DCN: 12480

STATE OF ARIZONA

JANET NAPOLITANO
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July 8, 2005

Admiral Harold W. Gehman, Jr., USN (Ret.)
Member, 2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Gehman:

On behalf of the State of Arizona, I appreciated the opportunity to testify at the BRAC Commission's June 24, 2005, at the Clovis, New Mexico, Regional Hearing, and am sorry that we were unable to meet personally.

Although it was entered for the record in Clovis, I am taking the liberty of enclosing a copy of my report to the Commission (Arizona's Report to the Base Realignment and Closure Commission, June 24, 2005) for your review. The Clovis hearing was a welcomed opportunity to testify on behalf of the State of Arizona, and provide a first-hand look at the pro-active steps taken at every level of government in Arizona to ensure the long-term operational viability of all military facilities in Arizona. In particular, though, I valued the opportunity to review the Department of Defense (DoD) recommendation regarding the relocation of the Air Force Research Lab in Mesa, Arizona, and to formally ask for the reconsideration of that recommendation.

As I stated in my testimony, the State of Arizona has been, is, and will continue to be extremely supportive of the military facilities in our State, the men and women who work at those installations and their families. A strong, continued military presence is a critical part of our long-term economic future, and our commitment to the security of the United States.

The constellation of military installations in Arizona provides the DoD with unparalleled access to high-quality, weather-friendly, cost-effective training for the U. S. Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps. The constellation is comprised of an integrated network of bases, testing and training facilities, ranges and airspace, anchored by the Barry M. Goldwater Range and its affiliated airspace, that operate within a physical environment that is uniquely suited to their individual and combined missions and to accommodate the Nation's evolving defense posture.

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We are very concerned that moving the Lab will result in exceedingly high relocation costs and the very significant loss of intellectual capital, technical and engineering expertise that would cripple the Lab's current function. Eighty percent of the Lab's employees have said they would <u>not</u> relocate.

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We do, however, recognize that an objective of the BRAC process is to reduce property holdings. Consequently, I offer to the Commission, that if the consolidation of functions and real estate holdings might preclude the Lab remaining in its current configuration, to facilitate discussions between the Air Force and Arizona State University that could result in a formal partnership to reduce DoD's holding costs and enhance the military value of the facility. After a careful review of the situation, I believe that we can craft a business plan between the two that satisfies DoD needs and precludes the degradation of the critical training and research work conducted at the Lab with their partners.

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Yours very truly,

Janet Napolitano
Governor

cc: Mr. Rory Cooper, Director of States and Communities

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July 8, 2005

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi
Chairman, 2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi:

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July 8, 2005

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner, USAF (Ret.)
Member, 2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Turner:

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July 8, 2005

General Lloyd W. "Fig" Newton, USAF (Ret.)
Member, 2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Newton:

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July 8, 2005

General James T. Hill, USA (Ret.)
Member, 2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

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JANET NAPOLITANO
GOVERNOR

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July 8, 2005

The Honorable Philip Coyle
Member, 2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Coyle:

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to meet with you on June 24, 2005, at the Clovis, New Mexico, Regional Hearing. I appreciated the opportunity to testify on behalf of the State of Arizona, and provide you with a first-hand look at the pro-active steps taken at every level of government in our State to ensure the long-term operational viability of all military facilities in Arizona. In particular, though, I appreciated the opportunity to review the Department of Defense (DoD) recommendation regarding the relocation of the Air Force Research Lab in Mesa, Arizona, and to ask for your reconsideration of that recommendation.

As I stated in my testimony, the State of Arizona has been, is, and will continue to be extremely supportive of the military facilities in our State, the men and women who work at those installations and their families. A strong, continued military presence is a critical part of our long-term economic future, and our commitment to the security of the United States.

The constellation of military installations in Arizona provides the DoD with unparalleled access to high-quality, weather-friendly, cost-effective training for the U. S. Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps. The constellation is comprised of an integrated network of bases, testing and training facilities, ranges and airspace, anchored by the Barry M. Goldwater Range and its affiliated airspace, that operate within a physical environment that is uniquely suited to their individual and combined missions and to accommodate the Nation's evolving defense posture.

Over the last 30 years, partnerships among DoD, the State of Arizona and local governments that neighbor military installations located in Arizona have resulted in an environment that enhances and improves the military value of those installations in joint training and joint war fighting. The State statutes enacted to ensure compatible development are used as models nationwide, and local planning and zoning decisions often exceed DoD policies. For

example, through legislative protections, Arizona has removed more than 32,000 acres from the threat of incompatible development in the area surrounding Luke Air Force Base – an area that is 150 percent the size of what is required under Air Force Air Installation Compatible Use Zones (AICUZ) methodology. State and local enhancements have effectively secured the ability of all installations in Arizona to successfully carry out their missions today and well into the future.

With regard to the Air Force Research Lab (Lab) in Mesa, Arizona has also taken proactive steps over the last 10 years to enhance its military value and its role within the integrated network of military facilities in Arizona. As I stated in my oral testimony, we believe that the reasons that led the 1995 BRAC Commission to reverse the recommendations to relocate the Lab in the 1991 BRAC Commission recommendations are even more accurate and compelling today.

- The Lab was largely a civilian operation well-suited to a stand-alone configuration;
- The Lab's proximity to Luke Air Force Base provided a ready sources of pilots who support research activities as consultants and subjects;
- The Lab's facilities were consolidated, secure and well-suited to research activities;
- The Lab's activities were consistent with the community's plans for redevelopment, which included a university and research park in place of Williams Air Force Base, which was closed in the 1991 BRAC round; and,
- The relocation and new facilities costs seriously exceeded original estimates.

During the last 10 years, the Lab synergies have grown to include military pilots from all services, the United Kingdom, Canada and Australia. In addition, the Lab synergies had grown to include the significant research and development activities on the Arizona State University Polytechnic Campus (ASU East), as well as the industrial, aviation-oriented work of eight private research institutions on site at the Williams Gateway Airport. There is also significant potential for expansion of the Lab's physical facilities at their current location to accommodate an expanded military research mission, with a private sector group in the final design stage of an adjacent Mission Training Engineering Center.

We are very concerned that moving the Lab will result in exceedingly high relocation costs and the very significant loss of intellectual capital, technical and engineering expertise that would cripple the Lab's current function. Eighty percent of the Lab's employees have said they would <u>not</u> relocate.

We strongly believe that it is in the best interests of DoD, the State of Arizona and our local communities to retain the Lab at its current location so that its function can continue unabated, its manpower and intellectual capital can be preserved, and significant relocation costs can be avoided.

We do, however, recognize that an objective of the BRAC process is to reduce property holdings. Consequently, I offer to the Commission, that if the consolidation of functions and real estate holdings might preclude the Lab remaining in its current configuration, to facilitate discussions between the Air Force and Arizona State University that could result in a formal partnership to reduce DoD's holding costs and enhance the military value of the facility. After a careful review of the situation, I believe that we can craft a business plan between the two that satisfies DoD needs and precludes the degradation of the critical training and research work conducted at the Lab with their partners.

Again, my thanks for the opportunity to meet with you. Arizona has a long and demonstrable history of providing DoD with unparalleled resources and an unwavering commitment to its missions and operations. Your time and dedication to this effort are truly appreciated, and I look forward to responding to any questions you may have regarding this letter, my oral testimony or the report I submitted for the record.

Yours very truly,

Janet Napolitano
Governor

Cc: Mr. Rory Cooper, Director of States and Communities

DCN: 12480

STATE OF ARIZONA

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July 8, 2005

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner
Member, 2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Skinner:

On behalf of the State of Arizona, I appreciated the opportunity to testify at the BRAC Commission's June 24, 2005, at the Clovis, New Mexico, Regional Hearing, and am sorry that we were unable to meet personally.

Although it was entered for the record in Clovis, I am taking the liberty of enclosing a copy of my report to the Commission (Arizona's Report to the Base Realignment and Closure Commission, June 24, 2005) for your review. The Clovis hearing was a welcomed opportunity to testify on behalf of the State of Arizona, and provide a first-hand look at the pro-active steps taken at every level of government in Arizona to ensure the long-term operational viability of all military facilities in Arizona. In particular, though, I valued the opportunity to review the Department of Defense (DoD) recommendation regarding the relocation of the Air Force Research Lab in Mesa, Arizona, and to formally ask for the reconsideration of that recommendation.

As I stated in my testimony, the State of Arizona has been, is, and will continue to be extremely supportive of the military facilities in our State, the men and women who work at those installations and their families. A strong, continued military presence is a critical part of our long-term economic future, and our commitment to the security of the United States.

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Over the last 30 years, partnerships among DoD, the State of Arizona and local governments that neighbor military installations located in Arizona have resulted in an environment that enhances and improves the military value of those installations in joint training and joint war fighting. The State statutes enacted to ensure compatible development are used as models nationwide, and local planning and zoning decisions often exceed DoD policies. For example, through legislative protections, Arizona has removed more than 32,000 acres from the threat of incompatible development in the area surrounding Luke Air Force Base – an area that is 150 percent the size of what is required under Air Force Air Installation Compatible Use Zones (AICUZ) methodology. State and local enhancements have effectively secured the ability of all installations in Arizona to successfully carry out their missions today and well into the future.

With regard to the Air Force Research Lab (Lab) in Mesa, Arizona has also taken proactive steps over the last 10 years to enhance its military value and its role within the integrated network of military facilities in Arizona. As I stated in my oral testimony, we believe that the reasons that led the 1995 BRAC Commission to reverse the recommendations to relocate the Lab in the 1991 BRAC Commission recommendations are even more accurate and compelling today.

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We are very concerned that moving the Lab will result in exceedingly high relocation costs and the very significant loss of intellectual capital, technical and engineering expertise that would cripple the Lab's current function. Eighty percent of the Lab's employees have said they would <u>not</u> relocate.

We strongly believe that it is in the best interests of DoD, the State of Arizona and our local communities to retain the Lab at its current location so that its function can continue unabated, its manpower and intellectual capital can be preserved, and significant relocation costs can be avoided.

We do, however, recognize that an objective of the BRAC process is to reduce property holdings. Consequently, I offer to the Commission, that if the consolidation of functions and real estate holdings might preclude the Lab remaining in its current configuration, to facilitate discussions between the Air Force and Arizona State University that could result in a formal partnership to reduce DoD's holding costs and enhance the military value of the facility. After a careful review of the situation, I believe that we can craft a business plan between the two that satisfies DoD needs and precludes the degradation of the critical training and research work conducted at the Lab with their partners.

Arizona has a long and demonstrable history of providing DoD with unparalleled resources and an unwavering commitment to its missions and operations. Your time and dedication to this effort are truly appreciated, and I look forward to responding to any questions you may have regarding this letter, my oral testimony or the report I submitted for the record.

Yours very truly,

Janet Napolitano
Governor

cc: Mr. Rory Cooper, Director of States and Communities

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July 8, 2005

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
Member, 2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

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Yours very truly,

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