

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL OF CARPENTERS, AFL-CIO

United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America

Bob Burleigh
Council Industrial
Representative/Organizer
Northern New England



LOCAL UNION 1996
Maine New Hampshire Vermont

60 Industrial Drive
Augusta, ME 04330
Phone (207) 626-2943
Fax (207) 626-2945

July 25, 2005

Mr. Anthony J. Principi, Commission Chairman
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman:

As a former employee of the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard for 25 years, I am writing to urge you to reject the Pentagon's proposal to close this facility.

As you are aware, the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard is the preeminent ship repair facility in the country. It seems very short sighted to close the **only** facility with a record of delivering ships to the Navy ahead of schedule, under budget, and with a level of quality unmatched by any other shipyard. Our submarine sailors deserve nothing less than the absolute best maintenance we can provide, especially when it can be done more cheaply and faster at the Portsmouth Shipyard.

It is abundantly clear that the Navy has seriously underestimated the amount of capacity available in the other three shipyards. Should the Portsmouth Shipyard be closed, it will have a serious negative impact on the security of our nation. Since it is nearly impossible to replicate a nuclear ship repair facility elsewhere, and because once it is closed the shipyard can not be reopened, many of our submarines will undoubtedly spend months on end tied up to a pier awaiting repair work. Ships tied to a pier, offer no protection to the nation.

I appreciate your time in reading this letter, and am hopeful that you will support keeping the shipyard open and our submarine fleet properly maintained, when the Commission formulates its recommendation to the President.

Sincerely

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Mr. James T. Hill
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Hill:

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Mr. Lloyd Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Newton:

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Mr. Harold W. Gehman Jr.
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Gehman:

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Mr. Samuel Knox Skinner
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Skinner:

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Ms Sue Ellen Turner
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Turner:

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James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
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Mr. Phillip Coyle
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
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