the Government owes the ATCOM employees.

Sincerely,

Pat Kaprelian
Greg Kaprelian
PAT AND GREG KAPRELIAN
1619 STRECKER WOODS COURT
BALLWIN, MO 63011

Approved *ATCOM* *WVH* *3-13*

8540 Avens Circle
Colorado Springs,
Colorado 80920

(719) 598-6656 (H)
(719) 526-5077 (W)
(DSN) 691-5077

8 March 1995

Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street
Suite 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

Reference: Recommendation to Disestablish the Aviation and Troop Command
(ATCOM), St Louis, MO.

To Whom It May Concern,

I would like to take this opportunity to express my "APPROVAL" of the recommendation to disestablish the Aviation and Troop Command (ATCOM) and the relocation of the Aviation Research, Development & Engineering Center, Aviation Management, and Aviation Program Executive Offices to Redstone Arsenal, Huntsville, Alabama.

As an ATCOM employee I have worked both in house and from the field. I have experienced first hand the difficulties encountered in trying to get the job done, (i.e., parking availability, lack of adequate office space, heavy commuting traffic and possible facility closures due to inclement weather). By relocating to the Redstone Arsenal facility, air travel and ground transportation might be more feasible.

One can only surmise that the savings involved with this decision to relocate the ATCOM community, coupled with the reduction of over 7500 direct/indirect jobs, would more than off set the cost to relocate both personnel and equipment.

Please approve this decision as it has been proposed.

Sincerely,


HERBERT L. WILLIAMS
GS-11, OAR
HQ ATCOM

8540 Avens Circle
Colorado Springs,
Colorado 80920

(719) 598-6656 (H)
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(DSN) 691-5077

8 March 1995

Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street
Suite 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

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Please approve this decision as it has been proposed.

Sincerely,



HERBERT L. WILLIAMS
GS-11, QAR
HQ ATCOM



DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION
1700 NORTH MOORE STREET SUITE 1425
ARLINGTON, VA 22209
703-696-0504

March 10, 1995

Mr. and Mrs. Greg Kaprelian
1619 Strecker Woods Court
Ballwin, MO 63011

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Kaprelian:

Thank you for providing the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission with information pertinent to the present round of base closure and realignment recommendations. I appreciate your interest in the future of Aviation-Troop Command.

You may be certain that the Commission will thoroughly review the information used by the Defense Department in making its recommendations. I can assure you that the information you have provided will also be used in the Commission's review and analysis process.

I appreciate your interest in the work of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David S. Lyles".

David S. Lyles
Staff Director

ATCOM 3-15
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Mr. Kenneth B. Connolly
7004 Briar Bluff Dr.
St. Louis, Mo. 63129

March 12, 1995

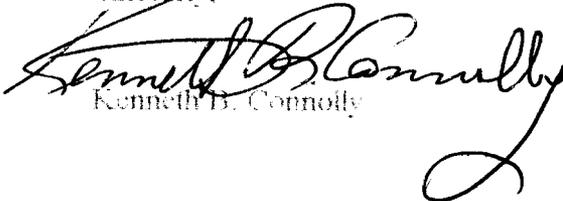
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
1700 North St
18th Floor
Arlington, Va.

Dear Sir:

I wish to say that I am opposed to moving the Aviation & Troop Command (ATCOM) and any of its functions from St. Louis, Mo. The reason is, that there is no benefit to the American people. It is difficult to follow the logic of the Army's recommendation that there is a cost saving, and that it is in the best interest of Army and the American people to send the mission and people of ATCOM to four new locations. It appears that the Army's estimated cost savings will result more from a reduction in force than transferring ATCOM.

Attached is a discussion that refutes the justifications provided by the Army for closing ATCOM.

Sincerely,


Kenneth B. Connolly

Subject: Disestablishment of ATCOM

The Army in its opening "Justification" paragraph to the Commission states, "Because of the cost of leasing, the Army's goal is to minimize leased space, where feasible and maximize the use of government - owned facilities." ATCOM is complying with the Army's goal. It is in the midst of implementing a plan to reduce its leased space, which is Government owned.. ATCOM plans to vacate at least 2 large buildings. This will reduce ATCOM's operating (lease) expenses considerably. Further reduction could be obtained, if the Army would negotiate its lease with General Services Administration to reduce the lease rate.

The Army in its next paragraph used to justify its recommendation says that..."In 1993, the Army studied the possibility of relocating ATCOM to a military installation and concluded it would be too costly. This statement is confusing. It appears that the Army believes by establishing a new Command (the Soldier's System Command, which I believe was set up to justify transferring Soldier items from ATCOM, thereby reducing ATCOM's mission), restructure and increase the missions and functions of another command (Missile Command to the Aviation and Missile Command), and transferring the remaining ATCOM mission and functions to two other commands reduces costs, while transferring the ATCOM missions to a single location is too cost prohibitive, as was the case in '93.

In the next sentence the Army says..."It is evident that restructuring ATCOM provides a financially attractive opportunity to relocate." The supposed evidence that provides a financially attractive opportunity to relocate ATCOM is not evident in the Army's position. The costs of transferring and receiving ATCOM's functions and people to other locations probably do not appear in the Army's cost estimates. Otherwise, how could the Army say that the cost of transferring ATCOM's functions to a single locations is considerably more than the cost of sending ATCOM's missions and functions to four locations?

There are a myriad of other costs not presented by the Army in its argument. One cost is the money that the Army spent to improve the ATCOM facility, such as new phones and phone lines and networking the computers. These costs will not be recovered, if the Army's plan goes into effect. Other costs, such as, the effort of transferring the automated data files from which contractor's are paid, items are tracked, and ordered could take months if not years, especially if it has to be broken apart and the parts sent to four locations. It would stop studies for and the order of new supplies and services, High safety repairs, all negotiations, contract modifications, recoupment, and may impede or run investigations by Government audit and other investigative agencies that may have resulted in millions of dollars being recouped by the Government. Contractor claims for late payment alone could cost more than the price of the move. Also, if during the transfer the automated data is lost, it would cost millions to reconstruct. There are other efforts involved in the transfer of ATCOM not costed by the Army, but the ones that I have provided would call into questions the Army's evidence that it is now beneficial to transfer ATCOM, where two years ago it was not.

Subject: Disestablishment of ATCOM

The Army in the next paragraph of its justification states that the dissolving ATCOM will result in..."Significant functional efficiencies..." The question is how - when the functional element for aviation and soldier systems are largely at ATCOM, and only part of the functions are at Natick, MCOM, the other AMC Major Subordinate Commands, and other Defense Department Agencies? To say that it is better to place the management of the aviation and troop systems under one of its components than to satellite the component under the system, begs the logic issue and is not a standard industrial practice. Each of the other MSC's activities are discreet and are not needed until they are to be integrated into the ATCOM system. Once ATCOM integrates the system, the other MSC's activities are not normally required until there is a design change to the affected system. In many ways it is like a relationship between a prime contractor and its sub in designing a system. The prime contractor only uses the subcontractor, if its services are necessary. If ATCOM becomes part of the other AMC's subordinate commands, the relationship will be perpetuated even though it is no longer required. This will increase the cost of the system and may make it harder to field the system. With today's technology, business coalitions can be established or dissolved with the press of a computer key. It does not require 1940's thinking of having to consolidate or divest by whole sale movement of people and capital.

In its next paragraph the Army states that, "Dissolving ATCOM preserves crucial research and development functions while optimizing operational efficiencies." This statement is unclear. In what way will dissolving ATCOM preserve crucial research and development functions while optimizing operational efficiencies? ATCOM's research and development functions are not decaying, therefore, they do not need preserving. ATCOM has an excellent engineering staff, educated in some of the best universities in the country. The synergistic effect between the ATCOM engineers, with the research and development contractors, produces the finest aircraft, fighting, and quality of life soldier systems and equipment in the world. Some of the advanced research and developed systems managed by ATCOM would make Star Trek look obsolete. ATCOM's operational efficiency is second - to - none because of its world class research and development programs. Once it is dissolved it will take a long time, if ever, to regain.

The Army in the same paragraph goes on to say that..."Moving elements of ATCOM to Natick and Redstone Arsenal improves the synergistic effect of research...by facilitating the interaction between the medical, academic, and industrial communities already present in these regions." This statement is difficult to comprehend. Huntsville, the city that surrounds the Redstone Arsenal is probably a nice community, but it does not come close to the academic, medical, and industrial community that surrounds ATCOM. The St. Louis metropolitan area has a considerably larger population (I think its about 4 million), considerably more medical centers (to include major medical research centers and schools), and a world leader in the manufacturing of aircraft, automobiles, chemicals, etc. As previously stated, Huntsville is a nice community, but one could question does it have the demographics to initially fill vacancies created by moving ATCOM to Redstone and then to sustain its operations. Huntsville population is about 170,000. It has about 90,000 housing units, one hospital (there is another in a town near Huntsville), one state college campus

Subject: Disestablishment of ATCOM

and several community colleges. It is difficult to understand why someone in the Army believes that the Huntsville community is better capable to support ATCOM than St. Louis?

Understanding that your time is valuable, I will move on and not discuss the sentence that talks about vacating St. Louis. The discussion is about the same as the previous paragraph.

Moving onto the next sentence, the Army talks about "Return on Investment". This is a misapplication of a business term. There is no return on investment. There is no money to be made by moving ATCOM. The Army will never recover any of the expenses it incurs by moving ATCOM to the other locations. It requires a profit or a method to generate sales in order to do so. Obviously, the Army does none of these. It only incurs expenses.

The Army tries to support its recommendation by providing dollar figures that it believes will demonstrate the cost effectiveness of transferring ATCOM. The application of the dollars provided by the Army to support its position are hard to decipher. There is no discussion on what the Army used as the basis of estimate and what assumptions it made to develop its cost position. The piece of the puzzle that is relevant and not apparent in the Army's figures, is the cost (implementation & one - time - cost) to disestablish ATCOM, transfer its functions, and establish a new command. This cost figure can be developed from the information provided by the Army

In doing the calculations, two assumption have to be made. One is that the dollars are in constant years dollars. The second is that the dollar figures provided by the Army are based on supposed saving in leasing expenses and not from other activities such as reduced manpower.

In its argument, the Army provides cost figures. They are, as follows: \$46 million one-time-cost, \$9 million cost savings during the implementation period, \$46 million annual recurring savings after implementation, and \$453 million over a 20 year period. The Army also says that during the implementation phase it will save \$9 million during the implementation phase and then \$46 million thereafter. With the above information, one can infer that the implementation cost is the number of years the implementation takes, times the difference between \$46 million and \$9 million, which is \$37 million ($46 - 9 = 37$). One can estimate the number of years by figuring what is the combination of \$9 million savings years vis-à-vis the \$46 million savings years over the 20 period that equal \$453 million. The closest that anyone can come is that the implementation period is approximately 12.6 years of the 20 year period. ($9 \times 12.6 \text{ yrs} = \113.4 million and $46 \times 7.4 \text{ yrs} = \340.4 million ; by rounding down the two subtotals to \$113 million and \$340 million respectively and then adding them, one arrives at the sum of \$453 million ($\$113 \text{ million} + \$340 \text{ million} = \453 million). Taking the 12.6 year implementation period and then multiply that by the \$37 million annual implementation cost, provides the approximate total implementation cost of \$466 million ($12.6 \text{ yrs} \times \37 million). To the \$466 million implementation cost,

Subject: Disestablishment of ATCOM

add the one time expense of \$146 million. This provides the total cost to disestablish ATCOM at approximately \$612 million. In summary the calculation shows that the dislocation of ATCOM will cost the Government \$618 million (not save \$453 million) and take over 12 years (not three years) to complete.

Understanding that the figures provided are based on assumptions and that there are other methods to evaluate the cost data provided by the Army, the fact remains that the cost figures provided by the Army are questionable as to savings (the correct term used by DOD is actually cost avoidance) let alone to the Army's ambiguous term of "... net present value". There is no cost (or other) value to disestablish ATCOM. There is only expense, be it \$612 million, \$466 million, or \$146 million. The Army and the tax payer would do better by spending the money on the training and equipping the soldier, then lose it on an action that will see no positive results.

The only other explanation for the Army's confusing cost figures is that the saving will result from a reduction in force and not from reducing lease costs. It would stand to reason, that the same reduction in force in St. Louis would result in the same level of estimated savings, due the reduced manpower and reduced leased space.

The Army in the next paragraph entitled "Impacts:" understates the economic impact to the St. Louis Area. The economic impact to the state of Missouri, if ATCOM is moved, is 20,000 jobs and millions of dollars in revenue. ATCOM is also the areas leading employer of minorities and women. With ATCOM gone, they will lose one of the few employment options that they have. ATCOM is also a major part of the community. The area that it occupies has kept at bay, the urban blight affecting the areas around it. If ATCOM moves and the General Services Administration (The Government agency that owns the property) can not find occupants for the vacant facilities, the whole area around ATCOM may now totally collapse, and the millions of dollars that the Government spent to improve the facility will also have been wasted.

In the final paragraph the Army understates the environmental impact on St. Louis. The Army states that there are no known environmental impediments at the closing site or receiving installations. The environmental assessment was the area that may have been neglected during the 93 review of ATCOM. It is believed that Congressman Clay's challenge to the Army for not conducting an environmental assessment in accordance with the National Environmental Protection Act was one of the reasons that the Army did not pursue the moving of ATCOM at that time. It is unbelievable that increasing the population of Huntsville by 10%, and more than that for the Redstone, would not have an appreciable impact on the environment. The costs for environmental considerations was not presented in the Army's cost benefit calculation, but must be part of the equation, if there is to be an informed decision on this matter.

The Army in its last sentence says that..." There are no known environmental impediments at the closing site or receiving installation." What appears to be left out of the Army's environmental assessment is people. The whole reason for concern over the environment

Subject: Disestablishment of ATCOM

is people. ATCOM employees mostly civilians. They are not as mobile as the military. Moving in it self is very stressful, when it is not part of ones life, as it is with a soldier. ATCOM is people not mission or function. These people have deep roots in the St. Louis and surrounding areas. Many have lived in the same area for generations. Many have special needs for their children, parents, and themselves. (It may be that the one hospital in Huntsville is not capable of satisfying those needs, because the hospital that they use in St. Louis is a world leader in medical research and has access to advanced medical procedures and technology not available to more remote hospitals.) Many have extended families and child custody is established by the courts. If they want to take the children out of state, then they have to get the court's permission. Others have spouses who work at ATCOM and risk separation, because each spouse may be offered jobs in different locations. Still others have spouses who work in the community and will have to decide to separate from their spouse or move and therefore, create an economic hardship. Even if the commission totally disagrees with the positions presented above, there still has to be some consideration given to employees when compared to the cost benefit that may be derived from relocating ATCOM and disrupting the lives of the 20,000 people that actually are the ATCOM community.



DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION
1700 NORTH MOORE STREET SUITE 1425
ARLINGTON, VA 22209
703-696-0504

March 15, 1995

Mr. Kenneth B. Connolly
7004 Briar Bluff Drive
St. Louis, MO 63129

Dear Mr. Connolly:

Thank you for providing the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission with information pertinent to the present round of base closure and realignment recommendations. I appreciate your interest in the future of Aviation and Troop Command.

You may be certain that the Commission will thoroughly review the information used by the Defense Department in making its recommendations. I can assure you that the information you have provided will also be used in the Commission's review and analysis process.

I appreciate your interest in the work of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David S. Lyles".

David S. Lyles
Staff Director



DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION
1700 NORTH MOORE STREET SUITE 1425
ARLINGTON, VA 22209
703-696-0504

March 13, 1995

Mr. Herbert L. Williams
8540 Avens Circle
Colorado Springs, CO 80920

Dear Mr. Williams:

Thank you for providing the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission with information pertinent to the present round of base closure and realignment recommendations. I appreciate your interest in the future of Aviation and Troop Command.

You may be certain that the Commission will thoroughly review the information used by the Defense Department in making its recommendations. I can assure you that the information you have provided will also be used in the Commission's review and analysis process.

I appreciate your interest in the work of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David S. Lyles".

David S. Lyles
Staff Director

ATCOM
unit
3-16

March 14, 1995

Commissioners
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
1700 North Moore Street
18th floor
Arlington, VA 22209

Re: "Disestablishment" of the Army Aviation and Troop Command (ATCOM)

Dear Commissioners:

I am an employee of the Army Aviation and Troop Command in St. Louis, Missouri but I am writing this letter as a private citizen, not as an ATCOM spokesperson.

While the overall mission of ATCOM may be distributed to four other areas of the country and still be accomplished, there is a very small office at ATCOM which is not tied to the overall mission but rather to the St. Louis area itself. Under the Department of Defense's Operation Transition, the Army established the Army Career and Alumni Program (ACAP) and in October 1990 the ACAP began operating at ATCOM. The two offices which make up ACAP are the Transition Assistance Office (TAO) and the Job Assistance Center (JAC). The three employees of the TAO are assigned to ATCOM's Civilian Personnel Office and the three employees of the JAC are contractors working for the Department of the Army. Although these offices are assigned to ATCOM and physically located at its headquarters in St. Louis, MO., the mission of ACAP is to provide assistance to ALL ARMY military and civilian employees in the geographic area and to their family members when the military/civilian personnel are affected by the downsizing efforts which began shortly after Desert Storm. The purpose of this letter is only to alert you to the fact that this small organization exists at ATCOM and that its mission is not tied to ATCOM rather than to give you the specifics of what it does.

I hope that during your deliberations you will look into these facts further and consider separating the Transition Assistance Office and the Job Assistance Center from ATCOM and realigning the two offices to another Army facility in the area such as the Army Reserve Personnel Center which has the majority of Army military personnel in the St. Louis area. Even if the ATCOM mission goes in four separate directions, the remaining Army family in the St. Louis area does not deserve to lose the transition assistance mandated by law .

Thank you for taking time to read this and also for your efforts in performing this difficult job.

Sincerely



MARY ANNE WOYTUS
557 Wyatt Drive
St. Peters, MO 63376



DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION
1700 NORTH MOORE STREET SUITE 1425
ARLINGTON, VA 22209
703-696-0504

March 16, 1995

Ms. Mary Anne Woytus
557 Wyatt Drive
St. Peters, MO 63376

Dear Ms. Woytus:

Thank you for providing the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission with information pertinent to the present round of base closure and realignment recommendations. I appreciate your interest in the future of the Army Aviation and Troop Command.

You may be certain that the Commission will thoroughly review the information used by the Defense Department in making its recommendations. I can assure you that the information you have provided will also be used in the Commission's review and analysis process.

I appreciate your interest in the work of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David S. Lyles".

David S. Lyles
Staff Director

ATCOM
3-27

March 22, 1995

Mr. Lee Kling
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
1700 N. Moore Street, Ste. 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Mr. Kling:

We write to you to urge you to re-consider the decision of closing the ATCOM facility and the Price Support Center in our area.

These two facilities employ several thousands of people and these people pump "dollars into our region. Plus these two units are of great importance to our military. When you close military areas, you scare us, as our military readiness is not there to protect our country. Our defense programs have been cut enough.

The bottom line is that our economic growth, the military readiness and each and every family whose lively hood is affected gets the "blunt end".

Surely the overall picture and in the long run it is better as is, than to spend billions to re-locate these units and have billions lost in our area, an area that will definitely suffer from such closings.

We urge you to keep ATCOM and PRICE SUPPORT CENTER open. It doesn't make much sense to make changes or close an operation that's doing well for all concerned.

Very truly yours,

Harry L. Morton
Harry L. Morton

Rosetta M. Morton
Rosetta M. Morton
414 E. Second St.
O'Fallon, IL 62269

March 22, 1995

Ms. Wendi Steele
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
1700 N. Moore Street, Ste. 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Ms. Steele:

We write to you to urge you to re-consider the decision of closing the ATCOM facility and the Price Support Center in our area.

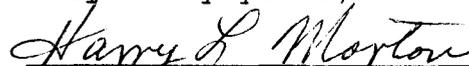
These two facilities employ several thousands of people and these people pump "dollars into our region. Plus these two units are of great importance to our military. When you close military areas, you scare us, as our military readiness is not there to protect our country. Our defense programs have been cut enough.

The bottom line is that our economic growth, the military readiness and each and every family whose lively hood is affected gets the "blunt end".

Surely the overall picture and in the long run it is better as is, than to spend billions to re-locate these units and have billions lost in our area, an area that will definitely suffer from such closings.

We urge you to keep ATCOM and PRICE SUPPORT CENTER open. It doesn't make much sense to make changes or close an operation that's doing well for all concerned.

Very truly yours,



Harry L. Morton



Rosetta M. Morton
414 E. Second St.
O'Fallon, IL 62269

March 22, 1995

Rear Adm. Ben Montoya
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
1700 N. Moore Street, Ste. 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Sir:

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Harry L. Morton
Harry L. Morton

Rosetta M. Morton
Rosetta M. Morton
414 E. Second St.
O'Fallon, IL 62269

ATCOM
3-28

March 22, 1995

General J. B. Davis
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
1700 N. Moore Street, Ste. 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear General Davis:

We write to you to urge you to re-consider the decision of closing the ATCOM facility and the Price Support Center in our area.

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Harry L. Morton

Harry L. Morton

Rosetta M. Morton

Rosetta M. Morton
414 E. Second St.
O'Fallon, IL 62269

March 22, 1995

Mr. Alan Dixon
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
1700 N. Moore Street, Ste. 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Mr. Dixon:

We write to you to urge you to re-consider the decision of closing the ATCOM facility and the Price Support Center in our area.

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Harry L. Morton



Rosetta M. Morton
414 E. Second St.
O'Fallon, IL 62269

March 22, 1995

Mr. Al Corrello
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
1700 N. Moore Street, Ste. 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Mr. Corrello:

We write to you to urge you to re-consider the decision of closing the ATCOM facility and the Price Support Center in our area.

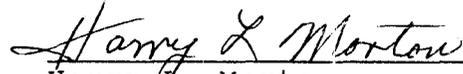
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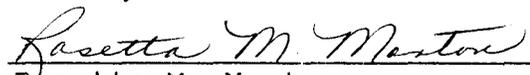
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Harry L. Morton



Rosetta M. Morton
414 E. Second St.
O'Fallon, IL 62269

March 22, 1995

Honorable Michael Stone
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
1700 N. Moore Street, Ste. 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Honorable Stone:

We write to you to urge you to re-consider the decision of closing the ATCOM facility and the Price Support Center in our area.

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Very truly yours,



Harry L. Morton



Rosetta M. Morton
414 E. Second St.
O'Fallon, IL 62269

March 22, 1995

Ms. Rebecca Cox
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
1700 N. Moore Street, Ste. 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Ms. Cox:

We write to you to urge you to re-consider the decision of closing the ATCOM facility and the Price Support Center in our area.

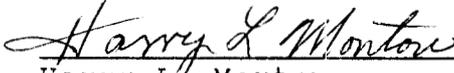
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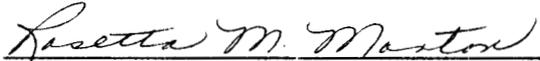
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Very truly yours,



Harry L. Morton



Rosetta M. Morton
414 E. Second St.
O'Fallon, IL 62269

ATCOM
3-22 PC

Mr. S. Lee Kling
c/o Magna Bank
701 Olive Street
St. Louis, MO 63101

1. Reference the proposed closing of ATCOM:
 - a. The preliminary plan to close ATCOM and relocate its mission to various other cities was developed, per claims by Mr. Panetta of the White House and Mr. Deutsch of the Pentagon, in an atmosphere completely devoid of political considerations. In the history of this nation all plans developed in Washington, D.C., have been rife with political considerations, especially those plans having jobs connected with them. This situation is no different. The politics include relationships within and between the Army Materiel Command, the Department of the Army, the Department of Defense, and Congress.
 - b. ATCOM has been offered for disestablishment, per Mr. Deutsch, because it occupies leased property. The property in question is leased by Army from the General Services Administration. This amounts to a zero-sum game with no financial benefit, as one government account pays the other. Also note that the headquarters organization that ATCOM operates under, the Army Materiel Command, operates out of commercial lease space at 5001 Eisenhower Avenue in Alexandria.
 - c. Management at the gaining facilities has no intention of offering positions to the majority of displaced ATCOM employees. The gaining facilities will use the new positions in the following manner: 1, select individuals from within the Department of Defense as personal favorites; 2, hire marginally qualified local applicants in a latter-day spoils program; 3, contract out logistics functions with private companies with which they have developed somewhat incestuous working relationships not in the best interests of the U.S. Government; 4, use the personnel slots given to them to minimize the effect of future cutbacks on their existing functions and staff. None of this results in improved government finances.
2. As an alternative, direct the relocation of the smaller Natick (MA) R&D Center function to St. Louis for consolidation with existing ATCOM offices, rather than vice versa. Expertise is retained, relocation costs are reduced, and turbulence is minimized. Future reductions could be met through attrition, rather than the organizational disembowelment that is currently planned.
3. I urge you to keep ATCOM in operation at its present location to best utilize government resources.


Ed Dashman
1432 Cedar Bluff Drive
Ballwin, MO 63021

March 28, 1995

Base Closure and Realignment Commission
Suite 1425
1700 N. Moore Street
Arlington, Virginia 22209

Dear Sir:

As an employee of the U.S. Army Aviation and Troop Command (ATCOM), I am extremely concerned about ATCOM being placed on the BRAC list.

I understand that as you look at these recommendations that these decisions are made on the supportability of the cost saving factors. However, I recently came across the attached article which I find appalling. If the BRAC had to be put into place to save money, how can the Federal government find \$31 million dollars to give two private corporations in order to reward bad management, while 30,000 workers lost their jobs. This is an obscene gesture which as a taxpayer I resent. It also makes me question the motives and integrity of Defense Secretary William Perry and his deputy, John Deutch, and that their rationales may carry over into their judgment regarding the BRAC. I would strongly suggest that the Commission look into this matter prior to finalizing the BRAC list. I hope this article might be of use to you.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Enclosure

Linda L. Kilgore
5765 Chatport Road
St. Louis, Missouri 63129

St. Louis / Southern Illinois

Editor's Tribune

VOL. 58, No. 31

The official AFL-CIO newspaper now in its 57th year



920-M

Thursday, March 23, 1995

Tax money used to bolster bosses' bonuses after 30,000 are laid off

The Defense Department has decided to help pay the bonuses of the top executives of Martin Marietta Corp. and Lockheed Corp., companies which just completed "a government-subsidized merger" to create Lockheed Martin. This company will record \$11.6 billion in annual sales.

By the way, 30,000 workers lost their jobs because of the merger. The combined bonuses are \$91 million and Defense agreed to pick up a third of it, \$31 million (Remember all the time that 30,000

workers lost their jobs because of this deal).

Can you believe, bonuses for the incompetents who led their two companies to virtual ruin because

they wouldn't believe the abundance of defence contracts would lighten at the end of the Cold War? And worse, bonuses which the taxpayers are helping to pay? Whew!

Says Matt Bates of the IAMA Communications Department, "You didn't even need a double digit I.Q. to know there would be a

See BONUSES page 4

Page 4

• Bonuses

From page 1

sharp downturn in defence contracts at the end of the Cold War. But those companies did absolutely nothing to move beyond hard core defence and into commercial and local community needs.

"Our union and other unions have been arguing since the '70s to provide a bridge for workers and communities which are heavily into defence. It would simply be good economics. Instead we got heavy-duty devastation (in this case, the layoff of 30,000 workers), devastation which could have been avoided.

"Both parties to this, Defense and the companies, should be ashamed," Bates says.

Both Defence Secretary William Perry and his deputy, John Deutch, incidentally, are former consultants for Martin Marietta.

This is an outrage; it is arrogant theft from the taxpayers, including the 30,000 who lost their jobs (and by the way, besides the \$31 million for the executive benefits, we will have to pay jobless benefits for the 30,000), and it is further proof that the only kind of "free enterprise" competition left in the nation is between a family-owned pharmacy and Wal-Mart, and between union workers and low-wage scabs.

Here are the numbers and addresses to "give 'em hell": White House Telephone Comment Line, 1-202-456-1111; White House mailing address, The White House, Washington, D.C. 20500.

ENCL



ATCOM 4/3

31 March 1995

Honorable Alan Dixon
Chairman
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
700 North Moore Street, Suite 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Alan:

You and the commission face a difficult challenge as you work to reduce Department of Defense (DOD) infrastructure and costs. I know many hard choices are before you but am very comfortable that you are up to the chore.

One such proposal is of particular interest to us here in the Quad Cities--the DOD recommendation to disestablish the Army's Aviation and Troop Command (ATCOM) at St. Louis.

If the commission decides to confirm the abolishment of ATCOM, serious consideration should be given to relocating all or part of these functions to Rock Island Arsenal in Illinois.

Here's why:

- This alternative would drastically reduce the implementation costs because existing buildings at RIA could be used rather than leasing or constructing new space. Currently, Rock Island Arsenal has government-owned space to accommodate up to 5,000 additional personnel.

None of the proposed sites for relocating ATCOM functions has available space to house the personnel. Millions of dollars can be saved in one-time and recurring operational costs by using the Rock Island Arsenal space instead.

2.

- The ATCOM mission has many synergies with the mission located at RIA, which means this alternative would achieve the goals of the DOD proposal, but at less cost and without the creation of new infrastructure.

The inference in the DOD's recommendations as to sites to relocate ATCOM is that most if not all of ATCOM's functions would be performed at the sites recommended, thus producing synergistic benefits. Actually, many of those functions are performed remotely from the sites suggested to house the disestablished ATCOM, negating that argument.

At Rock Island Arsenal, on the other hand, there are many functions conducted on the island that mesh extremely well with various ATCOM missions.

Here are some examples:

(1) The Armament Chemical and Logistics Activity (ACALA) at RIA currently provides acquisition, maintenance, inventory management, engineering, and other logistics support for the small arms weapons systems which are part of most aviation systems, (for example, the M230 Automatic Gun for the Apache, the M197 Cannon for the Cobra, the 50 caliber Pod for the Kiowa, and the 20mm gun for the Commanche).

(2) The ACALA small arms mission provides direct soldier support, not unlike the troop support portion of ATCOM. ACALA is responsible for the RETS (Remote Engagement Target system) which provide sophisticated simulation training for troops. ACALA provides chemical defensive equipment such as gas masks and agent detectors to support troops.

(3) ACALA also procures the advanced fire control associated with the ACALA weapon systems for aviation systems like the Apache, Kiowa and Cobra helicopters.

(4) ACALA already manages the Army's common tool sets and other numerous sets, kits, and outfits (SKO's), which are similar to the approximately 190 SKO's managed by ATCOM. These SKO's

3.

provide direct support for Army, Marine, and allied soldiers, not unlike the troop support portion of ATCOM, the ammunition portion of IOC, and the small arms and fire control portions of ACALA. RIA is currently the assembly point for ACALA-managed SKO's.

(a) In addition, ATCOM's New Aviation Tool Set (NATS) program and the Divisional and Non-Divisional Aviation Intermediate Maintenance (AVIM) shop set programs are all accomplished at RIA. Both the divisional and non-divisional maintenance complexes include, as part of their basic configurations, ACALA-managed equipment to maintain and repair armament and fire control systems on aircraft. RIA has the capacity to assimilate the remaining aviation and troop support related SKO assembly/disassembly workload. This represents a critical synergistic relationship to total Army readiness.

(b) Additionally, ACALA manages the Army's ordnance/engineering contact maintenance truck programs, which are being used as an engineering baseline for all contact maintenance truck configurations, including the aviation version presently managed at ATCOM.

(4) In addition to ACALA, the Industrial Operations Command at RIA manages conventional ammunition for all services, including that used by weapons systems which are part of the Army's aviation systems, (for example, 2.75 inch rocket system for the HYDRA 70, 30mm ammunition for the M230 automatic cannon used on the AH-64 Apache helicopter). They also manage the cartridge automated device/propellant automated device developed as escape/safety improvements for aircraft systems, as well as the depot overhaul program for helicopters at Corpus Christi Army Depot.

These existing activities at RIA could logically be combined with all or parts of the ATCOM mission to achieve the goals of reduced overhead and fewer management organizations. The commodities worked at both locations have logical relationships and the functional skills are compatible: engineering, maintenance, contracting, Inventory management, logistics support, etc.

4.

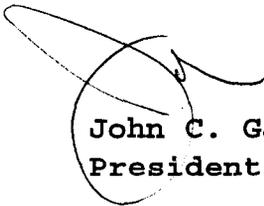
The closeness of RIA to the present ATCOM location, including short, direct airline flights would also reduce the turbulence of such a move. There are other significant efficiencies and economies that are associated with the relocation of ATCOM functions to RIA that can be explored in subsequent actions. Collocation of ATCOM with the IOC/ACALA, because of common programs, would enhance productivity and reduce operation costs on common programs.

The question can be summed up quite simply:

- Why build new space elsewhere when the command could be accommodated in DOD space already available where strong mission synergies exist?

Please let me know if you would like more detailed information about the Rock Island Arsenal's capabilities to accommodate ATCOM and best wishes in all of your deliberations.

Sincerely,



John C. Gardner
President

Concerned Employees
St. Louis, MO 63120-1798

ATCOM
4-17
01 April 1995

Honorable Alan J. Dixon
Chairman
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street, Suite 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

Mr. Chairman:

The attached observations are presented to the 1995 Defense Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission, relative to the Department of Defense (DoD) recommendation to disestablish the U.S. Army Aviation and Troop Command (ATCOM), presently located in St. Louis, MO, and to relocate its mission and functions to other geographical areas.

Based upon the information that has been made available, it is our concern that each of the BRAC 95 Selection Criteria, especially the areas dealing with the projected cost savings and increased efficiencies, have not been sufficiently documented. It is also unclear whether or not the Department of the Army seriously considered any other cost saving and efficiency enhancing alternatives that might be available.

It is our sincere hope that the BRAC Commission will require (from DoD) a complete and thorough explanation of the basis for the DoD recommendations relative to ATCOM.

Respectfully,

Signature Sheet Attached

cc:

Honorable John Ashcroft, U.S. Senator
Honorable Christopher (Kit) Bond, U.S. Senator
Honorable William L. (Bill) Clay, U.S. Representative
Honorable James M. Talent, U.S. Representative
Honorable Richard A. Gephardt, U. S. Representative
Honorable Harold L. Volkmer, U.S. Representative
Honorable Bill Emerson, U. S. Representative
Honorable Phil Tate, Missouri Representative
Honorable Sam Leake, Missouri Representative
Honorable Mel Carnahan, Governor of Missouri
Honorable Freeman Bosley, Mayor of City of St. Louis
Honorable Jim Edgar Governor of Illinois
Honorable Paul Simon, U. S. Senator
Honorable Carol Moseley-Braun, U.S. Senator
Honorable Jerry F. Costello, U.S. Representative
Honorable Richard J. Durbin, U.S. Representative
KMOV-TV (CBS) Channel 4, St. Louis
KSDK-TV (NBC) Channel 5, St. Louis
KTVI-TV (ABC) Channel 2, St. Louis
St. Louis Regional Commerce & Growth Association (RCGA)
St. Louis Post-Dispatch
Honorable Gordon Bush, Mayor of City of East St. Louis, Illinois

Signature Page

Robert B. Haray

Archie C. Ringgenberg

Barbara A. Brown

Shirley C. Beckey

Anita S. Thomas

Anita M. Werner

Ernest A. Brown

Judy Fowler

Ernie Harper

Leslie M. Bell

Samuel W. Taylor

SM. Jane Strange

Signature Page

Maryann D. Sinclair

Shirley W. Stanwood

Mary J. Adams

Regina F. Latimore

J. S. Hain

Sandra C. Garcia

Rebecca M. Munday

Therese Helen

Judy A. Estinger

Alvina Martin

Darlene Odorn

Jill E. Schroeder

Dwayne Walker

Signature Page

Fusuec Williams

Jeanne Pinjust

Janet C. Buffard

Valerie J. Johnson

Naomi Brown

Jaye Cushman

Brenda W. Tompkins

Cate O. Simms

Jonette G. Hutch

Military Value

DoD obviously recognized the value of the ATCOM mission and functions, and believes that current and future mission requirements greatly impact the operational readiness of the DoD's total force. Otherwise, the mission and functions would have been completely eliminated, rather than recommending that they be relocated to other proposed facilities.

Availability of Land & Facilities/Ability to Accommodate Future Total Force Requirements/Cost and Manpower Implications

The DoD, more specifically the Department of the Army, focused primarily upon the projected dollar savings, and emphasized the fact that the space presently occupied by ATCOM is leased from the General Services Administration (GSA). In addition DoD then maintained that "...Vacating the St. Louis lease will collocate/consolidate similar life cycle functions at military installations for improved efficiencies and effectiveness". There is very little or no relationship between ATCOM effectively accomplishing its mission and function, and whether it is housed in a leased facility or an Army-owned facility. The ownership of the physical facility has no direct relationship upon efficiency or effectiveness. The real issue is, whether or not significant dollar savings could be realized as a result of being relocated to an Army-owned facility.

In 1993, the Aviation and Troop Commands were separate functions, and both occupied leased square footage. The two Commands recently merged - Oct/Nov

1994; and now the leased square footage has been reduced. The primary reason for the merger was supposedly to reduce the leasing cost. We are told that the current lease expense for all tenants (including ATCOM) is \$7.0M annually. The DoD rationale, as presented in the DoD BRAC Report 1995, states that, "...In 1993, the Army studied the possibility of relocating ATCOM to a military installation and concluded it would be too costly. It is evident that restructuring ATCOM now provides a financially attractive opportunity to relocate". The question is this: Just exactly what happened between 1993 and 1995, which now makes the proposed relocation so financially attractive? It is extremely hard to believe that the decrease in the ATCOM lease payment from whatever it was in 1993, to the now reported figure of \$7.0M, was a large enough decrease to cause this financial attractiveness. The decrease in the amount of square footage was just not that dramatic. One must also realize, that if ATCOM personnel are transferred, there would be some amount of indirect cost for the receiving facility, even though the facility is Army-owned.

Cost & Manpower Implications/Return on Investment

DoD asserts that the evaluation criteria has been certified for accuracy, and then reviewed by both the BRAC and the General Accounting Office (GAO). Reportedly the annual lease payment for the facilities occupied by ATCOM is \$7.0M (we believe this is the total cost for all tenants). We are also told that the total one-time cost to implement the recommendation is \$146.0M; and that the net of all costs and savings during the implementation period is a savings of \$9.0M. In addition, the

annual recurring savings after implementation are projected to be \$46.0M (we believe this is primarily the result of the elimination of 1022 direct jobs) with a return on investment expected in 3 years; and the net present value of the cost and savings over 20 years is a savings of \$453.0M. The above numbers are not clear. Are the numbers unclear because we have not been provided the complete economic analysis, or are they unclear because an incomplete analysis was conducted. For instance: if the total one-time cost to implement the recommendation is \$146.0M, and the net cost and savings during implementation is a savings of \$9.0M; does this mean that the cost is \$146.0M and the savings is \$155.0M? For a total net savings of \$9.0M. Further, if this is the case, i.e., a net savings of \$9.0M over the period of implementation, what period of time is considered, 1 year, 2 years, 3 years...? We have been told that the lease payment for ATCOM is approximately \$7.0M per year. Yet we are also told that after implementation, the annual recurring savings are expected to be \$46.0M. This then means that the annual recurring savings of \$46.0M includes savings over-and-above the \$7.0M lease payment. What variables or factors comprise this additional \$39.0M worth of savings? Is it the loss of 2000 jobs? If the lease payment is \$7.0M annually; how much would GSA propose to charge the Army to purchase the facilities presently occupied by ATCOM in St. Louis? Has any economic analysis been performed relative to perhaps a 20 year purchase agreement, or building a new facility in the St. Louis area. Even without

doing an economic analysis, one intuitively has to believe that a 20 year purchase agreement, plus the cost avoidance realized by not having to relocate personnel, plus the retention of expertise and continuity, would favor serious consideration of a purchase agreement, or building a new facility in St. Louis. Whereas it may be evident to certain people within the Army and DoD hierarchy that relocating ATCOM provides a financially attractive opportunity, the information thus far provided to the ATCOM workforce has not demonstrated the financial attractiveness of the recommendations.

The DoD BRAC Realignment Report for 1995 states that the number of jobs affected by the proposed ATCOM disestablishment is 4,731 (direct jobs). Appendix C to the report identifies the Joint Cross-Service Analysis Tool Users Guide. There is a discussion of the Mixed-Inter Linear Program (MILP), which supposedly is the DoD "...standard tool often used to develop optimal solutions to complex allocation problems". Formulas are presented, an analytical methodology overview is presented; however, the specific inputs associated with the ATCOM situation are not presented. Is it the intention of the BRAC Committee to accept the cost and savings results presented by DoD on its face, or will the Committee receive a detailed briefing which details a complete and accurate picture of the projected savings in laymen's terminology, rather than Operational Research terminology?

On the surface, it appears that Department of the Army and DoD have neither supported nor documented their recommendation. We believe that the American Tax Payer, the ATCOM employees, and the States of Missouri and Illinois are due much more detailed information, before any recommendation is acted upon by the BRAC Commission. We also believe that it might be an excellent idea for the GAO to do a complete audit and analysis of the previous three BRAC rounds. Chapter 1, page 1-3, of the DoD BRAC Report March 1995, summarizes the BRAC Cost and Savings for the previous three BRAC rounds. These amounts are meaningless unless they are compared to the original estimates/projections, that were made prior to the BRAC 88, 91, and 93 base closings. After all, the original projections were the basis upon which the BRAC Commission made their decisions. Very simply, have the savings which were promised been realized?

The DoD Report states that there will be a loss of 4,731 direct jobs to the St. Louis economy. From the information that has been received by the ATCOM workforce (these are numbers generated by the Cost of Base Realignment Actions (COBRA) runs), it appears that the following information relates to the civilian job positions at ATCOM:

Total Civilian Positions	3,902
Total Civilian Positions to be Eliminated	1,022 (26% Reduction)
Total Civilian Positions to be Realigned (Relocated)	2,880

Of the total positions to be “realigned”:

From ATCOM to NATICK/TACOM/CECOM	481
From ATCOM to MICOM	2,200

Since the mission and function (and what that really equates to is the workload) of ATCOM is expected to remain the same; and assuming that the receiving facilities are already properly staffed to perform their current mission; if only 74% of the current ATCOM workforce is retained and relocated, i.e., 2,880 will be performing the duties formerly performed by 3,902; then the statement contained in the DoD BRAC Report March 1995 becomes suspect: “...Vacating the St. Louis lease will collocate/consolidate similar life cycle functions at military installations for improved efficiencies and effectiveness”. It appears that the only savings that will be realized is the decrease in payroll costs. This savings could very likely be consumed and negated by the increased inefficiencies of not being properly staffed to

effectively perform the mission. Which would have the effect of degrading Army readiness. The above represents in reality a "best case" scenario. Real world expectations, are that only approximately 20 to 30 percent of the current ATCOM civilian workforce, could or would relocate to another geographical site. This means that approximately 780 to 1171 civilian personnel would be attempting to perform the duties which are presently being performed by 3902. Assuming that the mission and functions of ATCOM remain unchanged, it does not require rocket science mathematics to conclude that this situation results in neither savings nor efficiencies.

The only scenarios under which the present ATCOM mission and functions could be transitioned to MICOM (Huntsville, AL), and be effectively and efficiently handled, is for the Army to subsequently rehire experienced personnel, or hire inexperienced personnel and train them. If the present mission and functions of ATCOM are transitioned to MICOM, and can be effectively and efficiently handled by existing MICOM personnel, in addition to MICOM's present mission and functions; this means that MICOM is currently overstaffed. This then raises additional questions: not the least of which is, why is MICOM presently overstaffed? Why have they not previously been required to downsize like the rest of U.S. Army organizations?

Impacts - Economic and Infrastructure

The total annual payroll of the ATCOM civilian workforce is estimated at approximately \$232.0M. If one considers the multiplier effect, the total annual payroll impact would be approximately \$1.392B (utilizing a factor of 6), considering that these payroll dollars turn approximately six times. This does not even take into account the \$850.0M in annual vendor contracts, and the \$2.33M in local city earnings taxes that are generated by ATCOM, plus the State taxes for Missouri and Illinois. The DoD BRAC Report March 1995 does not address these rather significant hard dollar impacts, and their possible effects upon the St. Louis community.

The DoD and Department of the Army appear to believe that the infrastructure of the Huntsville, Alabama community can readily accommodate the relocated ATCOM workers. That is to say, the required and desired quantity and quality of resources exist (e.g., medical, academic, transportation, housing, etc.), which can easily accommodate the influx of approximately 2200 additional families. We here at ATCOM have yet to see any sort of study or analysis to document this fact.

Some Recommended Alternatives to Disestablishment of ATCOM

- The one-time upfront cost to disestablish ATCOM is estimated to be \$146.0M.

In the absence of complete documentation, one has to assume that this cost is comprised of all the costs associated with closing the facility: Reduction in Force

costs, personnel moving costs, shipment of household goods costs, etc. One has to also admit, that there are some hidden costs, which are impossible at this time to quantify: the elimination of a cost-effective command; the disruption of Army readiness; the loss of an already skilled workforce; the potential of having to eventually replenish the workforce previously lost. These are all costs which could be avoided by allowing ATCOM to remain intact. The Army, i.e., ATCOM, currently maintains 79% of the Pentagon helicopter fleet, and makes 85% of all helicopter purchases. Pentagon officials are presently considering the feasibility of allowing the U.S. Army to assume control of the military's entire helicopter inventory - including development, purchases, and training. If this were to come to pass, the existence of a highly-skilled and experienced workforce becomes even more critical.

- Has the Army ever considered simply purchasing the present facility from the GSA?
- The Army presently owns the Charles Melvin Price Center (CMPC) facility, located in Granite City, Illinois. It has also been recommended that this facility be closed. Has the Army ever considered relocating the ATCOM operation to this Army-owned facility

ATCOM
4-7
3 April 95

The Honorable Alan G. Dixon
Defense Base Closure & Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street, Suite 1425
Arlington, Va. 22209

Dear Chairman Dixon:

As an employee of ATCOM I would like to express my views and concerns before the BRAC. If possible I would like for the attached sheet to given serious consideration and placed in your permanent file on this subject.
Thank for your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely

Thomas R. Pastorius

THOMAS R. PASTORIUS

9443 TREFORE AVE.

WOODSON TERRACE, MO. 63134

(314) 423-2490

ATCOM BRAC COMMENTS

1. ATCOM is not a base closure but a disbursement of its function to other AMC sites. Since it is highly unlikely that many highly skilled people will actually move it will have a adverse effect on readiness. AMC alternative motive is to do away with about 2,000 jobs and blame the lost on BRAC. If implemented it would take a minimum of five years to recover. Can we afford to take that chance? The person who said that we are capable of handling two separate conflicts in two difference areas of the world at the same time must be praying an awful lot.

2. ATCOM complex on Goodfellow Blvd. was once owned by the U.S. Army. If the lease cost is a factor than have GSA give it back to the U.S. Army. If ATCOM is moved it will be highly unlikely that GSA could fine someone to move in and the other agencies here would also have to move because GSA would not keep it open just for them. I am sure Huntsville has enough government offices on leased property to fill up the vacant buildings at MICOM.

3. The U.S. Army in deriving its cost saving always look at the end result.* Then develops figures to support it. (Suggest an independent audit be done in the future).

4. The work force at ATCOM is a highly capable and motivated work force. ATCOM prides itself in the number of women and minorities its employs.

5. The local St. Louis area is economically depressed. Down sizing at Mc Donnell-Douglas and other local defense contractors have hit us hard. The ripple effect to other local businesses would be deviating. The City Of St. Louis would sustain a large dent in its budget (presently the city collect a one percent City Earnings Tax on each employee).

* AMC goal back in the mid-80's was "VISION 2000". Under "VISION 2000" all the NICP under their control would be located in Huntsville regardless of the cost (not savings) by the year 2000. It is now using BRAC to accomplish this.



THOMAS R. PASTORIUS
9443 TREFORE AVENUE
WOODSON TERRACE, MO. 63134
(314) 423-2490

3 April 1995

ATCOM
u-18

Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street
Suite 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Commission,

Over the weekend just passed, we here at ATCOM in St. Louis, had the opportunity to have an "Employees Forum" with Senator Dixon and Commissioner Kling. I want to thank these gentlemen, as well as their staff, for allowing this forum to take place and for attending. I understand that this was something that is not usually done, but we here at ATCOM thank you for allowing us to break new ground. Based upon the discussions of this weekend, I have some issues that I wanted to share with you. I realize that I have not been given all of the available information and, therefore, some of my numbers may be flawed, but I believe that the issues are still valid.

There are only two valid reasons for disestablishing ATCOM and moving the function to MICOM at Huntsville, Alabama. These reasons are either cost savings or military expediency. Ever since the announced closure of ATCOM, we have been reviewing the numbers used to justify this action. As was repeated several times over this weekend, the numbers just do not support closure. As the BRAC '91 and BRAC '93 studies showed, it is not cost effective to disestablish ATCOM in St. Louis and move the function anywhere else. There has been nothing occur here to make it suddenly cost effective to move the function. In fact, one of the primary cost savings claimed for this closure was due to the reduction of over 1,000 jobs. However, we have been downsizing and reducing personnel for several years and there are significantly fewer than 1,000 jobs that will be eliminated. Therefore, the savings are even lower than projected. While I have not been given the opportunity to review the supporting studies, I understand that this is only one of a multitude of errors within the justification. Some that have been mentioned are: 1) no cost included for certain pieces of the moves; 2) assuming that all personnel will move with their job; 3) no inclusion of tremendous PCS-associated costs; 4) (as noted above) overstatement as to the number of positions that will be eliminated; 5) mere transfer of some costs from the Defense sector to other Governmental sectors - no true savings; 6) short-term (and potentially long-term) unemployment benefits that will be incurred by the states; 7) no accounting for the costs of the loss of corporate knowledge; 8) resulting higher TDY costs from Huntsville as opposed to St. Louis; and, 9) the costs for moving SIMA were completely ignored.

As for military expediency, there were several valid points raised within the Forum and the most telling of these was the fact that not everyone will move with their function. If the people who are trained do not move with the function, by definition, the efficiency of the organization declines. If we at ATCOM do not do our jobs, the soldiers and pilots in the field are the ones who suffer. There is obviously no military expedient involved with this closure. In fact, several people pointed out the myriad of ways that the military will suffer, especially the soldier in the field. The estimated 5 year recovery time could be enough to cause loss of life.

If there is no economic rationale for the closure and the military function will suffer, then what could be the possible reason for considering the closure of ATCOM? The only answer is political expediency. Someone has a political agenda and the BRAC is being used as the cover for this agenda. I cannot separate Secretary of Defense Perry from his boss, President Clinton, and assume that everything within the Secretary's recommendations carries a political flavor.

Please look past the politics and consider the true value to the nation. If the numbers do not justify the move, please remove ATCOM from the closure list. Senator Dixon, in his closing remarks, stated that all of the 'easy' bases have already been closed and that only 'good' ones are left so that his job is not easy. The implication of his statement was that it did not matter whether there was an economic or military reason for the closures, but rather there MUST be a certain number of facilities closed. Are you really being required to recommend closure of facilities even if it costs the country more money? Senator Dixon implied that since the military had downsized 30%, that an equal number of military bases should be closed. While that may (or may not) be a valid argument, we are NOT a military BASE. We are a primarily civilian facility that supports the soldier in the field. We have undergone the same relative downsizing in strength that the military has. There has been a hiring freeze for almost forever and people are continually being induced to retire. With these things in mind, Senator Dixon's comments convey to me that the Department of Defense wants to close 'x-number' of bases and facilities regardless of cost or efficiency. Please do not allow them to be so naive. If the closures and realignments are not cost effective, and I really mean cost effective, do not let the Department of Defense do these things.

Again, thank you for the opportunity of writing to you and please pass along my thanks to Senator Dixon and Mr. Kling for their willingness to participate in the Employee Forum. I know it was not something that they really wanted to do nor was it something that they had to do. I appreciate them taking the time to hear from the people that will be most impacted by this closure.

Sincerely,



John Akery
519 Coachlight Lane
Hazelwood, MO 63042-1913

ATCOM 4/3

#3 Lomond Drive
Ferguson, Missouri 63135-1212
28 March 1995

Base Closure and Realignment Commission
Suite 1425
1700 N. Monroe Street
Arlington, VA 22209

To Whom It May Concern:

I am an employee of the U.S. Army Aviation and Troop Command (ATCOM), St. Louis, Missouri, which is being considered for closure as a result of the Base Realignment and Closure Commission's (BRAC) recommendation. This Command has made many contributions to ensure the readiness of the armed forces. ATCOM was in 13 contingencies of one form or another, both inside and outside the continental United States, and its ability to respond quickly and decisively proved its worth.

In April 1994, the United States turned over its Somali operations to the United Nations. This Command released AH-1F Cobras and OH-58C Kiowas in country to the UN and turned over Cobra gunships to Pakistani peace keepers. In Macedonia, ATCOM supported Operation Able Sentry with three UH-60L Black Hawks. In July 1994, the Operation Support Hope relief effort in the Republic of Rwanda, was reported by ATCOM aeromedical evacuation Black Hawks, OH-58D Kiowa Warriors, CH-47D Chinooks, C-12 Hurons, C-21 Utes and C-23B Sherpas. The Command has also sustained Army and Army National Guard forest fire fighting in California, Montana, Oregon, and Wyoming. ATCOM assisted in the Far East when tensions flared. They ensured that Black Hawks, Kiowa Warriors and AH-64-A Apaches were operational to meet any potential challenges in the Korean area. Again as part of an overall humanitarian effort, ATCOM supported the Dominican Republic. In support of Operation Uphold Democracy, ATCOM sent a tiger team to Haiti from the Cobra Product Manager to assist the 10th Mountain Division (light) Cobras, deploying on the supercarrier, USS Eisenhower. As another crisis stirred in the Persian Gulf, as Iraqi forces moved out toward the Kuwaiti border, ATCOM provided trained and experienced logisticians to serve in the Joint Logistics Support Element in Kuwait.

These are just a few of the contributions that this Command has made during the last year to not only the United States but the entire free world. HOW DO WE THANK THESE DEDICATED ATCOM EMPLOYEES RESPONSIBLE FOR THESE CONTRIBUTIONS? We put their existence in jeopardy!

To add insult to this situation, please read the enclosed article from the St. Louis/Southern Illinois Labor Tribune. Not only as an ATCOM employee facing future unemployment, but also as a taxpayer, the rewarding of private company top executives for nonperformance and mismanagement to the tune of \$31 million dollars of TAXPAYER'S MONEY is appalling. An interesting note in this scenario is that both Defense Secretary William Perry and his deputy, John Deutch, are former consultants for Martin Marietta. I believe this activity should demand immediate congressional review. The really sad part of this situation is that 30,000 employees lost their jobs and the incompetence of the company leaders was rewarded with the Department of Defense picking up a third of the bill. In a time where balancing our budget is getting so much emphasis, how can expenditures of this nature pass any kind of scrutiny?

Comparing the situations between the closing of ATCOM/Aviation PEO and the Lockheed Martin taxpayer rip-off leaves me disappointed and frustrated with our country and its political leaders. I implore you to come to the aid and assistance of ATCOM/Aviation PEO in their efforts to remain a viable and useful agency that benefits its employees, the greater St. Louis area, the United States, and the aviation readiness that influences the entire world.

Sincerely,

Mary J. Hieger

St. Louis / Southern Illinois

LABOR TRIBUNE

The official AFL-CIO newspaper now in its 57th year



920-M

VOL. 58, No. 31

Thursday, March 23, 1995

Tax money used to bolster bosses' bonuses after 30,000 are laid off

The Defense Department has decided to help pay the bonuses of the top executives of Martin Marietta Corp. and Lockheed.

By the way, 30,000 workers lost their jobs because of the merger. The combined bonuses are \$91 million and Defense agreed to pick up a third of it, \$31 million (Remember all the time that 30,000

workers lost their jobs because of this deal). Can you believe, bonuses for incompetents who led their two companies to virtual ruin because they wouldn't believe the abundance of defence contracts would lighten at the end of the Cold War? And worse, bonuses which the taxpayers are helping to pay? Whew!

Says Matt Bates of the IAMAW Communications Department, "You didn't even need a double digit I.Q. to know there would be a

See **BONUSES** page 4

Page 4

• Bonuses

From page 1

sharp downturn in defence contracts at the end of the Cold War. But those companies did absolutely nothing to move beyond hard core defence and into commercial and local community needs.

"Our union and other unions have been arguing since the '70s to provide a bridge for workers and communities which are heavily into defence. It would simply be good economics. Instead we got heavy-duty devastation (in this case, the layoff of 30,000 workers), devastation which could have been avoided.

"Both parties to this, Defense and the companies, should be ashamed," Bates says.

Both Defence Secretary William Perry and his deputy, John Deutch, incidentally, are former consultants for Martin Marietta.

This is an outrage: it is arrogant theft from the taxpayers, including the 30,000 who lost their jobs (and by the way, besides the \$31 million for the executive benefits, we will have to pay jobless benefits for the 30,000); and it is further proof that the only kind of "free enterprise" competition left in the nation is between a family-owned pharmacy and Wal-Mart, and between union workers and low-wage scabs.

Here are the numbers and addresses to "give 'em hell": White House Telephone Comment Line, 1-202-456-1111; White House mailing address, The White House, Washington, D.C. 20500.

BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION
SUITE 1425
1700 N. MOORE ST.
ARLINGTON, VA 22209

ATCOM 4/3

COMMISSIONERS:

As an employee of the US. ARMY AVIATION AND TROOP COMMAND (ATCOM), ST. LOUIS, MO, I would like to voice my concerns on the proposed BRAC decision to close this Command and the Melvin Price Support Center, Granite City, Illinois.

I am not writing this letter for myself, but for the remainder of people at ATCOM. This Command and the Melvin Price Support Center have made several major accomplishments over the past few years and I am afraid that our Defense Preparedness will be adversely affected by these closures.

There are several areas that can be alternatives to consider before the final decision is made for the closure. These areas I feel would cut costs and keep the jobs in the St. Louis/Granite City metropolitan areas.

LEASED PROPERTY - Consider moving the aviation functions to Scott Air Force Base, IL; Melvin Price Support Center, Granite City, IL, or to property located at 4800 Goodfellow Blvd., St. Louis, MO. Either one of these moves would eliminate the millions spent on leased property here at 4300 Goodfellow Blvd., St. Louis, MO.

TRANSFER OF TROOP ITEMS - Transfer of the troop support items to CECOM, TACOM, AND NATICK and keep the aviation items in the St. Louis area.

HUNTSVILLE ALA MOVE - The move to Huntsville, ALA will be costly to the Government when you consider moving expenses for each employee. It would cost the Government in excess of \$100,000 for each person to make the move to Huntsville. If 1,000 employees exercised their transfer of function rights @ \$100,000 each, the cost would be approximately \$10,000,000. These figures include the DARSE Program which would buy the employees homes here in St. Louis, MO. Since there is a housing shortage in Huntsville, is there a plan to expand housing for the employees?

COST OF MOVE - The cost of furniture/equipment to be shipped, moved and set up in a new location at Huntsville, ALA could escalate the costs. Have costs been estimated for each person to move?

I have looked at the minimum wage employees and contractor employees that provide support to us here at ATCOM, i.e. cafeteria workers, credit union workers, cleaning workers, gift shop workers, bureau of the blind workers, etc. and all will be affected by

the move and will not have jobs. Have these contractor/support personnel been considered in the closure costs.

These are just a few concerns I have regarding the proposed BRAC closure. We have not been given any specific information on the closure since it officially has not been announced that the closure will take place. Request that your commission would give the above concerns your utmost attention and not make a hasty decision.

April 1, 1995 (April's Fool Day) is a bad day for Mr.Kling to come visit the St. Louis area. It seems as though he is just going through the routine without any other considerations.

Thank you for your consideration.



CAROLYN LOVE
556 WIMMER PLACE
E. ST. LOUIS, ILL 62205 1821

5 April 1995

ATCOM
4-13

Honorable Alan J. Dixon
Chairman, BRAC
1700 North Moore Street
18th Floor
Arlington, Virginia 22209

Honorable Mr. Dixon:

I am writing to express my opinion regarding the proposed closure of the Aviation and Troop Command in St. Louis, Missouri, and the realignment and transfer of functions to Huntsville, Alabama.

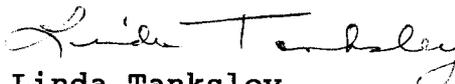
While I am an employee of ATCOM, my comments in this letter are expressed as a taxpayer of this country.

I have read all information furnished to employees of ATCOM, including the Army's Cobra Realignment Summary report, and have listened to facts presented at the 1 Apr 95 BRAC hearing here at ATCOM, which you and Mr. Kling attended, and have read the General Services Administration Position Support Paper. After reviewing all the data, the bottom line is: MOVING ATCOM TO HUNTSVILLE WILL COST THE TAXPAYERS MILLIONS OF DOLLARS AND THERE ARE NO SAVINGS IN THE MOVE ITSELF.

It appears the Army's decision to propose this move is an irrational decision which will not benefit anyone and certainly not the taxpayers who are funding the bill for the Army's unsubstantiated move.

I would request that you look closely at the reasons for the Army closing down ATCOM. Are these reasons factual and supported by true cost savings, or is the Army asking the taxpayers to pay \$146,000,000 for no return and no future savings value?

Sincerely,


Linda Tanksley
2529 Westmoreland Drive
Granite City, IL 62040

CF:
Senator Paul Simon
Representative Jerry Costello

ATCOM ① JAC 4/10

Honorable Alan Dixon
Chairman, BRAC Commission

April 4, 1995

Honorable Sir,

I am writing to thank you for your considerate attention to the issues relating to ATCOM's future status. Your attendance at our meeting April 1 was much appreciated and we are grateful for having had the opportunity to make our case to you first hand. I hope we appeared to you as the dedicated ATCOM employees that we are, but also as Americans who are taxpayers and who want our tax dollars wisely spent.

I have no further information to provide for your consideration as a part of the BRAC process, but I would like to emphasize two points which may bear repeating. First, the process which the Army used to place ATCOM on the recommended closure list was flawed and there are no cost savings or readiness benefits that would occur by doing it. Second, there is another agenda operating which for some reason has placed geographic preference above cost considerations, military value and readiness. I am confident that your careful and objective analysis will confirm this and a recommendation made which fully considers these facts.

Thank you again for your efforts on behalf of fairness, and thank you for making the BRAC process possible through your legislation.


Randall Britton
3661 Flad Ave
St. Louis MO 63110



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
200 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON DC 20310-0200
April 5, 1995



Mr. Edward A. Brown III
Defense Base Closure and
Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street
Suite 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Mr. Brown:

The enclosed was addressed and received by The Army Basing Study but the BRAC Commission is the intended recipient. Our ATCOM analyst has a copy.

If we may be of further assistance, please contact LTC Marriott, The Army Basing Study at (703) 697-1765.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL G. JONES
COL, GS
Director, TABS

Enclosure



ATCOM

4-24

Headquarters, Department of the Army
Office of the Chief of Staff
The Army Basing Study
Washington, DC 20510

16 March 1995

For the BRAC:

I am writing this letter to express my concerns regarding the recent decision to relocate the functions associated with the U.S. Army Aviation and Troop Command (ATCOM) and the U.S. Army Program Executive Office Aviation (PEO Aviation) to other facilities throughout the country. Since any decision by the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission is to be based purely on financial considerations I will not state the obvious, e.g. the impact to the families involved the local economies of St. Louis and Missouri.

Important aspects of this decision which I believe deserve particular scrutiny are the estimated savings to the U.S. Government and the Department of Defense (DoD) and the tremendous loss of expertise which will accompany a wholesale move of this magnitude.

DoD and BRAC has specifically targeted organizations occupying leased facilities, which ATCOM does. DoD wishes to claim the savings from the lease by moving ATCOM and PEO Aviation to DoD owned facilities. The fact that DoD leases these facilities from another Government organization, the General Service Administration (GSA) is not being considered. U.S. taxpayers will not realize any savings, but rather a tremendous cost from the loss of investment in highly skilled individuals, in the facilities they now presently occupy and the cost of relocating these organizations. The U.S. Government and DoD has and continues to invest millions in the personnel and the facilities of ATCOM and PEO Aviation.

DoD (ATCOM and PEO Aviation) has invested millions in the property and facilities ATCOM and PEO Aviation now occupy at 4300 Goodfellow Boulevard in St. Louis, much of this work continues today. Examples include improvement to the grounds and parking, resurfacing all the roof tops, tuckpointing to all the buildings, replacing flooring and moving and constructing interior walls, installing new workstations and modular furniture and installing a complete communications network.

Another fact lost in published reports is the tremendous amount of investment in the people of ATCOM and PEO Aviation. ATCOM and PEO Aviation spend millions each year training personnel. Many of these uniquely skilled civilians will not want to relocate their families and will look elsewhere for employment in St. Louis. ATCOM and PEO Aviation is much more than the contract clearinghouse portrayed in the press. ATCOM is highly skilled and motivated people who support "cradle to grave" the most modern, equipped, trained and capable Aviation Army in the world, as evidenced in the Persian Gulf conflict. Countless ATCOM and PEO Aviation civilian employees deployed with Army units in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Turkey and Iraq. Many civilians also deployed during subsequent crises in Somalia and Haiti and during several disaster relief operations in the United States.

I expect you, the BRAC Commission, to analyze in detail the cost/benefit of relocating ATCOM and PEO Aviation, anything less would be a disservice to the American taxpayers.

Sincerely,



Scot M. West
2744 Hawson Drive
St. Louis, MO 63125

ATCOM
4/21/95

1417 Olive Street
Highland, Ill. 62249
7 Apr 1995

Mr. Alan J. Dixon
Chairman, BRAC Commission
1700 North Moore Street, 18th Floor
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Mr. Dixon,

I am writing to you in regard to the closure and relocation of the U. S.. Army Aviation and Troop Command, ATCOM, in St. Louis, Missouri. I'm sure that this letter will probably be rather long and that you are undoubtedly very busy with all of your BRAC Chairmanship duties. However, I would appreciate it very much if you could spare a few minutes from your busy schedule to read the comments and concerns I have about the closure and movement of ATCOM and to pass these comments on to the BRAC commissioners and their staff.

These actions will greatly affect the lives of all ATCOM, as well as Charles Melvin Price Support Center (CMPSC), employees, their families and communities. For instance, I was born in and have lived in the Metro-East area all but six months of my life--and during those six months I lived in St. Louis County. I have worked at ATCOM for 26 years. This move, if I'm offered a job, will force me to retire or to leave my ageing parents, my fiance and numerous other relatives and friends while completing my career in Huntsville. But the issues involved are far more wider ranging than the impact, though great, on individual employees and their families.

As a resident of the St. Louis Metropolitan area, I'm also very concerned about the economic impact that this closure will have on St. Louis and the Metro East area, where I live. While the employees may represent only .5% of the Metro area employment force, according to an Army Materiel Command News release, the dollars represented by this loss are very significant. The loss of the \$232 million payroll equates to a loss of \$2.33 million in city earnings taxes alone. Annual vendor contracts amount to approximately \$850 million, and the total economic impact is said by the Regional Commerce and Growth Association to be more than \$2 billion per year. Also, a large number of layoffs in the private sector of the St. Louis area at this time are causing a further economic impact to the city. The take-over of National supermarkets by Schnuck's will cause an estimated loss of 1000 jobs and the closure of Pet, Inc. Headquarters a loss in May of another 550, while continued downsizing at McDonnell Aircraft and various divisions of Ralston Purina Co. further add to the total loss of jobs.

In addition to the economic impact on the entire Metropolitan St. Louis area, the ATCOM closure would have a devastating economic impact on the regional North St. Louis area where ATCOM is located. Small businesses in close proximity to ATCOM would be severely impacted. This is an extremely impoverished area with little business or industry, a high rate of unemployment and a large percentage of minority residents. It has been estimated that the minority employment at ATCOM is 30%, with ATCOM being by far the largest employer in the North St. Louis area. I am sure that the ATCOM percentage of the total work force in North St. Louis is much higher than the .5% for the greater St. Louis area. While I don't know the

residential breakdown of these employees, I do know that many of these employees live in the North city and county, as well as impoverished Metro-East areas.

Another issue, that I rather hesitate mentioning but which may have a bearing on why ATCOM is on the BRAC list, is the probable impropriety and possible illegality that is highly alleged to have occurred. Approximately two to three years ago allegations flourished that ATCOM was slated to be moved to Huntsville and that the Army Materiel Command general at that time, General Tuttle, was deeply involved in sizeable land acquisitions in the Huntsville area with the intent of reselling the land and/or homes at a profit when ATCOM employees were moved to Huntsville and land values were expected to increase. It was said that these land purchases were placed in family names as well and that General Tuttle was forced to retire over the issue.

The major reason presented by DOD for the ATCOM closure and transfer is the expenditure of \$7 million per year to lease the ATCOM buildings from GSA, which would not be required if moved to the other four Army locations. However, this money is in reality being transferred from one federal agency to another and, therefore, does not cause an expenditure of federal money. The savings portrayed by DOD are nonexistent and do not result in a savings to the federal budget or the federal deficit. The only way a savings to the budget could be realized is if the DOD budget is accordingly reduced each year by the projected savings or if GSA was able to lease this property to the private sector. There are a number of ways that a savings to these lease costs could possibly be attained for considerably less than the projected cost of \$146 million required to disestablish ATCOM and thereby result in a savings of DOD funds that could be applied to other DOD needs:

1. Try to negotiate a better lease agreement or the purchase of the needed GSA buildings, or consolidate functions into less leased space. It is apparent that manpower reductions can and will continue to take place and that less office space will be required. Plans are already in place to move all people currently in building 101 to building 104, which will free any lease costs currently associated with building 101. Finance offices which are now under Defense Finance Accounting Service (DFAS) and no longer a part of ATCOM are scheduled to move to building 110, while ATCOM people in 110 will be moved to building 102, currently occupied by other ATCOM functions and some DFAS personnel. Lease payments by ATCOM for building 110 will no longer be required at that time.

2. The buildings located at 4800 Goodfellow Blvd. are owned by the Army and currently unoccupied. Two of these buildings have been remodeled to modern office space and can accommodate an estimated 500 people. ATCOM people were previously located in these buildings. I believe there are other buildings at this location which could be remodeled, further reducing the amount of leased space required.

3. City property directly across and further down from ATCOM on Planned Industrial Drive may be available for purchase. Additional required office space could be built on these properties, if available. Also, the Army Reserve Unit located at the Army Reserve Center at 4301 Goodfellow Blvd. is being disestablished, and this facility could be used for ATCOM offices if the reserve unit scheduled to be transferred to this location was to remain at its current location or located elsewhere.

4. ATCOM could be moved to Charles Melvin Price Support Center in Granite City, either totally or partially, thereby also keeping this facility open. Per the Public Works Office at CMPSC, there is currently office space available to accommodate only 300 ATCOM people. However, there are facilities available that could be remodeled into two story office buildings,

and there is also land available at CMPSC on which to build. The CMPSC site would maintain our close proximity to the aviation community in St. Louis, Lambert International Airport and Scott Air Force Base.

5. ATCOM could feasibly be moved to Scott Air Force Base. There is Scott Air Force Base property available on which to build accommodations for ATCOM. There would be no purchase or lease fees, but utility charges would be required. While this would be an unusual arrangement, in many ways it makes a lot of sense. Close proximity to the St. Louis aviation community would still be maintained. During Operation Desert Shield/Storm, we were in daily contact with the Military Airlift Command to arrange rapid shipments to the Mid-East of helicopters, water purification systems and other essential equipment needed to achieve our mission. We have also been in frequent contact during times of natural disasters. During any future disasters or military actions, this close coordination would again be important to our success, and the close proximity of these commands within the St. Louis area is an added plus.

While suggestions 4. and 5. would understandably not be favored approaches by St. Louis or Missouri officials, I urge that these be considered as viable options to the DOD closure and relocation proposal if the lease costs remain an issue.

The DOD recommendation to disestablish ATCOM states that a savings of \$9 million will be achieved during the implementation period and \$46 million per year thereafter. This yearly savings, as portrayed by the COBRA Appropriations Report, is achieved through the reduction of personnel. These figures are, at best, misleading, since the continued defense downsizing will continue to reduce manpower at ATCOM even if it remains in St. Louis. Should the downsizing of ATCOM if it remains in St. Louis be one half of the cuts projected with the relocation, this would result in a reduction of projected salary savings by approximately \$24.6 million a year. When combined with the projected lease savings of \$7.6 million per year, which are non-existent savings, the DOD projected savings of \$46 million per year would be reduced by \$32.2 million, resulting in an actual savings of \$13.8M per year. At that rate, the return on investment would not be achieved for 10.5 years after implementation of the relocation. A downsizing of one third of the cuts projected by the relocation would result in a reduction to the DOD projected savings to \$22M per year, with a return on investment 6.7 years after implementation of the relocation. And these figures do not take into account any other discrepancies that exist in the DOD report!

St. Louis has long been noted as a national center of aviation. St. Louis history is so steeped with widespread, enthusiastic support of aviation and the development, production and sustainment of both commercial and military aviation that it has been dubbed the "City of Flight". From the early beginnings of aviation development in St. Louis dating back to at least 1830 to the production of the world's fastest jets, most advanced helicopters and our first spacecraft, this rich aviation heritage is unparalleled by any other city in the nation. I've attached a list of a few examples.

This vast array of aviation experience was one of the major reasons that the Transportation Corp Army Aviation Field Service Office, the predecessor of the aviation portion of ATCOM, was established in St. Louis in 1954. Other reasons were the centralized location between all storage facilities and both coasts and the security afforded by the central location during the Cold War period. The area also offered storage and relocation capabilities in the event of hostilities. One of the factors in locating army functions in various parts of the country was to deter multiple functions from being incapacitated at the same time do to hostile actions.

While the Cold War is over, the world is far from a safe one, given the capabilities and

activities of terrorist groups, the instability of the Russian Republic, continued atrocities in Bosnia and nuclear capability developments in areas such as North Korea, Iran and Iraq. I don't believe the original purposes of ATCOM'S location in St. Louis should be disregarded. The relocation of ATCOM would mean the immediate loss of the aviation experience available in the St. Louis community and the loss of many experienced employees and their vast corporate knowledge, including aeronautical engineers, who would not relocate to Huntsville. This loss would negatively impact our ability to perform our defense mission and could jeopardize our nation's security for a number of years, particularly our ability to equip and sustain our forces during simultaneous conflicts in two theaters.

Thank you very much for taking time to read this letter. Thank you also for coming to the ATCOM site visit with Mr. Kling, for attending our employee forum and for your sincere and honest comments following the forum regarding the BRAC Commission's responsibility. I would greatly appreciate your and the BRAC Commissioners' thorough review of all the data presented in our letters, papers and verbal presentations, which I feel sure will show that ATCOM should stay in St. Louis.

Sincerely,

Jeanette Schodroski

Six Sigma Corporation
Affordable Advanced Technology

ATCOM

4-17

11 April 1995

To: The Honorable Alan J. Dixon
The Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 North Street; Suite 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

Subject: Aviation and Troop Command (ATCOM) St. Louis, Missouri and
the Melvin Price Logistics Center, Granite City, Illinois

Dear Mr. Dixon:

As the owner of a small disadvantaged business operating in the St. Louis, Missouri area, seeking to support the operations of the United States Department of Defense (DOD), I am writing to urge that your Commission not accept a suggestion that ATCOM be relocated, or that its functions be dispersed to other locations in the United States, or that the Melvin Price Logistics Center in Southern Illinois be closed.

The United States Army, at both the Aviation and Troop Command, and at the Melvin Price Center, is, and has been among the few Defense installations making their home in the St. Louis/Southern Illinois area. By so doing, the Army, ATCOM, DOD, and the nation itself, have been the beneficiaries of a highly qualified, highly educated, and skilled workforce as has been available from the St. Louis/Southern Illinois area. Relocation / dispersal of functions would run the risk of losing a large part of this talented workforce.

It is my understanding that consideration has been given to moving either or both of these functions to other locations within the United States in past, and that each time it has been determined that there would be no financial or other benefits that would accrue to either the Army, DOD, or to the nation as a result of such relocation/ dispersal.

The St. Louis/Southern Illinois economy has been extremely hard hit in recent times by the downsizing of the Defense Industry, since the end of the cold war. It would be tragic if the excellent team making up the current ATCOM and Melvin Price operations were similarly decimated in anticipation of false economies.

I urge that your Commission not accept any recommendation to close and/or disperse the current ATCOM and/or Melvin Price operations.



Eli Sadon
Vice-President

cc: Honorable James M. Talent
Ms. Carole A. Mitchell, Small Business Specialist, ATCOM

ATCOM ① JAC 4/20

1470 Whirlaway Drive
Florissant, Missouri 63033
April 14, 1995

Honorable Alan J. Dixon
Chairman
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street, Suite 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Chairman Dixon:

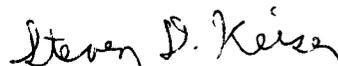
After attending the BRAC hearings held in St. Louis on April 1, 1995 and in Chicago on April 12, 1995, you have heard numerous challenges to the proposed disestablishment of ATCOM and the recommendation to transfer its functions to four different locations.

Although I seriously question the sagacity of the DoD recommendation to disestablish ATCOM, my only intent in this letter is to express my appreciation to you and the other members of the BRAC Commission for giving both expert witnesses and concerned ATCOM employees the opportunity to attend and participate in the Commission hearings.

In particular, I wish to thank you for providing ATCOM employees the opportunity to participate in the hearing in Chicago on April 12, 1995 in accordance with the originally established "ground rules" of one minute per speaker. Prior to the April 12 session, the rules had apparently been modified to allow two minutes per person. Although this change would have given each speaker more time to express his or her thoughts, it also would have significantly reduced the number of speakers. Through your Staff Director, I requested and obtained permission to revert to the originally established rules, thereby allowing 15 people, all of whom had made the long trip from St. Louis, the opportunity to speak.

On behalf of the entire group of ATCOM employees afforded the opportunity to voice our concerns, I would like to express my sincere appreciation for this change on our behalf. Thank-you.

Sincerely,



Steven D. Keiser

ATCOM
4-15

519-2 Pelican Cove Drive
St. Louis, MO 63031

16 Apr 95

The Honorable Senator Alan J. Dixon
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street, Suite 1425
Arlington, VA. 22209

Dear Mr. Dixon:

I would like to present to you a few items that I believe were not mentioned or were overlooked when you were at our installation the other day. The following facts have nothing to do with economics or any type of hardship to myself, other employees or their families. I believe the following to be factual and pertinent to ATCOM's closure.

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I am currently enrolled in school to obtain my Master's Degree in "Engineering Management" at the University of Missouri at Rolla (courtesy of the Federal Government). Numerous private sector aspects I have obtained knowledge in are in deep contrast with the way the government performs its business. One questions I pose, is there any value added by relocating this command? In fact if the situation were reversed the logical thing to do would be to combine and locate the various Directorates and/or Divisions to one location in order to improve performance and provide better communication. The private sector would term ATCOM as a Strategic Business Unit (SBU). Each SBU is responsible for its own unique operation or mission and are provided direction and goals by the higher command authorities (Army Material Command etc.).

I have been involved in aviation since I started flying just after high school. In fact I have my Certified Flight Instructor's License with Multi-engine and Instrument ratings. I have my Airframe and Powerplant License and was employed as a mechanic for a short period of time. I also have a Fight Dispatcher's License and Basic and Advanced Ground Instructors Licenses (all the above are associated fixed wing aircraft). Approximately one year ago I received a promotion to the Aircraft Handling Qualities Branch within the Aeromechanics Division. I quickly realized the enormous difference in Fixed Wing and Rotary Wing aircraft. The information gap between the two types of aircraft is slowly narrowing, but I have much to learn. I believe that there are a limited percentage of people in the U.S. who have the corporate or technology knowledge to execute the functions that ATCOM has been tasked to perform.

If the above is true, which I believe it to be, then the leap from fixed wing and rotary wing aircraft to missiles is absurd. There are minuscule functions or tasks that would benefit by combining ATCOM and MICOM. A missile and an aircraft are entirely two separate animals.

Also, if departments such as a Personnel Office, Travel Office, and Finance are to be combined for the St. Louis Metropolitan area, then there are no financial or functional benefit to the taxpayer by combining ATCOM and MICOM.

Intangibles - After I graduated from college I had several job opportunities across the nation. I chose to stay in St. Louis because I have lived my whole life here. I however sincerely believe that top notch graduating engineering students look at the attractiveness of the position but also the location of the perspective employer. I do not want to insult any Huntsville residents but they do not have the educational facilities, recreational facilities, professional sports franchises, a symphony, musical concerts, or an ARCH. It is these type of parameters I will look for in my job search if ATCOM relocates to Huntsville!

I would be more than happy to answer any questions regarding the aforementioned subjects. I can be reached in the day or night time at 314-263-0400 and 314-839-9293 respectively. Thank you for taking time to read this letter in regard to this very important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donald J. Freesmeier". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "D".

Donald J. Freesmeier
Aerospace Engineer

519-2 Pelican Cove Drive
St. Louis, MO 63031

16 Apr 95

Commissioner Josue Robles, Jr.
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street, Suite 1425
Arlington, VA. 22209

Dear Commissioner Robles:

I would like to present to you a few items that I believe were not mentioned or were overlooked when Mr. Dixon and Mr. Kling were at our installation the other day. The following facts have nothing to do with economics or any type of hardship to myself, other employees or their families. I believe the following to be factual and pertinent to **ATCOM's** closure.

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I would be more than happy to answer any questions regarding the aforementioned subjects. I can be reached in the day or night time at 314-263-0400 and 314-839-9293 respectively. Thank you for taking time to read this letter in regard to this very important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donald J. Freesmeier". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Donald J. Freesmeier
Aerospace Engineer

ATCOM
April 17, 1995
LPA

The Honorable Alan J. Dixon
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street
Suite 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Chairman Dixon:

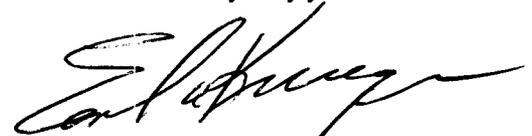
As an employee of the Army's Program Executive Office (PEO) Aviation, I am writing to express my concern for the proposed disestablishment of the Army's Aviation and Troop Command (ATCOM) in St. Louis, Missouri. I'm sure you are being inundated with letters from people who, like myself, are concerned about their future. Your task is an unenviable one, in that no matter what decisions you render, many good United States citizens will be hurt.

I know that you and your fellow commissioners have been briefed on the data (supposedly) utilized by the Army in their decision making process, but there are a couple points that I would like to reinforce. First, if the Army is so concerned about the use of leased facilities, why have they made no effort to move the Army's Missile Command (MICOM) personnel from leased facilities off post onto the Redstone Arsenal complex? The leased facilities they currently occupy are significantly more costly to lease than that paid by ATCOM, and the leaseholders are private interests--not another Government entity (GSA). It is also curious to me that the Army Materiel Command (AMC) is also housed in a leased facility with substantially higher lease costs than paid by ATCOM, yet AMC is not on the BRAC list. Could it be that the Army is 'cooking the books' to justify decisions made by the brass for reasons other than readiness and economics?

A second area that I would like to address regards personnel strength. It is my understanding that MICOM has employed personnel well in excess of its authorized strength for years. If this is so, why does it not make sense to do as the Air Force has done--reduce the number of personnel employed at a base without closing down the facility. It seems asinine to incur the nonrecurring costs of disestablishing a command, moving the personnel cross-country, and building new quarters for them, if greater savings could be realized by merely reducing the number of personnel employed at the facility, inasmuch as the only costs incurred would be for severance pay.

I ask only that you ascertain that you have all relevant facts before you render a decision. While it is true that I have a vested interest in your commission's decision on this matter, I can accept one that is harmful to me personally, if it is truly in the best interest of the country. I am confident that you will 'Do the Right Thing.'

Very truly yours



Earl A. Krueger
1805 Moonstone Drive
St. Louis
Missouri 63146

519-2 Pelican Cove Drive
St. Louis, MO 63031

17 Apr 95

Commissioner Wendi L. Steele
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street, Suite 1425
Arlington, VA. 22209

Dear Commissioner Steele:

I would like to present to you a few items that I believe were not mentioned or were overlooked when Mr. Dixon and Mr. Kling were at our installation the other day. The following facts have nothing to do with economics or any type of hardship to myself, other employees or their families. I believe the following to be factual and pertinent to ATCOM's closure.

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Sincerely,

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Donald J. Freesmeier
Aerospace Engineer

ATCOM ① JAC 4/20

519-2 Pelican Cove Drive
St. Louis, MO 63031

18 Apr 95

Commissioner Benjamin F. Montoya
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street, Suite 1425
Arlington, VA. 22209

Dear Commissioner Montoya:

I would like to present to you a few items that I believe were not mentioned or were overlooked when Mr. Dixon and Mr. Kling were at our installation the other day. The following facts have nothing to do with economics or any type of hardship to myself, other employees or their families. I believe the following to be factual and pertinent to **ATCOM's** closure.

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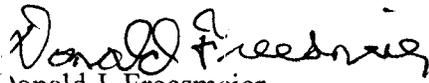
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Sincerely,


Donald J. Freesmeyer
Aerospace Engineer

ATCOM

19 April 1995

U-24

Base Closure and Realignment Commission
Suite 1425
1700 N. Moore Street
Arlington, Virginia 22209

Dear Commission:

I am an employee of the PEO Aviation, Utility Helicopters Office located at ATCOM in St. Louis, MO at 4300 Goodfellow Blvd. This organization is on the current BRAC List to realign to four different geographic areas.

The data presented by the Army that was utilized in recommending that we "realign" has been proven to be questionable, and at best sloppy. What follows highlights a few of these issues.

- True, we are a leased facility. But, also true, we pay less than any of the locations to which we/ATCOM are to relocate to. In terms of dollars, ATCOM only expends about \$1,831 per employee per year. And this is paid to another Government pot (GSA!). Whereby, MICOM (at Huntsville) expends well over 6 times this amount per employee. In addition, numerous MICOM offices are located "off-post". This fact brings up a whole new batch of questions!!

- The Army failed to adhere to the BRAC guidelines by not weighing ATCOM's military value. Of all the services, only the Army failed to follow the rules.

- Overestimated savings in terms of not only dollars but also personnel spaces. The manpower savings that BRAC outlines cannot be substantiated. Approximately half the personnel that BRAC "saves" have been/will be achieved via ATCOM's own budget guidance. Of course, these spaces convert to dollars that cannot be double counted.

The research has been done, the data evaluated, and presented. Now the time is nearing for the decision to be made. I can only request that you look at ALL data prior to making your decision.

Sandra H. Hurston

SANDRA H. HURSTON
5716 Biddeford Drive
St. Louis, MO 63128

519-2 Pelican Cove Drive
St. Louis, MO 63031

19 Apr 95

Commissioner S. Lee Kling
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street, Suite 1425
Arlington, VA. 22209

Dear Commissioner Kling:

I would like to present to you a few items that I believe were not mentioned or were overlooked when you were at our installation the other day. The following facts have nothing to do with economics or any type of hardship to myself, other employees or their families. I believe the following to be factual and pertinent to **ATCOM's** closure.

MILITARY IMPORTANCE - unless I am completely in the dark I know of no other entity in The Department of the Army that provides the following:

- Provide specifications or performance parameters for any new weapon system.
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- Provide engineering support for the entire Army fleet of aircraft during its entire life cycle.
- Coordinate and evaluate flight and ground test plans for modified aircraft and evaluate the results of these tests. In particular, the Special Operation Aircraft that would be utilized for covert or clandestine operations (which is a more likely occurrence in today's global environment).
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The majority of my civilian employment has been spent in the Competition Engineering Division ("breakout" - procurement of spare parts from other than the prime manufacturer). Our Division had to communicate and interact with both Material Management and Procurement personnel on a daily basis.

The Army now wants to scatter these three organizations to various areas within in the United States resulting in inefficiencies, lack of military readiness and compromise the Congressional mandated "breakout" program. Over the years numerous spare parts have been transferred from ATCOM to various procuring entities (i.e. Defense Logistics Agency), some of these parts have been classified and termed "Flight Safety Parts". The other procurement agencies do not have any idea what function these spare parts perform on the particular weapon system or aircraft (they do not know a helicopter rotor head from a toilet tissue roller). In fact these other agencies would turn right around so to speak and request Engineering Support from ATCOM. The delay in time and/or the lack of adequate communication hinders the whole procurement process with safety being compromised.

I am currently enrolled in school to obtain my Master's Degree in "Engineering Management" at the University of Missouri at Rolla (courtesy of the Federal Government). Numerous private sector aspects I have obtained knowledge in are in deep contrast with the way the government performs its business. One question I pose, is there any value added by relocating this command? In fact if the situation were reversed the logical thing to do would be to combine and locate the various Directorates and/or Divisions to one location in order to improve performance and provide better communication. The private sector would term ATCOM as a Strategic Business Unit (SBU). Each SBU is responsible for its own unique operation or mission and are provided direction and goals by the higher command authorities (Army Material Command etc.).

I have been involved in aviation since I started flying just after high school. In fact I have my Certified Flight Instructor's License with Multi-engine and Instrument ratings. I have my Airframe and Powerplant License and was employed as a mechanic for a short period of time. I also have a Flight Dispatcher's License and Basic and Advanced Ground Instructors Licenses (all the above are associated fixed wing aircraft). Approximately one year ago I received a promotion to the Aircraft Handling Qualities Branch within the Aeromechanics Division. I quickly realized the enormous difference in Fixed Wing and Rotary Wing aircraft. The information gap between the two types of aircraft is slowly narrowing, but I have much to learn. I believe that there are a limited percentage of people in the U.S. who have the corporate or technology knowledge to execute the functions that ATCOM has been tasked to perform.

If the above is true, which I believe it to be, then the leap from fixed wing and rotary wing aircraft to missiles is absurd. There are minuscule functions or tasks that would benefit by combining ATCOM and MICOM. A missile and an aircraft are entirely two separate animals.

Also, if departments such as a Personnel Office, Travel Office, and Finance are to be combined for the St. Louis Metropolitan area, then there are no financial or functional benefit to the taxpayer by combining ATCOM and MICOM.

Intangibles - After I graduated from college I had several job opportunities across the nation. I chose to stay in St. Louis because I have lived my whole life here. I however sincerely believe that top notch graduating engineering students look at the attractiveness of the position but also the location of the perspective employer. I do not want to insult any Huntsville residents but they do not have the educational facilities, recreational facilities, professional sports franchises, a symphony, musical concerts, or an ARCH. It is these type of parameters I will look for in my job search if ATCOM relocates to Huntsville!

I would be more than happy to answer any questions regarding the aforementioned subjects. I can be reached in the day or night time at 314-263-0400 and 314-839-9293 respectively. Thank you for taking time to read this letter in regard to this very important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donald J. Freesmeier". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "D".

Donald J. Freesmeier
Aerospace Engineer

ATCOM JAC ① 4/20

Michael Ruffus
1314 Mirandy Dr.
St. Louis, MO
63146-5450

Senator Dixon:

This letter concerns the proposed closure of the U.S. Army Aviation and Troop Command (ATCOM), in St. Louis Missouri.

Although I had the special opportunity to be one of the people chosen at random to speak to you and your staff during your visit to ATCOM on 1 Apr. 1995, I felt it was more important to limit my remarks during those precious two minutes to the most critical issue, that of the impact of the proposed ATCOM closure on the soldiers in the field

In this letter I would like to address one other important issue concerning the Troop part of ATCOM, and the proposal to send my element to the Tank-automotive Armament Command (TACOM) in Detroit MI.

Please allow me to reintroduce myself. I am currently the Weapon System Manager for over 150 different types of major items with an asset value of nearly \$1 B that are in the hands of Engineering units around the world. I will discuss the exact description of these systems later in this letter.

I know that one of the issues under consideration is the "benefit" to be accrued to the Army by having the Readiness (Supply, Maintenance, Acquisition, and Program/Weapon System Management) community co-located at the Research, Development, & Engineering community (RD&E) site.

This idea assumes that there are "one to one" relationships between the readiness and RD&E communities. That is simply not true. In fact here is a "one to many" relationship between I and my managers, and multiple RD&E communities.

It also ignores a very significant change in the way that the Army now "develops" acquires, and supports military equipment. Under the new DOD 5000 series of regulations, the emphasis is on the acquisition of commercial **Non Development Items (NDI)** for even combat Army units. **In other words, RD&E is to be done by private industry, and not government RD&E centers.** This is true for all of the equipment that is proposed for movement from ATCOM to four other sites, especially the equipment for which I am the primary Army manager.

Firefighting Equipment. We currently acquire both tactical and non tactical fire fighting trucks to protect both Army ammunition stockpiles in forward battle areas, and forward area aircraft landing sites. We are procuring this equipment directly off the production lines of commercial firms. We are performing the readiness mission with no major Army RD&E support. **Therefore there is no need to re-locate our ATCOM function to TACOM.**

Topographic Equipment. We are currently acquiring several major items of this type with an Acquisition budget of over \$40 M. As these items are commercial NDI items, the true RD&E effort is being conducted by two firms, Geotronics Inc. and Leica Inc. for their commercial and Army customers. Our Army technical support comes from the Corps of Engineers Topographic Engineer Center (TEC) in Alexandria VA. **Therefore there is no need to re-locate our ATCOM function to TACOM.**

Mine Detecting. We have recently fielded a whole new hand held mine detector to Army units worldwide. It is an NDI off the shelf item whose RD&E was done by Schiebel Inc. **Therefore there is no need to re-locate our ATCOM function to TACOM.**

Compressors. We are currently in the middle of a program to replace all of the gasoline engine driven compressors used by soldiers throughout the battlefield with diesel models that can be more easily supported by fuel common to other tactical vehicles. We are procuring and supporting a wide range of compressor types & sizes from a number of small manufacturing firms. These are all off the shelf NDI items where all of the RD&E work is done by the companies in Missouri, Kentucky, & Pennsylvania on their own initiative. **Therefore there is no need to re-locate our ATCOM function to TACOM.**

Bridging. Even bridging, which would seem to be a classic example of a military designed item, is not really dependent upon the Army RD&E community. The major bridge currently fielded that we support is the Medium Girder Bridge (MGB). The source of our RD&E support for ongoing major inspection, overhaul, and sustainment programs comes from St. Louis ATCOM sources and the original manufacturer, Williams Fairey Ltd. of the United Kingdom. The major new bridge that we will be bringing into the Army inventory in the year 2000, the Heavy Dry Support Bridge (HDSB), is also not truly dependent upon Army RD&E personnel. The German and British armies have just recently fielded HDSB bridge systems. The task before ATCOM is to select the best of these proposed bridges for fielding with our Army. **In other words, even bridging involves the acquisition of NDI equipment.** The RD&E for these bridges was conducted totally by the foreign firms that entered the design & production competitions involving the British & German armies. Even the U.S. Army RD&E and testing evaluation of these competing bridge candidates has been contracted out to Washington D.C. area firms like BRTRC, VSE Inc., and Vitro Inc. **Therefore there is no need to re-locate our ATCOM function to TACOM.**

The bottom line is that the vast majority of our RD&E supports comes from Army and/or commercial sources that are not located at TACOM, in Detroit MI.

I urge you to reject the Army proposal to move elements of ATCOM to Michigan, Massachusetts, New Jersey, or Alabama.

Respectfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Ruffus". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Mike Ruffus

Home Number (314) 432-2305

Commercial Office Number (314) 263-3266

DSN Office Number 693-3266

electronic mail *mruffus@st-louis-emh4.army.mil*

St. Louis, MO 63031

20 Apr 95

Commissioner James B. Davis
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street, Suite 1425
Arlington, VA. 22209

Dear Commissioner Davis:

I would like to present to you a few items that I believe were not mentioned or were overlooked when Mr. Dixon and Mr. Kling were at our installation the other day. The following facts have nothing to do with economics or any type of hardship to myself, other employees or their families. I believe the following to be factual and pertinent to ATCOM's closure.

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The Army now wants to scatter these three organizations to various areas within in the United States resulting in inefficiencies, lack of military readiness and compromise the Congressional mandated "breakout" program. Over the years numerous spare parts have been transferred from ATCOM to various procuring entities (i.e. Defense Logistics Agency), some of these parts have been classified and termed "Flight Safety Parts".

The other procurement agencies do not have any idea what function these spare parts perform on the particular weapon system or aircraft (they do not know a helicopter rotor head from a toilet tissue roller). In fact these other agencies would turn right around so to speak and request Engineering Support from ATCOM. The delay in time and/or the lack of adequate communication hinders the whole procurement process with safety being compromised.

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Donald J. Freesmeier
Aerospace Engineer

ATCOM

519-2 Pelican Cove Drive
St. Louis, MO 63031

21 Apr 95

Commissioner Rebecca G. Cox
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street, Suite 1425
Arlington, VA. 22209

Dear Commissioner Cox:

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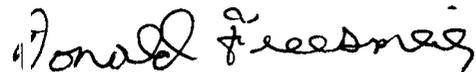
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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donald J. Freesmeier".

Donald J. Freesmeier
Aerospace Engineer

Title Insurers Agency, Inc.

Main Office
226 South Meramec - Suite 100
Clayton, Missouri 63105
(314)-721-2142
(314)-721-2179-Fax

ATCOM
11-21

April 21, 1995

Base Closure & Realignment Commission
Suite 1425
1700 North Moore Street
Arlington, Virginia 22209

RE: ATCOM Closing
4300 Goodfellow

Dear Sirs:

I am writing to the Commission in regards to the St. Louis Army Aviation and Troop Command's possible closing of the facility at 4300 Goodfellow in the City of St. Louis.

The site on Goodfellow is in the North City Area of St. Louis, which is depressed, and the residents are working on improving their area.

I am concerned as an owner of an apartment building in that area. We fight to keep up the area and if a facility as large as ATCOM is closed, it would be the straw that broke the camel's back. The area would become more depressed and definitely decayed. The decent citizens of that area do not deserve that when they are fighting to keep the area from further depression.

I understand the decisions will be based on what is good for the country, but indirectly the closing of this facility could hurt the country by adding depression and decay to another section of a large metropolitan area.

Eureka Office
223 Thresher Drive
P.O. Box 647
Eureka, Missouri 63025-0647
(314) 938-3711
(314) 938-3669 Fax

Hillsboro Office
10665 Highway 21
P.O. Box 424
Hillsboro, Missouri 63050
(314) 797-4113
(314) 797-3699 Fax

North County Office
10236 Cabot
St. Louis, Missouri 63137
(314) 868-0044
(314) 868-3469 Fax

South County Office
9966 Lin-Ferry
St. Louis, Missouri 63123
(314) 842-1551
(314) 842-1553 Fax

West County Office
14163 Clayton Road
#5 Clayton Village
Ballwin, Missouri 63011
(314) 394-8828
(314) 394-9179 Fax

Page Two
Base Closure & Realignment Commission
April 21, 1995

Would you reconsider the Goodfellow facility? Could you keep the operation open and even possibly merge some other operation into that facility?

We would appreciate the Commission reconsidering the Goodfellow site on all its merits.

I am a citizen who never writes about a controversy, but I feel very strongly about this concern. Thank you for your consideration.

Very truly yours,



Thomas C. Kurzenberger
President

TCK/smm

1470 Whirlaway Drive
Florissant, Missouri 63033
April 21, 1995

Honorable Alan J. Dixon
Chairman
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street, Suite 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

ATCOM
4-27

Dear Chairman Dixon:

After attending the hearings held in St. Louis on April 1, 1995 and in Chicago on April 12, 1995, you have heard numerous challenges to the proposed disestablishment of ATCOM and the recommendation to transfer its functions to four different locations. Based on the information presented in these hearings, we seriously question the sagacity of the DoD recommendation to disestablish ATCOM and transfer its functions to four other sites.

Although we recognize and accept the necessity of reducing defense spending and decreasing the number of military installations, we believe that the purported savings resulting from ATCOM's disestablishment are highly questionable. Furthermore, we recognize that numerous military facilities nationwide can and should be eliminated. If a specific function is no longer required, or if an identical function is being performed elsewhere, it is only logical to close the redundant facility.

However, in the case of ATCOM, there is no other facility performing the identical function. Since the Army's recommendation is not that ATCOM be closed, but rather that it be relocated to other facilities, the Army is implicitly acknowledging that the function performed by ATCOM is vital to its mission.

Apparently, the primary reason ATCOM is on the BRAC list is the fact that it is a **leased** facility. The Army clearly wishes to avoid the expense of leased space, which is logical and totally justifiable. However, as we discussed in our letter dated March 31, 1995, an alternate solution to the proposed disestablishment/relocation of ATCOM does exist. The alternate solution is to utilize the Charles Melvin Price Support Center to house ATCOM. As briefly summarized below, we believe this recommendation offers numerous benefits to the taxpayer, the Army, the St. Louis metropolitan area and ATCOM employees. Briefly, the benefits include the following:

- Constructing an office building on the Price Center would cost approximately \$50 Million, or at least **\$90 Million less** than the estimated cost to relocate ATCOM to four different sites as proposed by the Army.

- Travel time and transportation costs to and from Huntsville will be much higher than from St. Louis. Both the Government and Contractors would experience increased travel time and travel costs and decreased productivity, resulting in higher prices. The estimated impact of these additional costs is at least \$8 Million annually and an annual loss of 20 man-years in productive hours. These additional costs would not be incurred if the Price Center were utilized.

- There would be no impact to the readiness of the Army, as the Army would not lose significant numbers of highly trained, experienced personnel who would be unable to relocate.

O The loss of skilled personnel will also result in higher contract prices. This point was not discussed in our original letter, so we would like to expand upon it now. Although the Engineers and Contract Specialists in Huntsville are familiar with missiles, they are not familiar with helicopter systems and thus will not initially have the expertise necessary to evaluate whether costs proposed by contractors are reasonable. Although the impact of this loss of expertise is difficult to quantify, it could easily result in a five percent increase in contract prices, or more than \$40 Million the first year alone. There is no doubt that they would eventually develop the required knowledge, but it could cost more than \$100 Million in the process. This cost is in addition to the impact on readiness and safety caused by the loss of expertise.

O The economic base of the St. Louis metropolitan area would not be adversely impacted as people could remain in their chosen communities and continue to patronize the same business establishments.

O ATCOM employees would also benefit, as no employee would be forced to relocate and no employee would lose his or her career simply because of being unable to relocate.

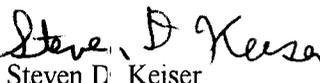
For a more detailed discussion of these and other benefits, please refer to our March 31, 1995 letter, a copy of which is attached for your convenience.

We sincerely hope that the BRAC Commission will give this recommendation serious scrutiny and consideration. We firmly believe that it offers the Army the economy it needs and avoids the potentially disastrous consequences inherent in the current DoD recommendations regarding ATCOM.

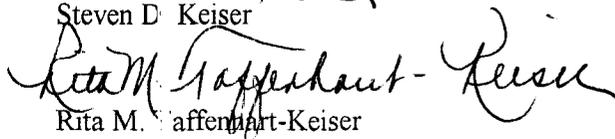
We are convinced that this recommendation offers a "win-win" solution for all parties for the taxpayer, the Army, the St. Louis metropolitan area and ATCOM employees. In other words,

The PRICE Is Right

Sincerely



Steven D. Keiser



Rita M. Gaffendart-Keiser

Enclosure

470 Whirlaway Drive
Florissant, Missouri 63033
March 31, 1995

Honorable Alan J. Dixon
Chairman
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street, Suite 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Chairman Dixon:

Your office has undoubtedly been inundated with letters requesting that the U.S. Army Aviation and Troop Command (ATCOM) be kept open at its current location. Most of these letters do little more than submit a "please don't let it happen" plea or demand that you take action to prevent the closure of ATCOM and also the Charles Melvin Price Support Center, located in Granite City, Illinois. None of the letters suggests any solution other than simply maintaining the status quo. However, the Army clearly wishes to avoid the expense of leasing facilities and is not likely to be convinced by emotional pleading to retain either ATCOM or the Price Center.

We are writing to suggest an alternate solution, which we believe the Army may be willing to accept and which would keep ATCOM in the St. Louis area. The Army wishes to avoid the expense of leasing, which is logical and justifiable. Our alternate solution would accomplish this, yet would prevent the significant personal and regional repercussions which would be caused by implementation of the current Department of Defense (DoD) recommendations to the Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC).

Our recommendation is to construct an office building on the Charles Melvin Price Support Center to house ATCOM. Since the Price Center is owned by the Army, no lease would be required. Additionally, since the Price Center is only a few miles from ATCOM, the St. Louis area would not be adversely impacted.

We believe this recommendation has numerous advantages, including but not limited to the following:

1. The cost to construct an office building and parking facilities would be approximately one-third the cost to close ATCOM and transfer its functions. The Army estimates that it will cost at least **\$146 Million** to relocate ATCOM functions to Huntsville, Alabama, and other sites whereas constructing a new office building on the Price Center would cost an estimated **\$50 Million**. This is calculated by multiplying the current Army allowance of 130 square feet per person times \$90 per square foot times the estimated 4,000 ATCOM employees, then adding additional expenses for parking facilities, etc. Thus, a new building on the Price Center would save approximately **\$100 Million** compared to the DoD estimate for closing ATCOM and transferring its functions.

2. Travel time and transportation costs to and from Huntsville will be much higher than from St. Louis because the St. Louis International Airport is a major hub, but the airport in Huntsville is not. Since most people traveling to or from Huntsville would have to fly through Atlanta, significant extra travel time would be required for connecting flights and layovers. Consequently, there would be a substantial loss of productive hours.

For example, in 1994, there were a total of 10,293 airline tickets used by ATCOM employees on official travel. If only two extra hours are required on each end of the flight, the 10,293 airline tickets used by ATCOM employees in 1994 would have resulted in an additional **41,172** non-productive manhours, or approximately **20 man-years** lost in 1994 alone. Per diem costs would also increase significantly, as the employee would be in a TDY status for a longer period of time.

Contractors will also experience an increase in travel time and travel costs and a corresponding decrease in productivity. These added costs will be passed along to the Government in the form of higher overhead rates or higher direct charges for travel as a legitimate cost of doing business with ATCOM. Even a modest one percent increase in contract costs would translate to an added expenditure of approximately \$8.5 Million annually.

Utilizing the Charles Melvin Price Support Center would avoid these additional costs for both the Government and the contractors who do business with the Government.

3. The Army would not lose significant numbers of highly trained, experienced personnel who would be unable to relocate. Thus, national security and readiness postures would not be jeopardized.

4. Since ATCOM's work force is approximately 30 percent minority, the Army would be able to continue its commitment to Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) goals. If ATCOM is closed and its functions transferred, the minority percentage is likely to decrease significantly.

5. The economic base of the St. Louis metropolitan area would not be adversely impacted as people could remain in their chosen communities and continue to patronize the same business establishments.

6. On a more personal or individual level, no employee would face the costly and traumatic process of uprooting and relocating.

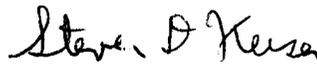
7. No employee would lose his or her career simply because of inability to relocate.

8. No employee would have to sell his or her home and buy a new one. In St. Louis, the selling price would be lower because of the sudden surge of available housing; but in Huntsville, the price to buy would be higher because of the demand for housing outstripping the supply. The simple economic principle of supply and demand will cause significant financial hardship for thousands of families.

We firmly believe that the recommendation to utilize the Charles Melvin Price Support Center offers the Army the economy it needs and avoids the disastrous personal and regional consequences inherent in the current DoD recommendations to BRAC regarding ATCOM. For these and other reasons, we believe that a move to the Charles Melvin Price Support Center would be eminently logical. In other words, "The PRICE Is Right."

Please ensure that the BRAC commission gives serious consideration to this suggestion. We are convinced this is a "Win-Win" proposition for all parties.

Sincerely



Steven D. Keiser



Rita M. Taffenhart-Keiser

519-2 Pelican Cove Drive
St. Louis, MO 63031

22 Apr 95

Commissioner Al Cornella
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street, Suite 1425
Arlington, VA. 22209

Dear Commissioner Cornella:

I would like to present to you a few items that I believe were not mentioned or were overlooked when Mr. Dixon and Mr. Kling were at our installation the other day. The following facts have nothing to do with economics or any type of hardship to myself, other employees or their families. I believe the following to be factual and pertinent to **ATCOM's** closure.

MILITARY IMPORTANCE - unless I am completely in the dark I know of no other entity in The Department of the Army that provides the following:

- Provide specifications or performance parameters for any new weapon system.
- Selection of the particular aircraft weapon system or device.
- Provide engineering support for the entire Army fleet of aircraft during its entire life cycle.
- Coordinate and evaluate flight and ground test plans for modified aircraft and evaluate the results of these tests. In particular, the Special Operation Aircraft that would be utilized for covert or clandestine operations (which is a more likely occurrence in today's global environment).
- Assist in the investigation of accidents or incidents involving Army aircraft.
- All segments and aspects of maintenance for the Army's fleet of Aircraft.
- The list could go on and on.

The majority of my civilian employment has been spent in the Competition Engineering Division ("breakout" - procurement of spare parts from other than the prime manufacturer). Our Division had to communicate and interact with both Material Management and Procurement personnel on a daily basis.

The Army now wants to scatter these three organizations to various areas within in the United States resulting in inefficiencies, lack of military readiness and compromise the Congressional mandated "breakout" program. Over the years numerous spare parts have been transferred from ATCOM to various procuring entities (i.e. Defense Logistics Agency), some of these parts have been classified and termed "Flight Safety Parts". The other procurement agencies do not have any idea what function these spare parts perform on the particular weapon system or aircraft (they do not know a helicopter rotor head from a toilet tissue roller). In fact these other agencies would turn right around so to speak and request Engineering Support from ATCOM. The delay in time and/or the lack of adequate communication hinders the whole procurement process with safety being compromised.

I am currently enrolled in school to obtain my Master's Degree in "Engineering Management" at the University of Missouri at Rolla (courtesy of the Federal Government). Numerous private sector aspects I have obtained knowledge in are in deep contrast with the way the government performs its business. One questions I pose, is there any value added by relocating this command? In fact if the situation were reversed the logical thing to do would be to combine and locate the various Directorates and/or Divisions to one location in order to improve performance and provide better communication. The private sector would term ATCOM as a Strategic Business Unit (SBU). Each SBU is responsible for its own unique operation or mission and are provided direction and goals by the higher command authorities (Army Material Command etc.).

I have been involved in aviation since I started flying just after high school. In fact I have my Certified Flight Instructor's License with Multi-engine and Instrument ratings. I have my Airframe and Powerplant License and was employed as a mechanic for a short period of time. I also have a Flight Dispatcher's License and Basic and Advanced Ground Instructors Licenses (all the above are associated fixed wing aircraft). Approximately one year ago I received a promotion to the Aircraft Handling Qualities Branch within the Aeromechanics Division. I quickly realized the enormous difference in Fixed Wing and Rotary Wing aircraft. The information gap between the two types of aircraft is slowly narrowing, but I have much to learn. I believe that there are a limited percentage of people in the U.S. who have the corporate or technology knowledge to execute the functions that ATCOM has been tasked to perform.

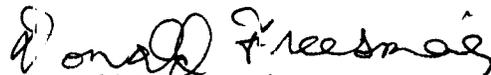
If the above is true, which I believe it to be, then the leap from fixed wing and rotary wing aircraft to missiles is absurd. There are minuscule functions or tasks that would benefit by combining ATCOM and MICOM. A missile and an aircraft are entirely two separate animals.

Also, if departments such as a Personnel Office, Travel Office, and Finance are to be combined for the St. Louis Metropolitan area, then there are no financial or functional benefit to the taxpayer by combining ATCOM and MICOM.

Intangibles - After I graduated from college I had several job opportunities across the nation. I chose to stay in St. Louis because I have lived my whole life here. I however sincerely believe that top notch graduating engineering students look at the attractiveness of the position but also the location of the prospective employer. I do not want to insult any Huntsville residents but they do not have the educational facilities, recreational facilities, professional sports franchises, a symphony, musical concerts, or an ARCH. It is these type of parameters I will look for in my job search if ATCOM relocates to Huntsville!

I would be more than happy to answer any questions regarding the aforementioned subjects. I can be reached in the day or night time at 314-263-0400 and 314-839-9293 respectively. Thank you for taking time to read this letter in regard to this very important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donald J. Freesmeier". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Donald J. Freesmeier

Aerospace Engineer

ATCOM
54

5825 Amber Place
St. Louis, MO 63128
May 3, 1995

Honorable Alan J. Dixon
Chairman, Base Realignment and Closure Commission
1700 North Moore Street, 18th Floor
Arlington, VA 22209

Dear Mr. Dixon,

Your job as BRAC Chairman is not an easy one. I ask that you divorce yourself from any political agendas and exam the facts regarding the closing of ATCOM in St. Louis objectively. I honestly believe that closing ATCOM and relocating a portion of the work force is not economically feasible and I am concerned that the readiness of the Army will be severely impacted. As an employee at ATCOM, my preference is for ATCOM to remain in St. Louis, my home for 44 years.

I hope that all the military downsizing is not occurring too fast and that our forces will remain ready and capable to respond as needed anywhere in the world. The Cold War may be over, but a threat still exists.

I've enclosed an editorial from the May 1, 1995, St. Louis Post Dispatch Newspaper which questions the viability in closing ATCOM.

In closing, I would like to thank you for allowing the employees of ATCOM to present their view points during the April forum and for taking the time to read this letter. Best of luck to you and the commission.

Respectfully,



Dennis L. Earley

MAY 15, 1995

THE POST-DISPATCH PLATFORM

I KNOW THAT MY RETIREMENT WILL MAKE NO DIFFERENCE IN ITS CARDINAL PRINCIPLES, THAT IT WILL ALWAYS FIGHT FOR PROGRESS AND REFORM, NEVER TOLERATE INJUSTICE OR CORRUPTION, ALWAYS FIGHT DEMAGOGUES OF ALL PARTIES, NEVER BELONG TO ANY PARTY, ALWAYS OPPOSE PRIVILEGED CLASSES AND PUBLIC PLUNDERERS, NEVER LACK SYMPATHY WITH THE POOR, ALWAYS REMAIN DEVOTED TO THE PUBLIC WELFARE, NEVER BE SATISFIED WITH MERELY PRINTING NEWS, ALWAYS BE DRASTICALLY INDEPENDENT, NEVER BE AFRAID TO ATTACK WRONG, WHETHER BY PREDATORY PLUTOCRACY OR PREDATORY POVERTY.

April 10, 1907

JOSEPH PULITZER

Founded by JOSEPH PULITZER
December 12, 1878

JOSEPH PULITZER, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER 1878-1911
JOSEPH PULITZER, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER 1912-1955
JOSEPH PULITZER JR., EDITOR AND PUBLISHER 1955-1986,
CHAIRMAN 1979-1993

MICHAEL E. PULITZER, CHAIRMAN AND PRESIDENT
NICHOLAS G. PENNIMAN IV, PUBLISHER
WILLIAM F. WOO, EDITOR
FOSTER DAVIS, MANAGING EDITOR
EDWARD A. HIGGINS, EDITOR OF THE EDITORIAL PAGE

00 North Tucker Boulevard 63101 • (314) 340-8000

EDITORIALS

A Persuasive Case For ATCOM

The Pentagon's proposal to close the Army Aviation and Troop Command in St. Louis (ATCOM) and the Charles Melvin Price Support Center in Granite City would hit the region hard. The facilities provide work for some 4,700 military and civilian employees, support another 3,000 to 4,000 jobs in the region and generate some \$2 billion for the area's economy. Naturally, civic leaders have geared up to reverse the decision. But their effort is not merely a parochial one. They have a case on the merits.

ATCOM is the central facility responsible for managing and supplying the systems that make up the Army's aviation capabilities, in particular its helicopter operations, as well as training the personnel to operate and service them. The Price Center functions as its administrative support arm.

A recent report from the General Accounting Office lends support to the heart of St. Louis' case. It questions how the Pentagon formulated its conclusions in respect to the 15 leased facilities on the 1995 base closure list. ATCOM and the Price Center operate out of space leased from the government's own General Services Administration.

The report admits there is some logic for the Army to view leased facilities differently from space provided on its own military bases. But it suggests that in doing so, the Army improperly departed from the procedures prescribed by the rules of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission.

Richard Fleming, president of the St. Louis Regional Commerce and Growth Association, made the same argument at a recent hearing of the base-closure commission. He pointed out that while the Army may be lightening its own burden — though

he disputed this point, too — the cost to taxpayers as a whole won't be reduced. The landlord for ATCOM and the Price Center is an arm of the government, and the costs it will bear from closing down the existing facility should be counted.

Mr. Fleming also disputed the Army's savings and cost estimates for the move, arguing that the former are vastly overstated and the latter seriously underestimated. The calculations are complex and subject to dispute, but his numbers are real. They are grounded in rigorous analysis done under the supervision of retired Army Col. Phil Hoge, engaged to aid the region's effort to save its military bases. As a former inspector general of the Army Corps of Engineers, he knows what he's talking about.

Mr. Fleming presented cost numbers showing that operating costs at the Natick Research, Development, Engineering Center outside of Boston, where much of ATCOM would be relocated, are 17 times greater than at St. Louis. Those figures suggest it might make more sense to move Natick's operations here and combine them with ATCOM.

Indeed, Mr. Fleming's numbers indicate that the St. Louis operation is also cheaper than those at the Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Ala., and the Detroit Arsenal in Michigan, which would also receive some portion of ATCOM's work.

The Base Closure and Realignment Commission may make changes in the Pentagon's proposals; then, its recommendations must be accepted or rejected in toto by the president and Congress. The commission should seriously consider the St. Louis region's arguments against moving ATCOM and the Price Center

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Missouri has itself into the r the state willin of government reproductive li

Senate Bill 2 an to get a perri unskilled, volur er" before seel voting for SB 2 islators have pa that will certai and expensive c garding its cons

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310



JUN - 1 1995

Honorable Alan J. Dixon, Chairman
Defense Base Closure and
Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street Suite 1425
Arlington, Virginia 22209

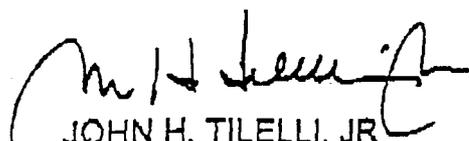
Dear Mr. Chairman:

We recognize that some of the more difficult decisions facing the Commission involve maintenance depots. Therefore, we would like to offer our thoughts on several options currently under consideration.

Closing Tobyhanna Army Depot would directly contradict the Army's military value assessment, stationing strategy and DoD selection criteria. Our military value assessment ranks Tobyhanna as the number one Army depot. It is the newest and least costly to operate. The Army's stationing strategy calls for the retention of an electronics-oriented maintenance depot in order to meet the battlefield demands of the future. A fully digitized Army prepared to exploit information-age technology requires Tobyhanna to service and sustain its equipment. During the BRAC 91 process, Tobyhanna successfully won four of its five bid packages against Sacramento Air Logistic Center. The cost to close Tobyhanna would be three times as great, and the savings would be about one-third as much as DoD's proposed realignment of Letterkenny. The Army is counting on these savings to leverage technology to build Force XXI. By any and all measures, Tobyhanna is an installation we must retain.

The Department's proposal to realign Letterkenny Depot preserves DoD's missile consolidation effort, achieves substantial savings for a reasonable investment and reduces overcapacity in ground equipment maintenance in the depot system. The alternatives to move missile maintenance to Hill AFB incur costs anywhere from four to nine times greater than DoD's recommendation with fewer savings. We do not see any advantage in this alternative.

DoD's current recommendations before the Commission eliminate excess capacity and save a substantial sum. They earned the support of the Secretary of Defense's joint cross service group for depot maintenance. We urge your support.


JOHN H. TILELLI, JR.
General, U.S. Army
Vice Chief of Staff


Joe R. Reeder
Under Secretary of the Army

June 9, 1995

Honorable Alan J. Dixon
Chairman
Defense Base Closure and
Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street
Arlington, Va 22209

Anniston
6-141

Dear Senator Dixon:

I am a registered voter and resident of Madison, Alabama. I am currently working at the National Sustainment Maintenance Manager Office in Rock Island, Illinois. On 10/MAY/95, the BRAC Commission voted to add our most cost effective and efficient Tobyhanna Army Depot to the original proposal of closing Letterkenny Army Depot. I fully understand that a mere inclusion of Tobyhanna Army Depot on the list does not necessarily mean the depot will close. The possibility that Tobyhanna could close adversely impacts the direct readiness of the active and reserve components.

Letterkenny Army Depot, McClellan AFB, and Sacramento Air Logistic Center rank below Tobyhanna Army Depot in facility upgrades, automation, skilled work force, efficiency and cost to accommodate Tobyhanna's workload. Tobyhanna has answered the challenge of all BRAC decisions, improving cost, force projections and overall military value to our war-fighters and operations other than war. Tobyhanna is the model of reengineering government for modernization, centralized logistics for interservicing, automation and overall government owned government operated efficiently. Tobyhanna has successfully demonstrated that a GOGO can effectively operate and compete with industry with a cost.

Tobyhanna is on the leading edge supporting and effectively carrying out our war commanders FORCE XXI and Installation XXI doctrine. Tobyhanna's geographically is in Pennsylvania with capabilities in Fort Hood, Texas, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, Germany, Korea. Tobyhanna has saved our Combat/Materiel Developers and FORSCOM millions of dollars supporting weapon systems in house.

I am confident as a taxpayer that Tobyhanna Army Depot has the capacity and capability to do electronic missile maintenance and accommodate DOD communication electronics workload.

I sincerely hope you will carefully consider your position on this issue.

Thank You.

Sincerely Yours,

Eldon R. Schipper

14 Jun 95

The Honorable Alan Dixon
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
1700 North Moore Street
Suite 1425
Arlington, Va 22209

ATCOM
6-23

Dear Chairman Dixon:

I am writing this letter as a follow-up to the BRAC hearing in Chicago, IL on April 12, 1995. I greatly appreciated the opportunity I was given to give a brief presentation (copy enclosed). While the other speakers addressed issues of readiness, cost savings, and base closure costs that are the most important criteria, they are not the only criteria. In my speech I addressed personal issues that should always be considered and should be the deciding criteria in any close decisions. Closing ATCOM/PEO AVIATION will personally affect many thousands of people. Most people will be negatively impacted by a move, some modestly but for some a move will be catastrophic.

The primary concerns I have with a move are medical and educational. I have three daughters who will turn 3, 5, and 7 this summer. A move would cause extreme difficulty because my two youngest daughters have two very different disabilities. Senator Dixon, as a grandparent of a child with a disability, I am sure you are sensitive and empathic to these issues. I will give some details that will illustrate my situation and may help others on the commission understand what is at stake.

The ARMY study indicates medical facilities are equal by comparing the military hospitals at Scott AFB, IL and Huntsville, AL. While these two facilities may be comparable this does not compare the complete medical facilities for each area. The St. Louis metropolitan area is over 10 times larger than the Huntsville metropolitan area and the number and quality of the medical facilities at Huntsville are vastly inferior to St. Louis. One medical complex in St. Louis is the Washington University, Barnes, Jewish, and Children's Hospitals and is rated as one of the top ten medical centers in the United States. Samantha, my middle daughter, has Down Syndrome and has had major heart surgery as well as other medical concerns. The heart surgery Samantha had is not performed in Huntsville and St. Louis is probably the closest medical facility that performs this operation. Gracie, who is my youngest daughter, has a unique growth problem for which we rely on Children's Hospital for their specialists and research to this day. Since Gracie is so unique anytime she has been sick the local hospital (which would be equal to any in Huntsville) has immediately transferred her to Children's Hospital. Gracie is the only one with her syndrome and currently is about 29 inches tall and 15 pounds (She will be 3 in July). Following is a list of the doctors and specialists that we see each year: cardiologist, endocrinologist, neurologist, genetics, dermatologist, physical, speech and occupational therapists, early interventionist, ear specialist, eye specialist as well as the normal pediatrician, dentist, and general MD. In addition we see other doctors and specialists on various occasions. Huntsville will not have the same specialists and expertise and that will cause us to return to St. Louis for treatment. This could possibly be

life threatening by not having specialist available locally, and at a minimum would be an extreme hardship.

A second concern is a good school district that will provide appropriate public education. While a free and appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment is Federal law (IDEA), actual practice shows in the case of a severe disability this rarely happens. In most states under 5% of the children with a disability are supported in regular classrooms. Currently in the United States the only group of students that are routinely denied attending their home school and being in class with their neighborhood friends are children who have a disability. My wife has worked very hard with our school district for the last four years to ensure all our daughters will attend their home school. This will be lost in a move and there is no way to transfer our efforts within our school district to Huntsville, AL.

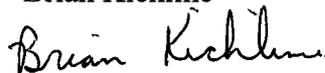
While my situation is unusual it is not unique. Many people face these issues or other personal issues. Another example is care for elderly parents. In St. Louis the age of the average employee is 45 which is the prime age of caretakers for aging parents.

I feel the issues of readiness, cost savings, and base closing costs will show St. Louis should not be moved. However if the numbers are close or there is some other agenda for closing St. Louis then I urge you to look at the cost of the personal issues. While it is difficult to put a dollar figure on the personal costs in a move, it should not be ignored or taken lightly. The concrete losses to a family unit are such that any move should be justified by an overwhelming cost saving.

I urge you to remember the thousands of families that will be adversely affected by a move. Please remove ATCOM/PEO AVIATION from the base closure list. If I can be of further assistance or provide additional information feel free to call. My phone number is 618-466-8038 (home) or 314-263-0465 (work). Thank you Commissioner Senator Alan Dixon for your considerations of these issues.

Sincerely

Brian Kichline



BRAC Hearing

Chicago, IL April 12, 1995

My name is Brian Kichline, I work in the Aviation PEO. This is my youngest daughter Gracie who will be 3 in July. As a parent of 3 children, two of whom have disabilities, a move would cause extreme hardship because of medical and school concerns.

Currently we are well connected at St Louis Childrens Hospital which is part of a top ten medical complex. The following is the minimum number of doctors/specialists that we see each year: cardiologists, endocrinologists, neurologists, dermatologists, genetics, eye & ear specialists, physical, occupational, and speech therapists, high risk newborn, pediatrician, and general MD.

A second concern is schools, and a child with disabilities ~~cannot just show up and expect to be enrolled.~~ While a free and appropriate education in the least restrictive environment is public law, actual practice shows in the case of a severe disability this rarely happens. My wife has worked the last three years to ensure all our children can go to the same school and a move will lose that effort.

While my situation is unusual, it ^{is not} unique. ~~I urge you not to move ATCOM and please don't forget there are many personal issues such as mine. Thank You.~~

Please don't forget thousands of families will be adversely affected. I urge you not to move ATCOM.

Thank You



ST. CLAIR COUNTY BOARD

ATCOM
6-3

10 Public Square • Room B561 • Belleville, Illinois 62220-1623

JOHN BARICEVIC
CHAIRMAN



(618) 277-6600
FAX: 277-2868

June 16, 1995

Mr. Alan J. Dixon, Chairman
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
1700 N. Moore Street, Ste. 1425
Arlington, VA 22209

Re: ATCOM/BRAC

Dear Senator Dixon:

I have reviewed both the Army and RCGA responses to the ATCOM closure plan. I certainly cannot remain neutral because of my position, but trying to look as objectively as possible, it seems obvious that the Army plan costs American taxpayers money instead of saving it.

I urge you to vote on ATCOM and to vote in the national interest which, I believe, is to keep ATCOM open.

Sincerely,


JOHN BARICEVIC, Chairman
St. Clair County Board

JB/ch

cc: Richard Fleming, President, RCGA
Mayor Freeman Bosley, City of St. Louis
Buzz Westfall, St. Louis County Executive

Document Separator

To all of you in the BRAC Commission,

I want to thank you for wanting to hear what we, ATCOM, had to say. I sincerely believe in this presentation. Moving from my hometown is of course a concern. There are a good number of us that would do a temporary move to give us years and age

to retire and move back to St. Louis. I want you to know, however, that those saying that we are ready and willing to move are not speaking for the majority of the employees. Those that spoke in this manner for the PEO have announced their retirement this year.

I was in Chicago April 12 and I know many of the facts presented to you to be true. Please do not close ATCOM.

Sincerely,
Dobos Schaumburg



**THE HUMANE SOCIETY
OF THE UNITED STATES**
2100 L Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037

The Humane Society of the United States, founded in 1954, is the largest organization in the world dedicated to eliminating all forms of animal cruelty, abuse and neglect. As a private, non-profit, charitable organization, The HSUS is funded by membership dues, contributions and bequests. The support and generosity of members and donors is entirely responsible for carrying out myriad programs protecting the lives of ALL animals.

PHOTO BY: RON KIMBALL

ATCOM
G-4

Dear Senator Dixon,

June 16, 1995

I am writing this letter to you and to the BRAC Commissioners and staff as a concerned citizen and an employee of the U.S. Army ATCOM in St. Louis. My name is Bernard Bauer and I lived in Belleville for more than 40 years. You may remember my father, Bernard Bauer Sr., who was a Democratic precinct committeeman in Belleville during the 1950's and early 1960's. He used to drive elderly people to the polls in an old black 1940 Ford. He drove that car until it became an antique!

I am writing this letter regarding the proposed relocation of ATCOM to several distant sites. I have worked as a cost analyst in the Directorate for Systems and Cost Analysis at ATCOM since 1980. The commands were named AVRADCOM and AVSCOM in earlier years. During my 15 years in cost analysis, I have become very familiar with the difficulties in preparing a reasonable and accurate

cost estimate or an economic analysis study. Over the years, I have found numerous errors, omissions and inconsistencies in various types of studies or estimates.

My primary assignments have involved validating cost and economic analyses.

I am aware that the Army is under a lot of pressure to cut costs anyway, where it is feasible, to do so. However, I believe the Army's COBRA study of ATCOM greatly overstates savings and underestimates costs. I strongly urge the BRAC Commissioners to carefully review the more detailed testimony presented by Mr. Richard C. D. Fleming to the BRAC regional meeting in Chicago on April 12, 1995. Mr. Phil Hoge worked diligently to prepare a realistic assessment of the costs and potential savings. Cost studies such as this require a lot of work in order to accurately compare the alternatives.

All cost comparison studies are really economic analyses and must be presented

in constant (base year) dollars. In order to properly compare alternatives, costs must be presented in discounted dollars. New-DOD discount factors were issued in March 1995 and are in effect through February 1996.

For a six-year study, the new constant dollar discount factor is 4.6% compared to 2.5% which was in effect from March 1994 to February 1995. These higher DOD discount factors will significantly reduce costs and savings shown in the out-years of any study. See the U.S. Army Economic Analysis Manual, August 1992, for further guidance on preparation of economic analysis reports.

Regarding the proposed merger with MICOM in Huntsville, currently only a very small percentage of ATCOM employees work directly with MICOM on missile procurement. Judging from the results of Desert Storm and other conflicts in recent years, the current working relationship between ATCOM and MICOM has proven very successful in provisioning the

Army aircraft (particularly the Apache) with deployable and effective missile systems. Why fix something that isn't broke and involves relatively few personnel at ATCOM?

The Army began the analysis of ATCOM by reviewing the costs of operating leased facilities. The fallacy in this analysis is that the U.S. taxpayers will have to assume the costs of closing a greatly improved facility in St. Louis which presently operates in a modern office environment. All Redstone Arsenal presently offers is a lot of empty space and a promise to build new facilities at taxpayer expense. While the Army may be able to cut lease costs, the U.S. Government will not realize savings. This illustrates one reason why Congress wants an independent commission to review Pentagon recommendations.

Proponents of the relocation and merger of ATCOM with MICOM state that the real basis of the move is the reduction in

personnel at ATCOM prior to merging. In doing any reasonable economic analysis comparing alternatives, it is essential to compare the real costs of each alternative. In comparing costs of a proposed merger with the costs of operating ATCOM separately, it is essential to look at the real alternative to the merger - a continued downsizing of both ATCOM and most likely MICOM.

The present COBRA study incorrectly compares the costs of merging with the STATUS QUO at both ATCOM (and MICOM). ATCOM is downsizing even as I write this letter.

When "early outs" were offered without bonuses in 1988 over 100 employees retired, about 775 employees left TROSCOM/AVSCOM in 1990 without incentives. When VERA/VSEIP was offered at ATCOM in 1993 and in 1994 about 900 employees left the Command.

This downsizing was accomplished without pressuring people into relocating or ^{else were} ~~to~~ their jobs.

Furthermore, the cuts were accomplished without any actual RIF of employees to the street. I believe that the Army will be able to obtain cost savings over the next several years by downsizing both ATCOM and MICOM in place - and avoid the tremendous costs and problems resulting from relocating roughly 7,000 employees and computers, etc. I know that ATCOM is already planning on reductions in personnel next fiscal year.

Another question about the proposed relocation of ATCOM involves the elimination of over 1,000 jobs at ATCOM only. No one at MICOM would lose their jobs in the merger. This sounds like a "corporate buyout" of "ATCOM Corporation" by "MICOM Corporation". Is this the way Government agencies normally merge? If a single corporation were merging two divisions, would only employees from one of the divisions take 100% of the reductions? Is this proposed merger fair to ATCOM employees and to the Army aviation community?

Relocation of ATCOM to other sites would result in the loss of many key senior employees who would retire or seek other employment. Remember that there are workers who chose to remain working at ATCOM even when VERA/VSEP bonuses were offered. Loss of these workers, including many under age 50, would decimate the Command and Army aviation operations. With relatively few ATCOM managers, supervisors and team leaders willing to relocate, a large portion of the management of aviation programs and displaced, transferring lower-gradual employees (who cannot retire or find suitable work in St. Louis) would likely be taken over by MICOM managers and ^(others) employees. Their knowledge of aviation programs, procedures, computer models used, etc. would be next to zero! I'm sure that MICOM would accept this responsibility, maybe reluctantly. The real issue is whether this is in the best interests in maintaining the strength and dependability of Army aviation!

Opponents of the relocation of Ft. McClellan to Ft. Leonard Wood stress the loss of readiness during transfer of the functions. The same argument also applies to relocating ATCOM functions - especially in regard to aviation systems.

The relocation of ATCOM would also create many hardships for employees, their families, businesses, etc. Many families would face the choice of having one spouse quit work and move or have the family split - one working at the relocated ATCOM site and the other staying in St. Louis (so much for family values!)

One benefit of relocating would be to increase employment opportunities for marriage counselors!

In 1990 when the relocation of AVSCOM and TROSCOM were first studied (VISION 2000) Senator Kit Bond stated that the proposed move was simply a relocation of thousands of computers from one Congressional district to another. I certainly hope that the proposed

more is not a form of compensation to Alabama political leaders for the potential loss of Ft. McClellan!

Today, many successful corporations are able to downsize without a massive relocation of workers. Look at McDonnell-Douglas in St. Louis - and the value of their stock today!

Many companies have employees who work even at home! Today, it is not necessary to locate all employees in one megacenters or military post. I personally have worked with people from distant locations, such as Ft. Eustis, Virginia in developing cost studies. Today we are able to communicate with various Government and private offices using new technologies - fax machines, video-conferences, E-mail, conference calls, etc. This avoids the time and expense of TDY trips. The era of the big castles is certainly over!

In summary, I sincerely believe that the dissolution of ATCOM and the transfer of its functions is not in the best interests of Army aviation or the American taxpayer!

Transferring functions will reduce readiness, increase costs and create hardships for many ATCOM families. ATCOM will lose the best employees to private industry!

Of any commissions or members of the staff doubt whether ATCOM or MTCOM can do anything in place in order to significantly reduce operating costs, I suggest that the BRAE Commission recommend that each Command contact a company such as

Maxwell Douglas to suggest ways to merge offices internally. ATCOM and its predecessor commands eliminated about 1,500 positions from 1988-1994 without actual RIFs!

Mr. Dixon, I sincerely hope that you will cast your vote on this critical issue. I have always treated you

judgment and integrity!

Sincerely,
Bernard J. Brewer Jr.

P.S. I always knew that no Republican would ever come close to defeating you in an election - not even Bush!

from you will be able to return to the "Contract" (see above)