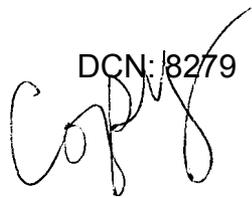


DCN: 8279


PO Box 126
Piedmont, SD 57769
3 Aug 05

President of the United States
Crawford, TX 76638

Dear President Bush,

We have major problems with BRAC. They are: (1) Disrupting arsenals, shipyards, and bases during a time of war; (2) Giving away important intelligence information to terrorists and enemies; (3) An inability to truly identify our threats; (4) Consolidating potential targets and losing competition between services by too much jointness; (5) Poorly considering specific data on military value and giving little attention to homeland security.

Here are a few examples:

1. War Material Interruption:

- a. Moving a one-of-a-kind shell casing manufacturing operation creating an unknown gap in production. (Ref. C-SPAN California BRAC Commission meeting video)
- b. Lack of TNT production. (Ref. Air Force Mag., July 05, pg. 50)

2. Intelligence:

- a. Missouri Commission meeting where a single vulnerable lock on the Mississippi river was divulged along with the fact we have only one small arms Arsenal near Kansas City. (Ref. C-SPAN Commission video)
- b. Oregon FBI agent speaking of I-5 bridges, dams on the Columbia river, etc.. (Ref. C-SPAN video)
- c. Senator Biden explaining how to kill 100,000 people by blowing up a chlorine tanker. (Ref. Delaware C-SPAN Video)
- d. A single location of white phosphorous and other production. (Ref. Army BRAC Report, pg. B-13)

3. Foreign Threats:

- a. China is building more submarines and tested a sub-launched missile JL-2. (Ref. Washington Times weekly, 27 June 05)
- b. China's GDP is now second in the world. (Ref. IEEE Spectrum Mag., June 05, pg. 27)
- c. Iran, North Korea, and Syria remain potential trouble areas. (Ref. Wash. Times weekly, 20 June 05, pg. 36,37)

BRAC Commission

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4. Consolidation and Jointness:

- a. History tells us consolidation of military forces in one or a few locations is not a good idea. (Ref. Movie Torah, Torah, Torah)
- b. Single location of a crucial technical asset is dangerous to national security. (Ref. Bombing of ball bearing factories in War II)
- c. Jointness has disadvantages in decreasing competition between military services. (e.g. Army special forces vs. Marines)

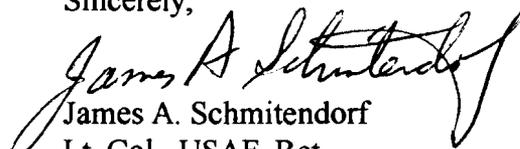
5. Poor BRAC Input:

- a. The National Guard and particularly the Air National Guard are upset about military value criteria being weighted in favor of active bases. (Ref. C-SPAN Commission videos)
- b. Many of the realignments move bases to southern temperate climates making for a fair weather military. (Ref. Military BRAC Reports pdf files)
- c. Most state governors are upset with the lack of consulting or coordination. (Ref. C-SPAN videos)
- d. Many State delegations claim several DOD criterion were violated (Ref. C-SPAN videos)
- e. Military BRAC studies were done primarily by installation personnel rather than operations people who were probably busy with the war. (Ref. Mil. BRAC reports organizational charts)
- f. Homeland security was given little credence in the study and many of the delegations questioned the cost savings. (Ref. C-SPAN videos)

Conclusion: BRAC '05 should be canceled until the Iraqi war is effectively over and new and more specific criteria guidance can be provided. Intelligence type items should not be in the portion of the study made public and states reminded not to reveal specific target information.

From a personal point of view it seems like we should be adding military machinery and duplicate some of the one-of-a-kind facilities. Previous BRAC's have already closed way too many bases. The federal government's main job is to provide security, not social services.

Sincerely,


James A. Schmitendorf
Lt. Col., USAF, Ret.

4 Aug 05

Dear Mr Principi

Here's a copy of
some input on BRAC.
Hope it is of some
use.

BRAC Commission

AUG 11 2005

received

Sincerely
Jim Schindler

The Fort should be on the hit list like the ones in other states. B.R.A.C. should see to it.

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Do she can keep Bully at the Fort open?

CUT THE FORT IN HALF WITH HELP

Adding to the water discussion

Hit'em in the pocketbook.

That is what an idea drafted locally by Judy Gignac, former manager of the Bella Vista Water Co. and a member of the Upper San Pedro Partnership, seems to be trying to do.

The proposal, which was sent to state Sen. Tim Bee, R-Tucson, last week to be included in legislation, aims at getting water users to conserve water by imposing a surcharge for those who use water excessively.

This proposal comes only days after Gov. Janet Napolitano said during her State of the State speech that she was ready to push for water conservation in our desert state.

The surcharge idea is logical and has worked in many locations. If you use the most water, you pay the most money. At this point, private well owners wouldn't be impacted by the proposal, if it was approved. It would be only those people who are on a water utility that services 25 customers or more.

The majority of the people in the state meet that criterion.

We're glad to see the proposal come from a local person who is looking at a solution to help spur water conservation in Arizona.

Water, as we've said before, is one of the bigger issues we as Arizonans need to address. Our state's future depends on us having a known and usable water supply.

Conservation efforts must get into place for our state to realistically prepare for the future.

Gignac, who also is a former member of the Arizona Board of Regents and Cochise County Board of Supervisors, is taking a chance with her idea. And chances need to be taken.

What we hope most is that this proposal will generate conversation in the halls of the state Capitol, where our legislators have not had strong enough conversations on the state's water situation.

With that discussion, we hope some solutions will be discussed to get our

15 of us drink coffee each morning

BRAC Commission

AUG 11 2005

8 Aug, 2005

Sir -

The B.R.A.C. can see for themselves what the Humacher & Castle & Coake & the Bella Vista Ranches think about keeping the Fort open. They know we don't know the value for the Fort, County or City to get bigger.

Ray Stinson is now running the Bella Vista Ranches company can buy the Bella Vista water company.

Sir, all they think of is getting the Fort bigger & build more homes. They talk Big, But lose less about 30-40 years from now. Castlet Coake don't even live here in Oregon sir. phoned again
I don't drink coffee
& 15 other coffee drinkers.

OUR READERS VIEWS

Growth is the one variable impacting the San Pedro

To the Editor:

This is reference to Bill Hess's article on July 31 about the debate over impacts to the San Pedro.

Hess stated the BLM manager and others are not jumping on the bandwagon to blame growth for the lack of flow at the Charleston gage. Surprise. Surprise. To expect bureaucrats to stick their neck out is expecting too much.

The article points out a number of factors that affect the San Pedro flow. Of course, drought, vegetation, degree-days and other factors affect stream flow at Charleston. I don't know an informed person that doubts that. To suggest otherwise is misleading.

Since the gauge went in at Charleston more than 70 years ago we have had comparable droughts, trees, heat spells and all the other variables mentioned, and, until this year, the San Pedro continued to flow at the Charleston gauge. That flow was sustained by the aquifer.

The one variable that has significantly changed is ground water pumping to support growth. We are continuing to pump more than is recharged to the aquifer. The U.S. Geologic Survey scientist Don Pool and many other informed hydrologists will tell you every gallon pumped from the aquifer and not recharged is a gallon that will not flow in the San Pedro. The hydrologist also will tell you that the San Pedro base flow is not primarily from surface water runoff. It is water fed from the

aquifer.

The bureaucrats and politicians will talk and study until San Pedro is as dead as the Gila or Santa Cruz because delaying means more growth, more money, more studies, and more promotions. Greed is a powerful motive.

Those of us who care about the river can act by supporting efforts to stop subdividing, stop new wells and stop meter hookups until the aquifer is in balance. If the laws need to be changed, ask the Legislature to change them. Support politicians that will request changes in the law instead of wringing their hands and crying "We don't have the authority."

Jim Horton
Sierra Vista

Sierra Vista should look at where it is heading

To the Editor:

What do Sierra Vistans want?

I was appalled when I read that Castle & Cooke had presented a plan to our city to build approximately 8,000 more homes! Why?

I've lived here since 1983, and the concern I have heard about most is the water levels and the San Pedro River. What will the impact of those many homes do to our area? Let's not forget that we do live in a desert. That means we get little water every year. That's important to remember — our rainfall will always be low and could get lower. We have to live with low rainfall and limited water availability.

The Palominas/Hereford area has boomtowned. They are having water problems. Just what do we in Sierra

Vista think will happen here when 8,000 more homes are built? And maybe there will be a hue and cry and only 4,000 homes will be built. That's still too many in my opinion.

Let's think about motive. Castle & Cooke's motive for building here is money. That's all, just making more money. Do you think they care about future problems for our city?

And, Sierra Vista's motive is probably money in the coffers — more people, more jobs, more tax money to use, etc. What about a healthy, safe environment? Stress-free driving? Good roads, little traffic? Uncrowded schools, low crime, a pleasant place to live and retire, etc.?

We all are familiar with what larger cities mean — more money needed for roads, schools, hospitals, hotels, restaurants, traffic jams, more problems to solve, more crime, more water, more electricity, etc. Is that what we want?

Jared Diamond's newest book, "Collapse," says three of the major reasons societies (Sierra Vista area) fail are environmental change, which also can lead to climate change and failure of the society to make wise choices as they see the environment changing.

Where are we heading? If we want to survive we need to adopt new rules for this area: curb/halt new home permits, keep more of our desert land for its recreational uses and beauty, put some curbs on current water usage — the fort did it and it seems like now it's our turn — and determine where our priorities are. Come on people, we can do this.

Barbara Heinrich
Sierra Vista