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NAVAL SURFACE WARFARE CENTER DAHLGREN, VA **REALIGNMENT ISSUES**

FOR

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BY

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Objectives

To discuss 2 DoD BRAC recommendations affecting Dahlgren and gain BRAC Commission support for their reversal.

- Relocating guns and ammo RD&A from Dahlgren, VA to Picatinny Arsenal, NJ
- Relocating non-medical Chem/Bio RD&A from Dahlgren, VA to Aberdeen, MD

Issue 1: Guns and Ammo

DOD Recommendation

- Realign NSWC Dahlgren by relocating Guns and Ammo RD&A to Picatinny Arsenal, NJ
 - 1 of 8 gun and ammo realignments to Picatinny

DOD Justification

- Realigns and consolidates Gun & Ammo facilities in W&A in RD&A
- More Robust Joint Center for Guns & Ammo at Picatinny
- Picatinny – greatest concentration of military value
- Promotes Jointness, enables technical synergy
- Positions DoD to exploit Center-of-Mass Scientific, Technical, & Acquisition Expertise

Guns and Ammo

To Guide Analysis & Recommendations, Technical Joint Cross Service Group (TJCSG)

Established Two Principles:

- Provide efficiency of operations by consolidating technical facilities to enhance synergy and reduce excess capacity
- Retain at least 2 geographically separated sites, each of which would have similar combination of technologies and functions to:
 - Maintain competition of ideas, and
 - Provide continuity of operations in the event of unexpected disruption

- DOD
 - Identified Dahlgren as a specialty site for Naval Surface Warfare (Surface Ship Combat System Integration)
 - Unique to the Services
 - Centroid for Navy Surface Ship Developments

Concerns

- TJCSG did not follow their own principles
- Made conflicting recommendations
- Loss of technical and engineering capacity
- **NEGATIVE IMPACT ON MILITARY VALUE**

TJCSG Did Not Follow Their Own Principles

- Efficiency of operations diminished when Dahlgren gunnery and ammo personnel transferred to Picatinny while their test site, a unique over the water gun range, stays at Dahlgren.
- Single siting Gunnery at Picatinny fails to retain two sites for critical National Function. Sites needed to:
 - Maintain competition of ideas
 - Continuity of operations (backup)
- Accommodate mobilization and surge requirements

DOD Made Conflicting Recommendations

- Realigning Naval gunnery and ammo at Picatinny is in conflict with identifying Dahlgren as specialty site for surface warfare (surface ship combat system integration)
- This removes from Dahlgren and the Navy a critical element of the ship combat system to be integrated
- Greatly increases difficulty of ship system integration task.
(Critical design tradeoffs between guns, weapons, sensors and control systems needed to meet ship performance goals)

Loss of Technical and Engineering Capacity

- Only ~20% of the Dahlgren gunnery and ammo experts identified to move to Picatinny are expected to do so
 - Cobra calculation using 75% retention is unrealistic
 - Major time and cost implications to reconstitute Navy gunnery work force
 - Anticipate major degradation in the Navy gunnery capability similar to the Navy loss of ASW capability after closure of White Oak, MD in BRAC 95

Comments

- Future of Navy Gun RDATA&E focused on electric ship applications
 - Navy going to electric ships (DDX,CGX)
 - Available electric power allows Navy to move from propellant driven to electric driven gun systems
- Requires Highly Integrated Ship System
 - Ship Electric Power Management System
- Need Gun RD&A at Integrated Ship Site (Dahlgren) to facilitate move to the future mission capability
 - Movement to electric system evolutionary

NEGATIVE IMPACT ON MILITARY VALUE

- **Moving Navy Gun and Ammo RD&A to Army, Away from Dahlgren, the ship integration site, will seriously impact ability to meet current & future mission capabilities.**
- **Ability to accommodate contingency, mobilization and surge requirements are severely impacted by single siting gunnery at either Picatinny or Dahlgren.**

Recommendations

- Do not realign NSW/C, Dahlgren by relocating gun and ammo RD&A to Picatinny
- Follow TJCSG stated principle and improve military value by creating two specialty sites:
 - RDAT&E for small arms and non maritime guns and ammo at Picatinny
 - RDAT&E for maritime guns and ammo at Dahlgren

Issue 2: Navy Chem/Bio Defense at Dahlgren

■ DOD Recommendation

- Realign NSWC Dahlgren by relocating Non-medical Chemical Biological Defense Research and Development and Acquisition to Edgewood Chemical Biological Center, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD

■ DOD Justification

- Increase synergy, focus on joint needs, and efficient use of equipment and facilities by co-locating Tri-Service and Defense activities performing function in chemical-biological defense
- Military's most robust infrastructure supporting research utilizing hazardous chemical agents
- Reduces the use of leased space within the National Capital Region
- Increases the force protection posture of realigning activities

Comment

Current Chem/Bio Defense at Dahlgren has been joint since 1995 (Public Law)

- Dahlgren has joint lead for collective protection and is the Navy's major Chem/Bio RD&E location
- All RD&E Procurement funds already go through JPEO-CBD
- DL personnel currently work and coordinate extensively with Edgewood

Concerns – Loss of:

- **Connectivity to the Fleet**
 - Being relocated to Army base removes organization from Navy Ship and Fleet focused environment
- **Navy Technical Expertise**
 - Only ~20% of personnel will move
- **Unique Shipboard CB Defense Test Environment**
 - Overwater range for chemical detection only one of its kind in U.S.; shipboard environment unique; specialized expertise in Navy ship systems essential
- **Specialized Dahlgren Facilities**
 - Completed 38K sq.ft. bio-safety level 3 certified laboratory in FY 02 with 19K sq.ft. addition added in FY 05

Recommendations

- **Create Joint Center of Excellence for Chem/Bio Defense**
- **Make Dahlgren Chem/Bio Team Joint Center detachment**
- **Keep Joint Center presence at Dahlgren:**
 - Supports Virginia State First Responders when necessary
 - Create two site concept for critical functions
- **Take advantage of new Dahlgren facilities and highly specialized, effective team**

Moving Activity Will Destroy Capability When Needed Most