

DCN 8237
Executive Correspondence



BRAC Commission

AUG 23 2005

Received

Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr.
Governor
Michael S. Steele
Lt. Governor
Arlis Melissaratos
Secretary
Christopher C. Foster
Deputy Secretary

August 23, 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 Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development notes the final volume of comment from New Jersey in regard to the relocation of Fort Monmouth's C4ISR functions to the Aberdeen Proving Ground. The passion of the articulated concern is fully understood and appreciated, and reflects the obvious loyalty to an organization with a long and proud history of service to the nation. That said, we believe the Army and Department of Defense have chosen wisely and deserve credit in regard to addressing the changes required for the nation to meet the demands of future combat with a more efficient, synergistic and coordinated approach to system development and fielding.

The Aberdeen Proving Ground has been identified as clearly the best in meeting Army requirements. Maryland stands ready to give full support, providing a workforce ideally tailored to the future, a quality of life second to none, and infrastructure that meets all future requirements. We will work closely with all impacted parties to make this as seamless a transition as possible.

Thanks to you and your fellow commissioners' for your continued professional and forthright approach to the difficult tasks before you. We wish you the very best as you conclude your efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Arlis Melissaratos". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Arlis Melissaratos
Secretary