

DCN: 7812

BRAC Commission

AUG 19 2005
Received**Fax – Two Pages**

**TO: Base Closure and Realignment Commission
(703) 699-2735**

**FROM: Carol Caruso
Greater Cleveland Partnership**

DATE: August 19, 2005

**Attached is a letter to Chairman Principi from Fred Nance,
Chairman of the Cleveland Defense Industry Alliance. Please
enter this document into the record. Thank you.**

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AUG 15 2005
Received**KEEP CLEVELAND DFAS**

Excellent People

Excellent Performance

Excellent Value

August 19, 2005

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

Re: *Cleveland DFAS*

Dear Chairman Principi:

I have reviewed Mr. Michael Wynne's report detailing the Department of Defense positions for selected DOD recommendations under consideration by the Base Closure and Realignment Commission. With respect to the DOD position regarding the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS), I was struck by the fact that decisions that impact our military in such a dramatic way were based almost entirely on current facilities and excess capacity.

We agree that facility capacity and cost are important, and we have demonstrated that Cleveland is fully capable of meeting current and future needs. We have proven that the cost of the Anthony J. Celebrezze Building used in the DOD analysis was wrong, a fact that resulted in a lower military value than should have been assigned to Cleveland. We have also testified that the City of Cleveland, the State of Ohio and the private sector have committed to building and financing a new DFAS Center, one that meets all security standards imposed by DOD. In addition to providing a low cost alternative, this facility would meet the demands of the future and an expanded mission. Quite simply, this alternative relieves the DOD of every concern that appears to have been used in their 'bricks and mortar' analysis.

We urge you to look beyond this metric, ultimately, and factor into your final decision the metrics that matter – service efficiency and quality over many years, and the availability of a trained workforce to perform the complex tasks that make DFAS the world class organization it is. Cleveland is already a Center of Excellence, has military value way beyond what the H&SA JCSG credited it with, and has the capacity to assume additional workload. Its employees have pioneered many of the products and processes that ensure the entire DFAS organization provides Military Value to our troops every day.

Thank you for your consideration and your service to our country through this important mission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Frederick R. Nance".

Frederick R. Nance, Chairman
Cleveland Defense Industry Alliance