

AUG 17 2005

August 15, 2005

Received

Godissart

282 Ridgewood Drive

New Paris, PA 15554

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi, Chairman

Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC)

2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600

Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi:

I am writing to urge the BRAC to remove the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP) from the list of military facilities slated for closure. The AFIP is an irreplaceable resource for disease research and patient care. This exceptional institution not only provides outstanding service to our nation's military community, but also contributes significant knowledge and education to the broader medical field's understanding of human disease.

The AFIP tissue repository is a valuable national treasure that must remain accessible to researchers and experts in laboratory medicine. The AFIP's collection of specimens has helped medical professionals understand, develop vaccines and treatments for, and sometimes cure, often-fatal diseases. Access to both archived material as well as newly acquired specimens must be preserved.

Each year the AFIP issues hundreds of thousands of hours in continuing medical education to a diverse group of medical professionals that specialize in pathology, forensics, radiology, emerging infectious disease, renal disease, ophthalmology, and urology. In fact, over 7,400 medical and other health professionals alone were educated and trained in 2004 through a variety of AFIP-sponsored venues including live courses, seminars and Internet courses.

The AFIP's leadership in the area of education and training advances the knowledge base and ensures the competence of thousands of medical professionals. It would be a major loss to both military and civilian medicine, especially at this time, if AFIP's consultative services were discontinued.

Should the AFIP be forced to close, our nation would lose a valuable resource that plays a key role in the advancement of medicine and contributes knowledge to improve the health of our nation's citizens. First, I respectfully request, that the BRAC eliminate its recommendation to dismantle the AFIP. Second, I urge the BRAC to ensure that the integrity of the tissue repository is preserved.

Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely,



Annette Godissart MBA, BS, MT (ASCP)



BRAC Commission

Mills-Peninsula Health Services

AUG 17 2005

A Sutter Health Affiliate

Received

1783 El Camino Real
Burlingame, CA 94010
650.696.5400

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

8/15/05

Dear Chairman Principi,

I am writing to urge the BRAC to remove the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP) from the list of military facilities slated for closure. The AFIP is a valuable resource for disease research and patient care. This institution provides outstanding service to our nation's military community as well as contributing significant knowledge and education to the understanding of human disease.

The AFIP tissue repository is an invaluable resource that must remain accessible to researchers and experts in laboratory medicine. The AFIP's collection of specimens has helped medical professionals understand, develop vaccines and treatments for, and sometimes cure, often-fatal diseases. Access to both archived material as well as newly acquired specimens must be preserved.

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The AFIP's leadership in the area of education and training advances the knowledge base and ensures the competence of thousands of medical professionals. It would be a major loss to both military and civilian medicine.

If the AFIP is forced to close, a valuable resource that plays a key role in the advancement of medicine and contributes knowledge to improve the health of our nation's citizens would be lost. First, I respectfully request, that the BRAC reconsider its recommendation to close the AFIP. Second, I urge the BRAC to ensure that the tissue repository is preserved. I personally have found their services to very helpful in difficult surgical pathology cases that I have sent them in consultation also.

Sincerely,

Keith Duncan, M.D.-Ph.D.
Laboratory Director
Mills-Peninsula Health Services
1783 El Camino Real
Burlingame, CA 94010

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

August 12, 2005

Hyung Doo Chung, M.D.
915 North Grand Blvd
St. Louis, MO 63106
BRAC Commission

AUG 17 2005

Dear Chairman Principi,

I am writing to urge the BRAC to remove the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP) from the list of military facilities slated for closure. The AFIP is an irreplaceable resource for disease research and patient care. This exceptional institution not only provides outstanding service to our nation's military community, but also contributes significant knowledge and education to the broader medical field's understanding of human disease.

The AFIP tissue repository is a valuable national and international treasure that must remain accessible to researchers and experts in laboratory medicine. The AFIP's collection of specimens has helped medical professionals understand, develop vaccines and treatments for, and sometimes cure often-fatal diseases. Access to both archived material as well as newly acquired specimens must be preserved.

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Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely,


Hyung Doo Chung, M.D.

BRAC Commission

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Received

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

Dear Chairman Principi,

My daughter is a Pediatrician in the U.S. Army. I am a Manager in a Clinical Laboratory System. I am writing to urge the BRAC to remove the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP) from the list of military facilities slated for closure. The AFIP is an irreplaceable resource for disease research and patient care. This exceptional institution not only provides outstanding service to our nation's military community, but also contributes significant knowledge and education to the broader medical field's understanding of human disease.

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Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely,

Quin K. Barsh, MT (ASCP), MBA



**THE WESTERN
PENNSYLVANIA HOSPITAL**

FORBES REGIONAL CAMPUS

WEST PENN ALLEGHENY HEALTH SYSTEM

Department of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine

Phone: 412-858-2560; 2561

Telefax: 412-858-3264

2570 HAYMAKER ROAD, MONROEVILLE, PA 15146

412-858-2000

August 11, 2005

BRAC Commission

AUG 17 2005

Received

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

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Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely,

Carlos D. Bedetti, M.D.
Director of Laboratory

Nematollah Mirzabeigi, M.D.
Associate Pathologist

Anna Marie Contento, M.D.
Associate Pathologist

Shenandoah Valley Pathology Laboratories, Inc.

P.O. Box 3340 • Winchester, Virginia 22604-2540 • 540-536-8785

Stuart A. Monroe, M.D.
Robert C. Dillingham, M.D.

BRAC Commission

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Chairman
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2521 South Clark St., Suite 600
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Thank you for your kind consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Mathieu". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and a long, sweeping underline.

Catherine L. Mathieu, M.D.

CLM:dm