

Executive Correspondence
DCN 7787

BRAC Commission

AUG 18 2005

Received

August 16, 2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi:

The undersigned retired General Officers have a combined 306 years of service in the Army's Signal and Intelligence communities, and have served in senior leadership positions within the DoD and at Fort Monmouth, New Jersey or in organizations directly supported by Team C4ISR at Fort Monmouth. We are intimately familiar with this critical area of the Department of Defense's (DoD's) mission, and are certain that relocating Team C4ISR to Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG), as contemplated by the BRAC recommendation, will have a direct, immediate and catastrophic impact upon the mission being performed by that organization in support of Army transformation and more importantly, the Warfighter.

In testimony before the BRAC Commission, the Army stated that the functions being performed at Fort Monmouth were "R&D" and "strategic" and that accordingly, the inevitable disruption to the mission that relocation to Aberdeen would entail could be managed without immediate tactical impact. This is not the case at all. Team C4ISR is responding to urgent requirements from units and commanders at every level worldwide *every day* and has been doing so with total dedication throughout the war in Afghanistan and Iraq. The organization would be decimated by attempting to relocate it to APG, and the impact upon the survivability and effectiveness of our Warfighters, in the midst of the Global War on Terrorism, would be devastating.

The findings of the National Defense University (NDU), DoD's premier academic institution, expressed in its 29 June 2005 letter to you, are entirely consistent with our assessment. NDU concluded that there is no core of C4ISR expertise or facilities located at APG, and that the vast majority of trained C4ISR personnel performing the mission will not relocate there. Experience shows that it would take at least ten years to reconstruct a viable C4ISR team. We, therefore, request that the BRAC Commission intervene to protect a world-class organization that plays such a critical role in meeting the C4ISR needs for the Warfighter of today and tomorrow.

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We firmly believe that Team C4ISR at Fort Monmouth provides the underpinning for the DoD's transformation goal, should be the cornerstone for Joint C4ISR, and totally supports the doctrine of NetCentric Warfare. At the same time, Team C4ISR is in direct support of the Warfighter in the field today. Therefore, we ask for your support for our soldiers on the battlefield today and those who will be on the battlefield tomorrow.

Sincerely,

/s/ *Emmett Paige, Jr.*

Emmett Paige, Jr.
Lieutenant General, USA (Ret)

/s/ *Robert E. Gray*

Robert E. Gray
Lieutenant General, USA (Ret)

/s/ *David J. Kelley*

David J. Kelley
Lieutenant General, USA (Ret)

/s/ *William H. Russ*

William H. Russ
Major General, USA (Ret)

/s/ *David R. Gust*

David R. Gust
Major General, USA, (Ret)

/s/ *Peter M. CuvIELLO*

Peter M. CuvIELLO
Lieutenant General, USA (Ret)

/s/ *William J. Hilsman*

William J. Hilsman
Lieutenant General, USA (Ret)

/s/ *Bruce R. Harris*

Bruce R. Harris
Lieutenant General, USA (Ret)

/s/ *William H. Campbell*

William H. Campbell
Lieutenant General, USA (Ret)

/s/ *Gerard P. Brohm*

Gerard P. Brohm
Major General, USA (Ret)

/s/ *Robert D. Morgan*

Robert D. Morgan
Major General, USA (Ret)

cc: BRAC Commissioners