

DCN: 8277

AUG 11 2005

Received

Charles Stevens
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Ballwin, MO. 63021

To: BRAC Commission

I work at the U.S. Army Security Assistance Command (USASAC-SL) located at 4300 Goodfellow Blvd. We have two other offices located in Ft. Belvoir, Va. and New Cumberland, Pa. Our job in St. Louis is Financial Managers for the Army's Foreign Military Sales (FMS) Program which means that we are paid from Foreign Purchaser funds not Army appropriated funds. Since my office is co-located with the Defense Finance and Accounting office and they were put on the BRAC list we are now deemed a discretionary site. Our headquarters at Ft. Belvoir was also on the BRAC and is scheduled to move to Huntsville, Al. I just learned that the Army recommendation to the BRAC is to also move my office with our Headquarters to Huntsville, Al.

I respectfully request your assistance to remove our office from the BRAC and keep us in St. Louis. Listed below are some points I would like for you to take into consideration:

USASAC as a whole operates from Administrative Funds recouped from FMS sales which means that our operation does not cost the taxpayer any dollars. How would moving us from St. Louis save the taxpayer or DOD any dollars?

The Arms Export Control Act specifically states that appropriated funds will not be used to subsidize FMS; therefore, I believe that it is illegal to use taxpayer dollars to pay for our move.

Since the recommendation is to move USASAC in St. Louis and Ft. Belvoir to Huntsville but leave New Cumberland intact it appears that Senator Spector in Pa. has an inordinate amount of influence over the BRAC process. It seems to me that if you are going to move an organization it makes good business sense to consolidate everyone at the same location.

USASAC's mission is to support our GWOT (Global War on Terrorism) allies and partnerships. Subjecting our office to moving to Huntsville will create a loss of over 85% of the expertise that takes on average 4-5 years to attain. Army accounting and FMS accounting radically differ since ours is done at the Country Case and Line level (and soon to be at the requisition level), where as Army appropriations are not. To further support our cause the DFAS-FMS unit here went under a re-organization and requested USASAC-St. Louis train their people, since they have been unable to master what we do. In addition, our office in New Cumberland and Ft. Belvoir does not have the expertise to perform our functions.

Our POM planning over the next decade will show a 25% reduction in the workforce via retirements supporting Army budgeting as well as USASAC budgeting initiatives. How

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can we support moving St. Louis to Huntsville and losing 85% of the expertise without any plan to recoup it within 5-7 years? How does that support our FMS customers who support our GWOT initiatives? Finally, in looking at our internal costs, our employees (30) average wage is that of a GS-9/11, whereas Ft. Belvoir is at a GS-13/14 and New Cumberland GS-11/12. By far we do the most work with the least amount of resources and scant funding. Moving us costs the taxpayers money and doesn't meet the following criterion set by the BRAC as follows:

Integrating Global Presence and Basing Strategies Further Transformation Maximizing Joint Utilization Converting Waste to Warfighting.

Thank you for your immediate consideration

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charles Stevens".

Charles Stevens