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Received

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing this letter to express my serious concerns with the Base Realignment And Closure (BRAC) recommendations that you are currently reviewing. It is recommended that the Crane Division of the Naval Surface Warfare Center have 672 jobs realigned to other activities.

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. Crane has demonstrated the ability to evolve to meet the challenging and changing needs of the men and women that wear the uniform of the United States of America. Crane's employees are skilled and highly trained to provide the necessary support today and are engaged in preparing for the future Defense of our Country.

Crane has been a leader in providing the best value to the Warfighter by increasing the efficiency of our processes through Business and Process Reengineering. In the past three years, Crane has accelerated the pace of our improvements by implementing Lean principles. These efforts have garnered hundreds of thousands of dollars in cost savings, and have led to improved responsiveness and customer satisfaction. In recognition of our extensive continuous improvement successes, Crane has received the following awards: 2002 Commander in Chief's Award for Installation Excellence, 2002 and 2004 DoD Value Engineering Awards, 2004 NAVSEA Engineer of the Year, 2005 NAVSEA's High Performing Organization.

The commitment required to implement such extensive change is in large part due to the sense of ownership Crane's employees feel about this installation. Many of the employees are veterans who have supported their country through military service and have elected to return to work as civil servants. Many employees possess technical degrees with vast knowledge and experience and have chosen to stay in the workplace past their retirement age due to their dedication to the country during this time of war and threat of terrorism. Crane's recognition as a leader in technical areas has allowed it to recruit new employees, providing the skills, knowledge, and abilities to support the current Warfighter as well as the Warfighter after next.

As highlighted in the BRAC guidance, Military Value is an important criteria being used to determine where work should be performed. Crane seemed to score quite well, yet scenarios were only run looking at removing work from Crane. Many installations that are scheduled to receive work from realignments scored lower than Crane's in Military Value. This concerns me, as it appears that the recommendations concerning Crane stray from the stated evaluation criteria.

One area that truly represents Crane's high Military Value is our exceptional support of the nation's Special Operations Forces in the Global War on Terrorism. The U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) and other Special Operations customers have come to rely on Crane as their preferred source for night vision, small arms, ordnance, targeting systems, and other equipment. Crane is able to rapidly field solutions for these special mission requirements due to the co-located technical expertise that has been developed in areas such as electro-optics, lasers, small arms/ammunition, power supplies, and pyrotechnics.

Crane's integrated, multifunctional capabilities are not only well suited for support of Special Operations Forces, but provide the perfect environment for rapidly fielding solutions to the Force Protection challenges faced by our Warfighters. For example, in response to the attack on the USS *Cole* in 2000, Crane created the Integrated Radar Optical Sighting Surveillance System (IROSSS), an integrated weapons, electro-optic, radar, and software system that allows ships to

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quickly detect, identify and deter or engage threats. Crane took IROSSS from concept to the first fielded system in 11 months. Received

Another important BRAC goal is to facilitate Joint operations. Crane is already Joint, with Crane Army Ammunition Activity and Naval Surface Warfare Center as tenant activities. The two organizations work jointly on numerous tasks related to ordnance and pyrotechnics. This jointness and co-location has allowed Crane to produce infrared countermeasures when the private sector was unable to produce; to rework and provide much needed laser-guided bomb kits; and to modify in-service bomb fuzes to prevent premature detonations.

Other factors considered in the BRAC were environmental impact and economic impact to the local community. Crane continues to be a leader in environmental stewardship and innovative ideas, and has won many environmental awards, such as the NAVSEA Award for Achievement in Environmental Quality.

Crane is so critical to the economic health of the state that Indiana recently enacted P.L. 5-2005, the Military Base Protection Act, protecting Crane from development that would adversely impact its critical missions and preventing future encroachment. The impact of Crane to the immediate surrounding area is even more acute. Crane's economic area of Martin County, Indiana was the second most severely impacted in the nation, with a 13.1% job loss that will result from DoD's realignment recommendations.

In summary, Crane truly exemplifies the BRAC criteria of Military Value - rapidly providing innovative, best value solutions to our nation's Warfighters. This high level of service has attracted the most demanding customers from across DoD, including USSOCOM, Navy Strategic Systems, as well as US Army and US Air Force Special Operations Commands. Crane's commitment to continuous improvement and ever-increasing value has kept these customers coming back, allowing for the creation of a Joint, multi-functional set of capabilities that is unequalled in the DoD.

I hope that you will take these thoughts into consideration as you go about the difficult decisions on what will be best for the Department of Defense and this great Country. My fellow employees at Crane are dedicated to our Warfighter's mission and prove it through their hard work.

Thanks for your consideration, as well as for your service.

Sincerely,

Stephen K. Brey

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22 June 2005

Received

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

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.

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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 DOD's own Military Value scoring analysis.

Very Respectfully,

Eller & Wade McStor
812-876-5626

Dear Sir,

I personally work for the 20-25 mm aircraft arm engineering team at home.

I personally know the high quality of engineering and scientific knowledge that is daily applied to this arm to keep the warfighter safe and get the job done.

I also personally know that this knowledge and experience will be lost if this activity is transferred to another base. Our people have no intention of pulling up roots and leaving. This is a small community with good honest people who were raised here, for the most part, so when the idea of leaving them home & foreign is unreasonable. Please seriously reconsider these unrealistic moves. Eller McStor