

# BRAC TASK FORCE WEEKLY UPDATE

Volume 1 – Issue 8

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## **THIS WEEKS EVENTS:**

The PIT-BRAC efforts at the 911<sup>th</sup> air show were outstanding and resulted in over 7,000 signed letters to BRAC Commissioner Principi regarding the closure of the 911<sup>th</sup> and the formation of a Joint Readiness Center on the 99<sup>th</sup> and Airport property. The public was extremely interested. Special thanks to State Representative Mark Mustio, Lowery and Mary Bailey, Dennis Weber, Joe Poznik, John Burris, Diane Litwin, Bart Farzati, Sally Haas, and others for joining Chip for two days of hard work in the sun getting signatures for the BRAC letter.

Efforts will be concentrated for the next two weeks in reviewing in detail the COBRA Data for all bases. A trip to the BRAC DC offices is planned for next week to brief any newly found information, to include the Economic Impact information, details on the 99<sup>th</sup>/Kelly moves, and some cost factors on possible 911<sup>th</sup> closure not accounted for by DOD.

## **Committee Reports:**

### **911th Committee:**

The 911<sup>th</sup> Committee is working on COBRA figures as well as researching other costs and statistics associated with COBRA data. We would also like to inform anyone that if you do not have a computer or access to a computer, and want to write the BRAC Commission at [www.brac.gov](http://www.brac.gov), you can come over to the BRAC Center and use a computer there. We have volunteers from 10:00 AM until about 8:00 PM that will be able to assist you. We are also open to any ideas or suggestions for future actions that we should look into or be pursuing and as always, new volunteers are

welcome. If you would like to review other regional hearings or the Washington DC hearing, you can do so at [www.cspan.com](http://www.cspan.com). A lot of people have been asking to see the UPMC video, and I would like to assure everyone that we are working on it. If you have any questions or comments, you can contact Carol Pirro at [cp263@comcast.net](mailto:cp263@comcast.net) or 412-787-0653.

### **Public Affairs Committee:**

**Media relations:** The Public Affairs Team responded to media inquiries regarding the Rendell / Specter / Santorum National Guard unit deactivation lawsuit against the Department of Defense, and also responded to general media inquiries from the Tribune Review, Beaver County Times/Allegheny Times, and WPXI-TV 11. Sally Haas appeared on WPXI discussing the impact of base closures to the Airport Area.

**Citizen Input to BRAC:** The PA Team's efforts are now focused on generating public input to BRAC from the Pittsburgh area. Letters from community members (over 7,000) were collected at the Air Show last weekend, and a table was set up and manned during County Chief Dan Onorato's Town Hall Meeting in Moon on Thursday. Local media are also being urged to run stories pushing citizen input to the BRAC Commission via letter and web.

### **Economic Impact:**

The Economic Impact Committee continues to analyze information that will further validate the large number of indirect job losses in the event positions are lost at our three facilities targeted for closure or reorganization.

**Hearing Visits:**

Visits have been made to most of the Regional BRAC hearings by members of the BTF. Videos of these briefings are on file at the BRAC War Room.

**Data Still Sought:**

Data pours in daily to the BRAC Library, and help is needed to sort through it. Representatives of the BTF are working closely with the consultant on COBRA data this week and finding numerous new irregularities that were not accounted for when DOD put forth its recommendations. Discussions of these errors will be part of next weeks meeting with BRAC in DC.

**BRAC Calendar:**

**July 18** - Sec. Def. testimony regarding installations on May 13 2005 BRAC Letter

**July 18** - BTF Steering Committee Meeting @ 10:00 AM

**July 19** - BRAC deliberation and vote on realignment and closure actions not on original list. Last date for an installation to be added to the list by the BRAC Commissioners.

**July 20** - BTF Task Force Meeting @ 5:30 PM.

**August 23, 24** - Anticipated time frame when the BRAC Commissioners will publish their draft recommendation list.

**Western Pennsylvania BRAC Task Force**

*This is the eighth of the weekly publications being brought to you by the Western Pennsylvania BRAC Task Force (BTF) from our Moon Township BRAC War Room. Anyone having appropriate information that should be considered for sharing with the BRAC Task Force Team should submit it weekly in time for Friday publication.*

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Users can click on the *Save Our Bases* link under the Spotlight section of the homepage