

DCN: 8714

BRAC Commission

BRAC Commission —  
FYI *YDQ*

**Tom and Barbara Quinn**

AUG 29 2005

Received  
From: "Tom and Barbara Quinn" <tnbquinn@bbtel.com>  
To: <letters@thenewsenterprise.com>  
Cc: <tnbquinn@bbtel.com>  
Sent: Wednesday, August 24, 2005 2:15 PM  
Subject: Letter to the Editor

*The News-Enterprise  
Elizabethtown, KY*

*A slightly  
different  
version was  
sent to The  
Courier-Journal  
Louisville, KY*

This is an update on reversing the BRAC merger site for armor and infantry agencies from Fort Benning to Fort Knox.

As indicated previously, such a change would be worth hundreds of millions to this area plus adding upwards of 20,000 personnel to Fort Knox and its environs. Along with this, it would save taxpayers around a billion dollars, mainly from not having to duplicate tank facilities. In comparison, the BRAC proposed quid pro quo for the loss of the armor agencies is a relative pittance.

The local leaders and news media can't seem to grasp this tremendous disparity. By not taking any steps to protest this bad decision, they are acting as enablers. Their inaction on this urgent matter is a disservice to all who

they represent and has caused me to act in their stead. I put together a case for selecting Fort Knox as the merger destination vice Fort Benning. I forwarded this counterproposal to the BRAC Commission on August 1.

Because the news media has failed to do any investigative reporting on this ill-advised BRAC proposal, I had to use estimated costs and general data in my presentation. Nonetheless, I was able to illustrate beyond any doubt that Fort Knox should be the new Home of Armor and Infantry.

I provided a copy of this letter to The News-Enterprise, but they have made no mention of this initiative. I guess that a mere billion-dollar issue along with perhaps gaining 20,000 or so people in this area, is not considered newsworthy.

In light of this information void, I am using this letter to inform all interested parties of my action. Unfortunately, the BRAC Commission has a policy of not acknowledging input. Ostensibly, this is due to the large volume of correspondence they receive. You would think that some billion-dollar issue might trigger an exception, but it doesn't. They must be as blasé about such a sum as our local leaders and news media.

Anyway, the commission has been provided the evidence that shows the Fort Knox option is so manifestly the way to go it is a no-brainer. Now it will be interesting to see how this "independent" body dances around this affair.

No doubt they will use the old tactic of ignoring the elephant in the room. This is easy to do when the local leadership has enthusiastically accepted the bone that was thrown to them.

Now we need to send out the bloodhounds to find our all-powerful senior U.S. Senator and bring him to this area. He could then take this opportunity to account for his supporting the unceremonious ousting of the Home of Armor from Kentucky.

He heartily endorsed the relocation of the armor agencies to the Peach State. He did this even though it is far more logical and more advantageous

to Kentuckians, to bring the infantry agencies to the Bluegrass State.

Senator McConnell needs to stop spouting party-line platitudes and explain in plain English why he thinks the citizens of Georgia are more deserving of this bonanza than his constituents.

Col Thomas G. Quinn  
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M Ann Miller  
Box 48  
Napoleon IN 47034-0048  
August 24, 2005

BRAC Commission

**AUG 29 2005**

Received

Base Realignment and Closure Commission  
2521 South Clark St Suite 600  
Arlington VA 22020

Dear Commissioners,

I respectfully submit for the record my recommendation that the closure of the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security at Fort Benning, Georgia, should be the TOP priority of your Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "M Ann Miller".

M Ann Miller