

16 July 2005

The Honorable Samuel Knox Skinner
BRAC Commissioner
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

BRAC Commission

JUL 19 2005

Received

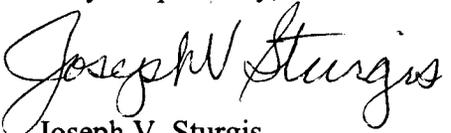
Dear Commissioner Skinner,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your recent visit to NSWC Crane, CAAA and Southern Indiana. As a concerned taxpayer I support the work you are doing to ensure that our Military operations remain as effective and affordable as possible. I realize that you have a very difficult job in deciding which activities to re-align or close as part of the BRAC process. I hope that your visit helped you to realize what important assets NSWC Crane and CAAA are to our Nation's Defense and the Global War On Terrorism.

I have been following the BRAC process closely since the proposed closure/re-alignment list was published and I am growing increasingly concerned that DOD has not properly followed the law in developing recommendations. The DOD is required to take into account the return on investment resulting from its closure/re-alignment recommendations. Crane has become a one-stop shop for specialized weapons for our Special Forces Warfighters. Crane did this by being responsive, innovative, technically superior and affordable for these outstanding soldiers. As our reputation for delivering what the customer needed, when it was needed, at a cost that was affordable, more work was brought to us. The proposal to the commission to realign work to China Lake and Picatinny will now split the support to special forces to different locations. This will add cost, reduce efficiency and cause a loss in intellectual capital that could take years to replace.

I urge you to reconsider the recommendation to re-align work from NSWC Crane by properly taking into account the Return On Investment requirements of BRAC law.

Very Respectfully,


Joseph V. Sturgis

14 July 2005

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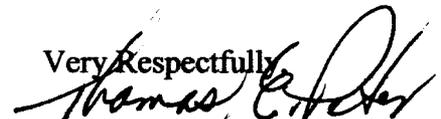
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Very Respectfully



Thomas E. Peter

16 July 2005

BRAC Commission

Admiral (Ret.) Harold Gehman
Commissioner
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

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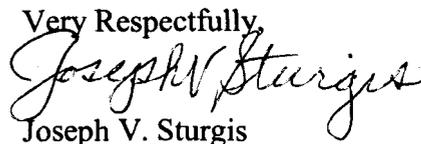
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I have been following the BRAC process closely since the proposed closure/re-alignment list was published and I am growing increasingly concerned that DOD has not followed sound judgement in making some of it's recommendations. Data available on the DOD website (www.defenselink.mil/brac) indicates that it is going to cost \$150M to move the 152 people working on the ALQ-99 depot from NSWC Crane to NAS Whidbey Island. That equals a cost of nearly \$1M per person for the move. In addition, information available at the Federation of American Scientists website (www.fas.org) seems to indicate that the platform for the ALQ-99, the EA-6B Prowler, will begin to be retired from service in the year 2010. I find it hard to believe that it is in the best interest of the DOD and the taxpayers to spend \$150M to move 152 people doing work on a system that is about to be removed from service.

I urge you to reconsider the recommendation to re-align the ALQ-99 work from NSWC Crane by properly taking into the costs involved in this re-alignment and the relatively short remaining service life of the equipment.

Very Respectfully,

Joseph V. Sturgis

14 July 2005

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Commissioner
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
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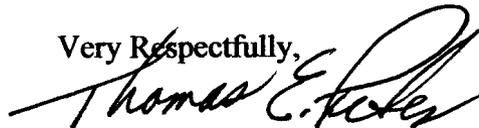
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Very Respectfully,



Thomas E. Peter

8 July 2005

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Commissioner
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2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

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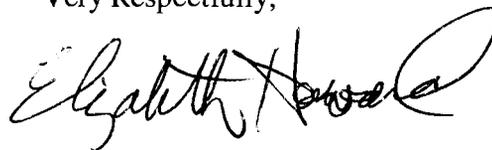
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I have been following the BRAC process closely since the proposed closure/re-alignment list was published and I am growing increasingly concerned that DOD has not properly followed the law in developing recommendations. The DOD is required to take into account the return on investment resulting from its closure/re-alignment recommendations. In reviewing the cost data that is available on the E-Library at the BRAC Commission website (www.brac.gov) I have come to the conclusion that moving Chemical and Biological workload from NSWC Crane to Edgewood in Maryland does not result in any cost savings. It appears that, of the four sites being re-aligned to Edgewood (NSWC Crane, NSWC Dahlgren, Falls Church and Fort Belvoir), only the Falls Church and Fort Belvoir generate any return on investment. The NSWC Crane and NSWC Dahlgren re-alignments cost more than they save. In fact it appears that, when added together, the four re-alignments to Edgewood result in a net loss rather than net savings. In other words the only way this scenario will save money is if the NSWC Crane and NSWC Dahlgren portions of the re-alignments are eliminated!

I urge you to reconsider the recommendation to re-align work from NSWC Crane by properly taking into account the Return On Investment requirements of BRAC law.

Very Respectfully,



22 June 2005

Admiral (Ret.) Harold Gehman
Commissioner
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

BRAC Commission

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I am growing increasingly concerned that the DOD has not properly followed the selection criteria in making its re-alignment recommendations. One of the main criteria of the BRAC process seems to be the creation of joint centers of excellence in order to improve our efficiency while maintaining the quality of service provided to our war fighters. NSWC Crane is a joint activity providing products and services to all branches of the military. Another key criteria of the BRAC process centers on Military Value. The Military Value scores for NSWC Crane in the area of Sensors, Electronics and Electronic Warfare (S, E and EW) are higher than almost every other DOD activity.

One example of a recommendation that does not make sense is the re-alignment of Army S, E and EW work from Fort Monmouth to Aberdeen Proving Grounds. According to the Technical Joint Cross Service Group Analysis and Recommendations document dated 19 May 2005, which is available on the DOD BRAC website (www.defenselink.mil/brac), NSWC Crane has much higher Military Value scores than both Fort Monmouth and Aberdeen Proving Grounds. In addition, NSWC Crane already has a close working relationship with the Army since it is co-located with CAAA. If the BRAC criteria are followed properly, this workload should be re-located to NSWC Crane instead of Aberdeen Proving Grounds. Additionally, this same logic applies to the Army S, E and EW work being relocated from Fort Belvoir to Aberdeen Proving Grounds. The Fort Belvoir workload should be re-aligned to NSWC Crane since NSWC Crane has existing joint S, E and EW capability as well as higher Military Value scores.

Another example of a recommendation that does not make sense is the re-alignment of S, E and EW workload from Space and Naval Warfare sites at Charleston and San Diego to NSWC Dahlgren. NSWC Crane has higher Military Value scores than Charleston, San Diego and Dahlgren and should have been designated as the receiving site for this workload.

I urge you to reconsider the recommendation to re-align S, E and EW workload to sites other than NSWC Crane by properly taking into account the joint capability of NSWC Crane and CAAA as well as the DODs own Military Value scoring analysis.

Very Respectfully,

BMC(EO)  USN Retired

08 June 2005

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BRAC Commissioner
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

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I urge you to reconsider the recommendation to re-align work from NSWC Crane by properly taking into account the Return On Investment requirements of BRAC law.

Very Respectfully,

Handwritten signature of Thomas Bernier in black ink.

11 July 2005

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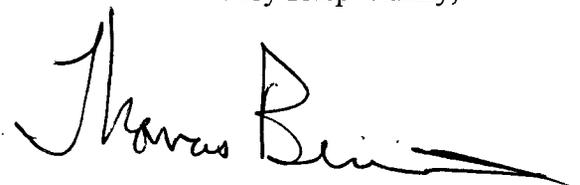
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Very Respectfully,

Julius M. Bennett
2855 Pinhook Rd
Bedford, IN. 47421

14 July 2005

The Honorable Samuel Knox Skinner
BRAC Commissioner
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2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
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I have been following the BRAC process closely since the proposed closure/re-alignment list was published and I am personally concerned with the proposed 200+ gun ammunition positions being moved to Picatinny. I do not plan to transfer/move to Picatinny and I'm confident that the transfer assumption of approximately 75% that was buried in the Cobra data is unrealistically high. The proposal to realign work to Picatinny will result in added cost, reduction of efficiency, and most importantly a loss of intellectual capital that could take years to replace. Crane has a reputation for delivering what the customer needs, when it is needed, at an affordable cost. Crane has accomplished this by being responsive, innovative, and being technically superior. The proof is in the increased amount of work that has been brought into Crane over the years.

I urge you to reconsider the recommendation to re-align work from NSWC Crane and keep the best interest of the warfighter above all else.

Very Respectfully,



Richard B. Noonan

CC: Senator Richard Lugar
Senator Evan Bayh
Governor Mitch Daniels

08 July 2005

The Honorable Samuel Knox Skinner
BRAC Commissioner
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

BRAC Commission

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE: 2004

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Very Respectfully,

Sandra K. Clark

14 July 2005

Shawn Lewis
1904 S Weimer Rd
Bloomington, IN 47403

The Honorable Samuel Knox Skinner
BRAC Commissioner
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

BRAC Commission

JUL 19 2005

Received

Dear Commissioner Skinner,

Thank you for your visiting **NSWC Crane**, Crane Army Ammunition Activity, and Southern Indiana. I realize that you have a very difficult job in deciding which activities to re-align or close as part of the BRAC process. I hope that your visit helped you to realize what important assets **NSWC Crane** and CAAA are to our Nation's Defense and the Global War On Terrorism.

I would like to express to you a concern that DOD has not properly followed the law in developing recommendations. The DOD is required to take into account the return on investment resulting from its closure/re-alignment recommendations. Crane has become a one-stop shop for specialized weapons for our Special Forces Warfighters. Crane did this by being responsive, innovative, technically superior and affordable for these outstanding soldiers. As our reputation for delivering what the customer needed, when it was needed, at a cost that was affordable, more work was brought to us. The proposal to the commission to realign work to China Lake and Picatinny will now split the support to special forces to different locations. This will add cost, reduce efficiency and cause a loss in intellectual capital that could take years to replace.

On the practical side, the Navy will lose the conventional weapons systems expertise which currently resides at **NSWC Crane**. Considering cost-of living and standardized rates for Southern Indiana versus Northern New Jersey or Southern California, these professionals simply cannot afford to move with their jobs.

I urge you to reconsider the recommendation to re-align work from NSWC Crane by properly taking into account the Return On Investment requirements of BRAC law.

Very Respectfully,


Shawn R. Lewis



200 E. VanTrees Street
P.O. Box 518
Washington, IN 47501

Pike County Branch
501 Main Street
Petersburg, IN 47567

Phone: (812) 254-2641

July 14, 2005

BRAC Commission

The Honorable Samuel Knox Skinner
BRAC Commissioner
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
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I urge you to reconsider the recommendation to re-align work from NSWC Crane by properly taking into account the Return On Investment requirements of BRAC law.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John B. Graham". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

John B. Graham
President, CEO

R.R. 6 Box 204
Bloomfield, IN 47424-9007
14 July 2005

BRAC Commission

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The Honorable Anthony J. Principi
BRAC Chairman
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
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Dear Chairman Principi,

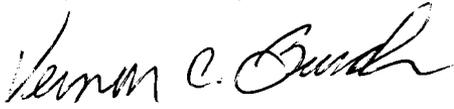
I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your recent visit to Naval Support Activity Crane and two of its tenant activities the Naval Weapons Support Center Crane (NSWC Crane), Crane Army Ammunition Activity (CAAA), and Southern Indiana. As a concerned taxpayer I support the work you are doing to ensure that our Military operations remain as effective and affordable as possible. I realize that you have a very difficult job in deciding which activities to re-align or close as part of the BRAC process. I hope that your visit helped you to realize what important assets NSWC Crane and CAAA are to our Nation's Defense and the Global War On Terrorism.

I have been following the BRAC process closely since the proposed closure/re-alignment list was published and I am personally concerned with the proposed 200+ gun ammunition positions being moved to Picatinny. In my situation, I retired from the Navy with my last station being the Naval Weapons Station, Colts Neck NJ and if not eligible to retire, seriously doubt that I would move to Picatinny Arsenal. I'm confident that the transfer assumption of approximately 75% that was buried in the Cobra data is unrealistically high. In the military, I moved as required and without question but the assumption that BRAC affected individuals will move with the function is totally out of line with reality. To date all individuals that I closely work with (Weapons and Armament affected by the BRAC), at present, state that they do not plan to move to Picatinny. I would project only a maximum of 10 to 15 percent maximum leaving this area to Picatinny. This area is considered a low cost area for living and moving to much higher cost for living such as Picatinny is not realistic. I see the Navy losing a high percentage of this workforce to other positions at NWSC Crane or leaving the Government workforce.

The BRAC proposal to realign work to Picatinny will result in added cost, reduction of efficiency, and most importantly a loss of intellectual capital that could take years to replace. NSWC Crane has a reputation for delivering what the customer needs, when it is needed, at an affordable cost. NSWC Crane has accomplished this by being responsive, innovative, and being technically superior. The proof is in the increased amount of work that has been brought into NWSC Crane over the years.

I urge you to reconsider the recommendation to re-align work from NSWC Crane and keep the best interest of the warfighter above all else.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Vernon C. Burch".

Vernon C. Burch
TMC USNRET

08 July 2005

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I have been following the BRAC process closely since the proposed closure/re-alignment list was published and I am growing increasingly concerned that DOD has not properly followed the law in developing recommendations. The DOD is required to take into account the return on investment resulting from its closure/re-alignment recommendations. In reviewing the cost data that is available on the E-library at the BRAC Commission website (www.brac.gov) I have come to the conclusion that moving Chemical and Biological workload from NSWC Crane to Edgewood in Maryland does not result in any costs savings. It appears that, of the four sites being re-aligned to Edgewood (NSWC Crane, NSWC Dahlgren, Falls Church and Fort Belvoir), only the Falls Church and Fort Belvoir generate any return on investment. The NSWC Crane and NSWC Dahlgren re-alignments cost more than they save. In fact it appears that, when added together, the four re-alignments to Edgewood result in a net loss rather than net savings. In other words the only way this scenario will save money is if the NSWC Crane and NSWC Dahlgren portions of the re-alignments are eliminated!

I urge you to reconsider the recommendation to re-align work from NSWC Crane by properly taking into account the Return On Investment requirements of BRAC law.


Very Respectfully,

08 July 2005

Admiral (Ret.) Harold Gehman
Commissioner
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

BRAC Commission

JUL 19 2005

Received

Dear Admiral Gehman,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your attention to the delegation from Indiana during the recent BRAC Hearing in St. Louis. As a concerned taxpayer I support the work you are doing to ensure that our Military operations remain as effective and affordable as possible. I hope that the testimony helped you realize how important Indiana Military installations like Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC) Crane and Crane Army Ammunition Activity (CAAA) are to our Nation's Defense and the Global War On Terrorism.

I am growing increasingly concerned that the DOD has not properly followed the selection criteria in making its re-alignment recommendations. One of the main criteria of the BRAC process seems to be the creation of joint centers of excellence in order to improve our efficiency while maintaining the quality of service provided to our war fighters. NSWC Crane is a joint activity providing products and services to all branches of the military. Another key criteria of the BRAC process centers on Military Value. The Military Value scores for NSWC Crane in the area of Sensors, Electronics and Electronic Warfare (S, E and EW) are higher than almost every other DOD activity.

One example of a recommendation that does not make sense is the re-alignment of Army S, E and EW work from Fort Monmouth to Aberdeen Proving Grounds. According to the Technical Joint Cross Service Group Analysis and Recommendations document dated 19 May 2005, which is available on the DOD BRAC website (www.defenselink.mil/brac), NSWC Crane has much higher Military Value scores than both Fort Monmouth and Aberdeen Proving Grounds. In addition, NSWC Crane already has a close working relationship with the Army since it is co-located with CAAA. If the BRAC criteria are followed properly, this workload should be re-located to NSWC Crane instead of Aberdeen Proving Grounds. Additionally, this same logic applies to the Army S, E and EW work being relocated from Fort Belvoir to Aberdeen Proving Grounds. The Fort Belvoir workload should be re-aligned to NSWC Crane since NSWC Crane has existing joint S, E and EW capability as well as higher Military Value scores.

Another example of a recommendation that does not make sense is the re-alignment of S, E and EW workload from Space and Naval Warfare sites at Charleston and San Diego to NSWC Dahlgren. NSWC Crane has higher Military Value scores than Charleston, San Diego and Dahlgren and should have been designated as the receiving site for this workload.

I urge you to reconsider the recommendation to re-align S, E and EW workload to sites other than NSWC Crane by properly taking into account the joint capability of NSWC Crane and CAAA as well as the DODs own Military Value scoring analysis.


Very Respectfully,

08 July 2005

BRAC Commission

The Honorable Samuel Knox Skinner
BRAC Commissioner
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

JUL 10 2005

Received

Dear Commissioner Skinner,

I am writing this letter as a member of the defense community and as a taxpayer.

I am particularly concerned with the move of the Chemical/Biological function from Naval Surface Warfare Center, Crane Division (Crane Chem/Bio), located on NAVSUPACT CRANE, IN to the US Army's Edgewood Chemical Biological Center in Aberdeen, Maryland. I have several specific concerns as follows:

I. Cost.

The whole goal of the BRAC act was to save DOD money by eliminating unneeded facilities.

According to the Department of Defense Base Closure and Realignment Report, Volume I, Part 2 of 2: Detailed Recommendations dated May 2005 (BRAC Report), section 8: Recommendations – Medical Joint Cross-Services Group, “Joint Centers of Excellence for Chemical, Biological, and Medical Research and Development and Acquisition” (BRAC report pages Med-15 to Med-19) total twenty year savings for moving a maximum of 559 direct jobs and 582 indirect jobs from various activities to Aberdeen Proving Ground were given as \$46.0 M.

I believe that these savings were grossly over exaggerated and that moving Crane Chem/Bio results in increased costs to the taxpayer to perform the same work.

I will base the discussion from this point on the MED CR0028R COBRA Results As of 5 May 2005 (Cobra) (Which, by the way, does not agree with the jobs numbers reported in the BRAC report) and on the reported labor rates for the affected facilities.

A. One time costs.

Cobra reports one time costs for moving Crane Chem/Bio as \$3,775,974 (Cobra page 12) with no one-time cost savings.

Note that Crane Chem Bio's 49 work years represent 20% of the total Chem/Bio force being moved to Aberdeen. Therefore 20% of the Aberdeen Mil-Con costs are accountable to the Crane Chem/Bio relocation.

Cobra reports one time Mil-Con costs at Aberdeen of \$11,911,931. Crane's portion would be 20% or \$2,382,386

B. Recurring costs.

Cobra reports a recurring civilian salary savings at Crane of \$532,000. This represents the salaries of 57 people who would no longer be employed at Crane (or \$9,333.33 per person?)

Cobra reports a recurring civilian salary cost at Aberdeen of \$831,000. This represents the salaries of 246 people who would be employed at Aberdeen. (or \$3,378.05 per person?)

Obviously these last two numbers do not reflect reality. Lets look at it based on stabilized rates that reflect the real cost to the taxpayer for work performed.

Using the FY07 rates (which are the furthest out that I have access to at this time) Crane Chem/Bio employees cost \$69.92 per hour. For a 1720 hour work year that would equal \$120,262 per man-year.

That same man-year worked at Aberdeen would cost \$155,866 (based on NSWC Dahlgren's stabilized FY07 rate of \$90.62 as Navy personnel at Aberdeen would be a Dahlgren detachment working under Dahlgren's rates. (Note that the Cobra civilian locality pay factor is the same for Dahlgren and Aberdeen)), or \$35,604 more per man-year than if the work remained at Crane.

Based on the 49 man-years forecasted to be required at Aberdeen that would be a recurring cost of \$1,744,616 per year or \$34,892,320 in additional labor costs over the twenty years of the study.

Also Cobra projects facility savings at Crane. However since Crane Chem/Bio occupies a brand new Mil-Con building, it is very highly unlikely that the facility would be torn down or mothballed. (It would also be a criminal waste of taxpayer dollars.) Facility savings are not addressed in the above \$35M total.

C. Cobra assumption of work year reduction.

While the title of the scenario was Development and Acquisition, the definition of acquisition included fielding and sustainment. Cobra assumes that of the 57 work years to be relocated from Crane to Aberdeen 8 can be eliminated due to increased synergy and efficiency. I take issue with this assumption for the following reasons.

1. Crane personnel deal with Army Chem/Bio personnel on a limited basis, interacting primarily through phone and email contacts. According to current plans Crane Chem/Bio, and Army personnel would be located in different buildings at Aberdeen so current business practices probably wouldn't change. While some meetings do occur most of

these are at contractor facilities and all services representatives travel to that facility to examine the equipment and or testing being discussed.

2. While all chem/bio systems are already acquired jointly, Navy personnel are focused on making sure the acquired system meets Navy specific requirements, just as Army personnel seek to fulfill Army requirements and Air Force personnel seek to fulfill Air Force requirements.

As an example of why this Navy focused function cannot be eliminated please consider the following case. Space aboard US Navy ships is at a premium and maintenance of equipment must take that space restriction into account. Neither the Army nor the Air Force deal with as stringent of a limitation (space abounds at Army and Air Force bases for removing and maintaining equipment.) During the initial design and prototyping of the Joint Biological Point Detection System the designer required access to all four sides of the equipment for maintenance. While the other services had no problem with this, for the Navy it was a show stopper. The Navy doesn't have the internal space to allow for access to all four sides of the equipment. We needed all access to be through the front of the cabinet. The representatives of the other services did not consider this as they were focused on fulfilling the needs of their own services.

Additionally, this space limitation affects intake and exhaust locations and lengths, power requirements, consumables amounts and storage, interference or interaction with other equipments etc. All concerns that require a considerable amount of time to satisfy.

Navy requirements are unique enough that the task to track that each system meets these requirements for the Navy can not be eliminated. Further complexity is added by the fact that these requirements can vary depending on the ship class, or even within the class.

Likewise fielding (designing the installation and integration of the Chem/Bio systems into the ship) and sustainment (including fleet support, radiation tracking, training etc) of these common systems within the Navy must be maintained.

Therefore I seriously doubt that these 8 positions could be eliminated. There's just no further efficiencies to be gained by moving Crane Chem/Bio as, for the most part, the work does not overlap. (Note that retention of these 8 needed positions would add a further \$285K per year to the labor cost)

D. Total cost above and beyond the costs of performing the work at Crane to relocate Crane Chem/Bio to Aberdeen

One time cost (Crane)	\$3,775,974
One Time Cost (Aberdeen)	\$2,382,386
Recurring cost (labor)	\$34,892,320
Recurring cost (8 wy)	\$5,700,000
Total cost to move Crane Chem/Bio	\$46,750,680

Remember from the BRAC report that the total projected savings for this scenario were \$46.0M.

II. Joint Center of Excellence?

While the title of this recommendation leads one to believe that all Chem/Bio research development and acquisition would be combined that is not the case. The Navy's sustainment function would be moving to Aberdeen, but the Army sustainment function would remain at Rock Island, the Air Force sustainment function would remain at Warner Robbins AFB and the Marine Corps Sustainment function would stay at Quantico and Albany Georgia. The USMC acquisition function would also stay at Quantico.

Why move the Navy's support functions while not moving the others?

III Brain Drain.

The BRAC Report assumes that 37 of 57 Crane Chem/Bio employees would relocate to Aberdeen. This is greatly exaggerated also. The employees of Crane Chem/Bio are for the most part native Hoosiers. Their families go back generations in this area. They are used to low traffic, low cost of living, wide open spaces to live in and play in. The area is convenient to the big city but far enough away that it suffers few of the big city problems. A few areas to consider:

A. Housing.

A roughly 2000 sq ft new home in the Aberdeen area costs about \$410K A new 2000sq ft home at Crane costs about \$150K. (Good quality used homes on acreage can be had for not much more). The average Crane Chem/Bio employee will never be able to own a home in the Aberdeen area.

B. Traffic

It takes roughly 30 minutes to drive the thirty miles from Bedford or Bloomington to the Crane Chem/Bio building. In this area a traffic jam is defined as 6 or more cars behind a school bus or tractor. Big urban area traffic is unknown at Crane.

C. Recreation

Hunting and Fishing opportunities are widespread in the Crane area. Of course the base itself has 800 acre Lake Greenwood but there are an abundance of lakes and farm ponds throughout the area. There are also numerous huntable woods for deer, turkey, and other small game. I doubt that hunting is looked upon kindly in Maryland.

D. Spousal employment/ family issues.

The Crane Chem/Bio workers do not live in a vacuum. They have spouses and children that must be accounted for. Several of the workers are from farm families or own livestock. Several spouses have their own established careers in this area. Children are planted in schools and churches and surrounded by friends. Grandparents and extended families are here.

E. Misc standard of living.

Rising above mere costs and opportunites is something called home. Indiana is home to the workers at Crane Chem/Bio. Aberdeen never will be.

In order to relocate we'd have to abandon family and history and our entire way of life. Most (upwards of 85%) won't relocate, on the one hand we can't afford to and on the other hand we wouldn't want to.

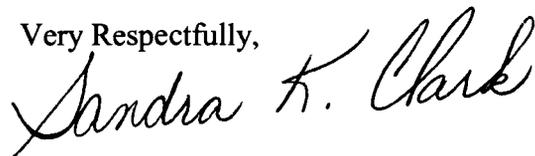
This will, at a stroke, eliminate almost all the corporate knowledge for installing and supporting Chem/Bio detection devices on board Navy ships. A knowledge base extending back to the earliest Chem/Bio detectors fielded in the Navy. (starting in the mid 1980's with the depot repair and fielding of the AN/KAS-1 Chemical Warfare Directional Detector)

IV. Summary:

In summary, since the business practices won't change (we'll still communicate with other personnel based at Aberdeen via phone and email), and since the cost of living in the Aberdeen area precludes most of us from relocating, and since the cost of relocating Crane Chem/Bio negates the total projected savings of the entire scenario, relocating Crane Chem/Bio to Aberdeen makes no economic or military sense.

Therefore, I ask that you remove the realignment of Crane Chem/Bio from the BRAC decision and continue having this work performed at NAVSUPPACT CRANE, IN.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sandra K. Clark". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name "Sandra K. Clark".

08 July 2005

Admiral (Ret.) Harold Gehman
Commissioner
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

BRAC Commission

JUL 10 2005

Received

Dear Admiral Gehman:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your attention to the delegation from Indiana during the recent BRAC Hearing in St. Louis. As a concerned taxpayer I support the work you are doing to ensure that our Military operations remain as effective and affordable as possible. I hope that the testimony helped you realize how important Indiana Military installations like Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC) Crane and Crane Army Ammunition Activity (CAAA) are to our Nation's Defense and the Global War On Terrorism.

I am growing increasingly concerned that the DOD has not properly followed the selection criteria in making its re-alignment recommendations. One of the main criteria of the BRAC process seems to be the creation of joint centers of excellence in order to improve our efficiency while maintaining the quality of service provided to our war fighters. NSWC Crane is a joint activity providing products and services to all branches of the military. Another key criteria of the BRAC process centers on Military Value. The Military Value scores for NSWC Crane in the area of Sensors, Electronics and Electronic Warfare (S, E and EW) are higher than almost every other DOD activity.

One example of a recommendation that does not make sense is the re-alignment of Army S, E and EW work from Fort Monmouth to Aberdeen Proving Grounds. According to the Technical Joint Cross Service Group Analysis and Recommendations document dated 19 May 2005, which is available on the DOD BRAC website (www.defenselink.mil/brac), NSWC Crane has much higher Military Value scores than both Fort Monmouth and Aberdeen Proving Grounds. In addition, NSWC Crane already has a close working relationship with the Army since it is co-located with CAAA. If the BRAC criteria are followed properly, this workload should be re-located to NSWC Crane instead of Aberdeen Proving Grounds. Additionally, this same logic applies to the Army S, E and EW work being relocated from Fort Belvoir to Aberdeen Proving Grounds. The Fort Belvoir workload should be re-aligned to NSWC Crane since NSWC Crane has existing joint S, E and EW capability as well as higher Military Value scores.

Another example of a recommendation that does not make sense is the re-alignment of S, E and EW workload from Space and Naval Warfare sites at Charleston and San Diego to NSWC Dahlgren. NSWC Crane has higher Military Value scores than Charleston, San Diego and Dahlgren and should have been designated as the receiving site for this workload.

I urge you to reconsider the recommendation to re-align S, E and EW workload to sites other than NSWC Crane by properly taking into account the joint capability of NSWC Crane and CAAA as well as the DODs own Military Value scoring analysis.

Very Respectfully,

Brent & Susan Waggoner

RR#1 Box 182-C

Sandborn, IN 47578

11 July 2005

The Honorable Samuel Knox Skinner
BRAC Commissioner
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

BRAC Commission

JUL 19 2005

Received

Dear Commissioner Skinner,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your recent visit to NSWC Crane, CAAA and Southern Indiana. As a concerned taxpayer I support the work you are doing to ensure that our Military operations remain as effective and affordable as possible. I realize that you have a very difficult job in deciding which activities to re-align or close as part of the BRAC process. I hope that your visit helped you to realize what important assets NSWC Crane and CAAA are to our Nation's Defense and the Global War On Terrorism.

I have been following the BRAC process closely since the proposed closure/re-alignment list was published and I am growing increasingly concerned that DOD has not properly followed the law in developing recommendations. The DOD is required to take into account the return on investment resulting from its closure/re-alignment recommendations. Crane has become a one-stop shop for specialized weapons for our Special Forces Warfighters. Crane did this by being responsive, innovative, technically superior and affordable for these outstanding soldiers. As our reputation grew for delivering what the customer needed, when it was needed, at a cost that was affordable, more work was brought to us. The proposal to the commission to realign work to China Lake and Picatinny will now split the support to special forces to different locations. This will add cost, reduce efficiency and cause a loss in intellectual capital that could take years to replace.

I urge you to reconsider the recommendation to re-align work from NSWC Crane by properly taking into account the Return On Investment requirements of BRAC law.

Very Respectfully,

Brent & Susan

Waggoner

RR #1 Box 182-C

Sandborn, IN 47578

22 June 2005

BRAC Commission

Admiral (Ret.) Harold Gehman
Commissioner
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

JUL 10 2005

Received

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I have been following the BRAC process closely since the proposed closure/re-alignment list was published and I am growing increasingly concerned that DOD has not properly followed the law in developing recommendations. The DOD is required to take into account the return on investment resulting from its closure/re-alignment recommendations. In reviewing the cost data that is available on the E-Library at the BRAC Commission website (www.brac.gov) I have come to the conclusion that moving Chemical and Biological workload from NSWC Crane to Edgewood in Maryland does not result in any cost savings. It appears that, of the four sites being re-aligned to Edgewood (NSWC Crane, NSWC Dahlgren, Falls Church and Fort Belvoir), only the Falls Church and Fort Belvoir generate any return on investment. The NSWC Crane and NSWC Dahlgren re-alignments cost more than they save. In fact it appears that, when added together, the four re-alignments to Edgewood result in a net loss rather than net savings. In other words the only way this scenario will save money is if the NSWC Crane and NSWC Dahlgren portions of the re-alignments are eliminated!

I urge you to reconsider the recommendation to re-align work from NSWC Crane by properly taking into account the Return On Investment requirements of BRAC law.

Very Respectfully,

Sandra K. Clark

8 July 2005

BRAC Commission

Admiral (Ret.) Harold Gehman
Commissioner
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

JUL 19 2005

Received

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I urge you to reconsider the recommendation to re-align work from NSWC Crane by properly taking into account the Return On Investment requirements of BRAC law.

Very Respectfully,

Brent & Susan Wagoner
RR#1 Box 182-C
Sandborn, IN 47578

08 July 2005

Admiral (Ret.) Harold Gehman
Commissioner
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

BRAC Commission

JUL 19 2005

Received

Dear Admiral Gehman,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your attention to the delegation from Indiana during the recent BRAC Hearing in St. Louis. I hope that the testimony helped you realize the importance of Indiana Military installations, in particular NSWC Crane and CAAA, to our Nation's Defense and the Global War On Terrorism. As a concerned taxpayer I support the work you are doing to ensure that our Military operations remain as effective and affordable as possible. I also realize that you have a very difficult job in deciding which activities to re-align or close as part of the BRAC process.

I have been following the BRAC process closely since the proposed closure/re-alignment list was published and I am growing increasingly concerned that DOD has not followed sound judgement in making some of it's recommendations. Data available on the DOD website (www.defenselink.mil/brac) indicates that it is going to cost \$150M to move the 152 people working on the ALQ-99 depot from NSWC Crane to NAS Whidbey Island. That equals a cost of nearly \$1M per person for the move. In addition, information available at the Federation of American Scientists website (www.fas.org) seems to indicate that the platform for the ALQ-99, the EA-6B Prowler, will begin to be retired from service in the year 2010. I find it hard to believe that it is in the best interest of the DOD and the taxpayers to spend \$150M to move 152 people doing work on a system that is about to be removed from service.

I urge you to reconsider the recommendation to re-align the ALQ-99 work from NSWC Crane by properly taking into account the costs involved in this re-alignment and the relatively short remaining service life of the equipment.

Very Respectfully,

Brent & Susan Wagoner
RR #1 Box 182-C
Sandborn, IN 47578

08 July 2005

The Honorable Samuel Knox Skinner
BRAC Commissioner
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

BRAC Commission

JUL 19 2005

Received

Dear Commissioner Skinner,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your recent visit to NSWC Crane, CAAA and Southern Indiana. As a concerned taxpayer I support the work you are doing to ensure that our Military operations remain as effective and affordable as possible. I realize that you have a very difficult job in deciding which activities to re-align or close as part of the BRAC process. I hope that your visit helped you to realize what important assets NSWC Crane and CAAA are to our Nation's Defense and the Global War On Terrorism.

I have been following the BRAC process closely since the proposed closure/re-alignment list was published and I am growing increasingly concerned that DOD has not properly followed the law in developing recommendations. DOD is required to give priority consideration to installations that have a high military value ranking. Data available on the DOD website (www.defenselink.mil/brac) leads me to conclude that NSWC Crane's military value rating was not taken into account properly, which is violation of BRAC law. Specifically, NSWC Crane has one of the highest military value ratings of all activities performing Electronic Warfare work, including a higher rating than NAS Whidbey Island and yet it is recommended that Electronic Warfare workload related to repair of the ALQ-99 system be re-aligned from NSWC Crane to NAS Whidbey Island.

The DOD is also required to take into account the return on investment resulting from its closure/re-alignment recommendations. In reviewing the cost data that is available on the E-Library at the BRAC Commission website (www.brac.gov) I have come to the conclusion that the moving the ALQ-99 Electronic Warfare workload to NAS Whidbey Island does not result in any cost savings. It appears that all of the savings in this scenario are generated by re-aligning work within Whidbey Island and moving work from North Island, CA to Whidbey Island. In other words this scenario will save DOD even more money if the NSWC Crane portion is eliminated!

I urge you to reconsider the recommendation to re-align work from NSWC Crane by properly taking into account the Military Value and Return On Investment requirements of BRAC law.

Very Respectfully,

Brent & Susan Wayson

RR#1 Box 182-C

Sandborn, IN 47578

JUL 19 2005

Received

7/14/05

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I am deeply troubled by the Defense Department's recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve base. This recommendation is a terrible mistake and I urge the BRAC Commission to reverse this decision and remove them from the list.

It is hard to understand why the Air Force has decided to take planes, missions and jobs away from so many Air Guard and Air Reserve bases and put them on the more costly Active Duty bases. Of all the bases to pick to close, how do you close the base whose unit helped rescue Jessica Lynch in Iraq because they are the lead night vision C-130 unit in the reserves?

Also, how will the Department defend the region? Will the Guard respond to man-made or natural disasters when they occur after these massive cuts?

I urge the Commission in the strongest possible terms to remove Niagara Falls AFB from the Pentagon's recommended list of base closures and to stop the continuing retreat of the military from our region of the country.

Sincerely,



(A Concerned Citizen)

1642 79TH STREET

(Address)

NIAGARA FALLS, NY 14304

(City, State, Zip)



RECEIVED

07 05 20 05

30 June 2005

Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing this letter to express my concerns with the Base Realignment And Closure (BRAC) recommendations that you are currently reviewing.

Naval Surface Warfare Center, Crane Division has a long history of supporting our nation's Warfighters dating back to the start of World War II in 1941.

My own father, who is now 85 years young, came to work at NSWC Crane after he served in World War II, until he retired with some 37 years of service in the 1970's. He was a supervisor in the Quality Evaluation Lab where investigations of mishaps and failures were conducted. My mother worked Crane for several years during the Viet Nam surge in the mine filling and bomb production area. Although she was a very small middle-aged woman, she took great pride in her job of pushing 500-pound bombs through the mine filling underground tunnels and preparing them for shipping.

My older brother, Michael E. Smith, supported the Viet Nam effort working the late night shift in the 5" Projectile, mine filling and yellow-D areas that are now part of the Crane Army Ammunition Activity. He then was called to serve in the U.S. Army Infantry (Jan. 1968). He was sent to Viet Nam in July and killed in action on August 9, 1968. My Dad's sister worked at NSWC Crane as a Warehouse Keeper for over 20 years raising seven children alone. Her only daughter now works in the Airborne Electronic Warfare Department after retiring with over 20 years active Air Force duty specializing in aircraft maintenance and repair.

I have worked at NSWC Crane with pride for just under 30 years. I started working at Crane as a clerk-typist and cardpunch operator (GS-2) in 1968, processing shipments and supplies to our troops in Viet Nam. I learned much about supply and requisitions and shipping ammunition, small arms, storage capacities, building and warehouse locations, and many weapons systems and equipments over the years. I left employment at Crane in 1989, returning a few years later. There were no other jobs in Southern Indiana that my Navy/Government background applied to so I found myself working for minimum wages and with very few benefits. I returned to NSWC Crane in late 1999 working for EG&G Technical Services. After nearly three years with EG&G, supporting the Navy Night Vision Programs, I applied for a Navy Civil Service position open to re-instatement eligibles and was selected for the position returning to civil service. I had to commute 3 hours to and from NSWC Crane, but it was a wonderful opportunity to return to my Navy Civil Service career.

In the earlier years of my career, NSWC Crane enabled me to adequately provide for my three young children as a single working mother. I owe the Navy for most of my formal education and much on-the-job training over the many years here. Currently, I am an Acquisition Logistics Support Manager (GS-13) supporting new development programs for NAVSEA, NAVAIR and the U.S. Air Force. In recent years I have supported and worked on the Fire Scout Unmanned Aerial Vehicle, F/A-18 and EA-18G Aircraft, ALQ-99, ALQ-218 PODS, Predator and Predator-B Unmanned Aircraft, and most recently provide support to the MH-60S Armed Helicopter Weapons System developments. Travel requirements to support my job are considered part of my regular duty to help ensure adequate weapons systems development, maintainability and supportability to protect the United States, our allies and our military troops.

My two grown sons and daughter, and their spouses all work at NSWC Crane and continue the family tradition of supporting our troops with pride. I have six grandchildren that we teach them the same respect for our U.S. military and the American flag and all it stands for. I hope and pray that they will have an opportunity to continue the family tradition and can remain in Southern Indiana and provide support to the Navy at Crane. What I am trying to say here is that this military base truly is a family of proud supporters of our military warfighters! Crane is made up of relatives of those warfighters and retired warfighters and their families. I hope to see Crane continue to provide quality products and service for many years to come and that my children and grandchildren will not have to move from this area to find adequate employment to raise their families. I also have a many cousins and close friends that work at Crane.

When I was growing up I knew that I wanted to work for the Navy at NSWC Crane. I also knew that to do this I would have to get an education. Crane managers and supervisors assisted me in obtaining the required knowledge for success in my career. Over the years, I provided the drive and ambition to succeed and hope to have the opportunity to mentor and train younger people to have the same work ethic and to take great pride in supporting our warfighters and our country.

Martin County and the surrounding area have limited job opportunities for technically educated people other than employment at NSWC Crane. I would be forced to move out of the area as soon as possible, if I were to lose my position at Crane and so would most of my family. There are no other employers available that could support this reduction by Crane, which would cause people to move away and produce a smaller pool of technical people to pull from if workload was to increase at some time. This would most likely not allow for a gradual or long period of work transfer or reduction either as people would have to leave the area quickly before their homes and property had a chance to lose considerable value. The impact would devastate Southern Indiana. If NSWC Crane loses the proposed 25% of it's work force, it could fracture Crane's family and potentially cost the government: money, experience, and damage their image with so many people that have dedicated their lives to it.

My question for the BRAC Commission is: **Why didn't the DOD request any scenarios with NSWC Crane in a receiver role for workload?**

Indiana has a low cost of living and should have lower operating costs than most locations. NSWC Crane has 1800 acres ready to build on. It has zero encroachment issues. The state of Indiana has given the base the power to approve prospective outside operations within 3 miles of the base borders. It is surrounded by highly Technical and Educational Institutions. It is environmentally conscious winning several awards.

NSWC Crane does too good of a job in a joint role for DOD to not consider it in a receiver role. We support the Navy, Army, Air Force, Marines, and the Coast Guard. We also work closely with local National Guard activities.

I hope that you will look at a scenario with NSWC Crane in a receiver role. If you do, I'm sure the best interest of the country will come to light and Crane's family of proud American's will stay intact and grow. Employees at Crane are dedicated to our Warfighter's mission and prove it through their hard work and can-do attitudes.

Sincerely, 

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