

BRAC TASK FORCE WEEKLY UPDATE

Volume 1 – Issue 9

July 22, 2005

THIS WEEKS EVENTS:

BTF members have prepared a plan for closure of Pope AFB and movement of Air Force Active Duty assets to Little Rock AFB. Our meeting on July 22 with the BRAC staff in Washington, DC was very successful. The plan included that all Reserve and Guard C-130 components slated to move to either of these bases be maintained at their present locations (Pittsburgh, Niagara Falls, Milwaukee, Yeager). All missions in support of the Army at Ft. Bragg would be supported by Guard and Reserve units on missions from their home stations. A detailed proposal was submitted with complete backup data and analysis to include cost references.

The meeting subjects also included:

- >Presentation of booklets and discussion of factors involved in the relocation of the Commissary and Exchange to the land at the present 99th RRC property,

- >The preservation or relocation into the Joint Readiness Center of the Neville Island Army Reserve Maintenance Facility,

- > A presentation with an analysis of errors in the Economic Impact analysis presented to BRAC by the USAF regarding the 911 AW,

- >The presentation of over 6,000 community letters to the BRAC Commissioners seeking reversal of the proposal to close the 911th and seeking support for the creation of a Joint Readiness Center.

Pope AFB, with a vote of 7-2, was added for closure rather than realignment. It took a 7-2 vote to add a base to the closure list. The Commission will reconsider the entire list on 22 August. It will take a vote of 5-4 to remove a base

from the list. If Pope is slated for closure, then the fate of the units to be moved there could revert to "off the list." However, the DOD can offer re-submittals to the Commission prior to 22 August. This list could include some late and reconsidered votes.

Committee Reports:

911th Committee:

The 911th Committee spent many long hours this week preparing documents to submit to the Commission. Again, many thanks for countless hours. I have received quite a few e-mails of appreciation from members of the 911th and want everyone to know that our work is not going unnoticed. So, again, thanks to all. Please continue to send comments to www.brac.gov. There is also still time to prepare and submit additional justification to the Commission. If you have any ideas or information, please contact Carol Pirro at cp263@comcast.net or 412-787-0653, or pitbrac@yahoo.com.

Public Affairs Committee:

PA Team activities this week included:

- >Fielding media requests for comment following the BRAC Commission decision on closure of Pope AFB (resulted in stories in Tribune-Review, Allegheny / Beaver County Times, and an on-air report by local NBC affiliate WPXI).

- >Preparing and delivering a letter to Sec. Rumsfeld signed by Pit-BRAC Co-Chairs Onorato and Langley and a related press release on availability of DOD data on the 99th RRC and the Kelly Military Support Facility.

- >Sending a release on the Pit-BRAC trip to Washington to brief BRAC staff and

deliver the more than 6,000 letters collected from the community thus far (resulted in interviews in the BRAC room by WPXI, Fox 53-TV, and KDKA and KQV Radio reports, and Allegheny / Beaver County Times stories).

Economic Impact:

An Economic Impact presentation was given to the BRAC Commission on Friday, July 22, 2005. Thanks to all involved for the hard work.

Joint Readiness Center:

The BTF has been asked for more cost to close information. All committee members will be contacted on Monday regarding a committee meeting to work on this task.

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:

Representatives of the BTF are working closely with the consultant on COBRA data supporting the Joint Readiness Center proposal.

BRAC Calendar:

July 25 - BTF Steering Committee Meeting @ 10:00 AM

July 27 - BTF BRAC 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 ninth 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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