



## BOROUGH OF RUMSON

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BRAC Commission

JUL 15 2005

Received

# Memo

**To:** Mr. Anthony Principi, Chairman of BRAC  
U.S. Senator Frank Lautenberg  
U.S. Senator Jon S. Corzine  
U.S. Congressman Rush Holt  
New Jersey League of Municipalities  
The Two Rivers Council of Mayors

**From:** Thomas S. Rogers, Borough Clerk/Administrator 

**Date:** July 12, 2005

**Re:** Opposition to the Closing of Fort Monmouth

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Enclosed please find a certified copy of a resolution, adopted by the Borough Council of the Borough of Rumson on July 7, 2005, opposing the closing of Fort Monmouth without the proper BRAC public hearing being held in the local area (not one hundred and seventy-five miles away).

We would very much appreciate your support in keeping Fort Monmouth from closing.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

July 7, 2005

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE REQUIREMENT  
FOR IN-DEPTH REVIEW BY THE BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE COMMISSION  
OF THE POTENTIAL ECONOMIC IMPACT ON COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY THE  
INCLUSION OF FORT MONMOUTH ON DOD PROPOSED CLOSURE LIST

WHEREAS, the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 stipulates that closure and realignment decisions must be based upon selection criteria developed by the Secretary of Defense; and

WHEREAS, the Final Selections Criteria requires the Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) to consider the economic impact on existing communities in the vicinity of military installations in its selection of military installations to be closed; and

WHEREAS, Fort Monmouth is the Army's premier center for research and development in communications, electronics, and network-centric warfare, supported by a highly educated, skilled workforce that have proven expertise that cannot be replaced by transferring their work elsewhere or by contracting out to private laboratories; and the loss of more than 5,300 people employed by Fort Monmouth due to closure will have a significant impact on the unemployment rate and tax revenues in the region; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Rumson is located two miles from Fort Monmouth's main gate; and

WHEREAS, the reduction of disposable income due to the closure of Fort Monmouth will impact Rumson's shops, restaurants, service establishments and business in general; and

WHEREAS, a reduction in spending of such a significant amount would likely cause some marginal business to fail, resulting in the loss in tax revenues, subsequently raising property taxes for Rumson residents and the business community; and

WHEREAS, BRAC elected to hold the required public hearing on the closure of Fort Monmouth one hundred and seventy-five miles from Fort Monmouth, thereby limiting public comment by Rumson residents and members of the business community;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Rumson, on behalf of the residential and business community of the Borough of Rumson that will be potentially impacted by the proposed closure of Fort Monmouth and that are precluded from attending the public hearing in Baltimore, Maryland on July 8, 2005, endorses that Department of Defense requirement for in-depth review by BRAC of its recommendation to close Fort Monmouth and the United States Government Accountability observation that BRAC has an obligation to use specific models for assessing the potential economic impact on communities affected by the closure of Fort Monmouth; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the community of the Borough of Rumson objects to the addition of Fort Monmouth to the BRAC closure list that is based on the Final Selections Criteria focused more on assessing military value based on military missions and operational capabilities without recognizing important support capabilities such as research, development, test, and evaluation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be forwarded to Mr. Anthony Principi, Chairman of BRAC; U.S. Senator Frank Lautenberg; U.S. Senator Jon S. Corzine; U.S. Congressman Rush Holt; the New Jersey State League of Municipalities; and the Two Rivers Council of Mayors; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be spread upon the minutes of this Borough Council meeting held on July 7, 2005.

The above resolution was moved by Councilwoman DeVoe, seconded by Councilman Kammerer and carried on the following roll call vote:

In the affirmative: Broderick, Conaty, Conklin, DeVoe, Kammerer and Rubin.

In the negative: None.

Absent: None.