


 A graphic with the text "BRAC TASK FORCE" in large, bold, black letters on a white background, and "WEEKLY UPDATE" in smaller, bold, black letters below it. The background of the graphic is dark and textured.

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July 8, 2005

**THIS WEEKS EVENTS:**

Several practice sessions were held this week in preparation for the July 7 Hearing in Washington, DC. The briefing team and Committee Chairpersons traveled to DC on July 6. The hearing was successfully completed as planned on July 7 at the Cannon House Office Building in Washington, DC after many days and nights of hard work. Everything went smoothly and the briefing copies and supporting documentation were all left at the BRAC headquarters after completion of the Hearing.

A hearty thank you goes out to all who worked so hard to make this last weeks' events come off so well. Although the actual workers may be few, their contributions have been enormous.

**BTF Meetings:**

Formal meetings were cancelled for this last week, but will resume on July 11<sup>th</sup> for the Steering Committee and July 13<sup>th</sup> for the BRAC Task Force.

**Committee Reports:**

For most, specific committee work turned into Briefing preparation work through the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend and this week. Committees will need to meet again on July 13 at the 5:30 meeting to plan for the next phase of our mission.

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 will be planned within the next 2 weeks to brief any newly found information, to include the Economic Impact information.

**911th Committee:**

First, as Chairperson for the 911<sup>th</sup> Committee, I would like to thank everyone working to save the base. I am sure I can include everyone when I say "we cannot express our sincere appreciation for all the hard work and countless hours the volunteers both from the 911<sup>th</sup> and the Task Force have put forth for this effort." Second, I would like to remind everyone who reads this newsletter to please send your comments to [www.brac.gov](http://www.brac.gov) Let's see if we can get a good campaign of e-mail to the Commission about the 911<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing. Some of the other bases on the closure list have shown a lot of support from their employees and reservists and we need to "**turn up the heat**" here at the 911<sup>th</sup>. Don't be afraid to express your opinions or ideas here. You just never know where the next good impression will come from. So, please take a few minutes and stand up for the cause. We will continue to work on this cause until the very last day. The next couple of weeks, we will look at statistics and keep sending information to the Commission. We still need volunteers.

**Public Affairs Committee:**

The Public Affairs team provided promotional support for the July 7<sup>th</sup> bus trip to Washington, DC. In addition, we provided media support for the DC hearing, which included interviews, media advisories, preparation and distribution of press releases, and media relations during the hearing press conference.

**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. Work will begin preparing for further arguments to be presented at visits to the BRAC Staff in Washington DC.

**BRAC Calendar:**

Tentative BRAC Schedules for Western PA:

**July 11-** 10:00 BTF Steering Committee meeting.

**July 13-** 5:30 BTF meeting.

**July 23-** Anticipated last date for an installation to be added to the list by the BRAC Commissioners.

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

**Western Pennsylvania BRAC Task Force**

*This is the seventh 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.