



DSN 4479

DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION
2521 SOUTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 600
ARLINGTON, VA 22202
TELEPHONE: 703-699-2950
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June 10, 2005
HJT #3

Chairman:

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi

Commissioners:

The Honorable James H. Bilbray

The Honorable Philip E. Coyle, III

Admiral Harold W. Gehman, Jr., USN (Ret.)

The Honorable James V. Hansen

General James T. Hill, USA (Ret.)

General Lloyd W. Newton, USAF (Ret.)

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner

Brigadier General Sue Ellen Turner, USAF (Ret.)

Executive Director:

Charles Battaglia

Mr. Bob Meyer
Director
BRAC Clearinghouse
1401 Oak St.
Roslyn VA 22209

Dear Mr. Meyer:

I respectfully request a written response from the Department of Defense concerning the enclosed document:

X *COBRA run*

How was number of dependents associated with personnel movement determined? Are there data that delineates number of school-age children by pre-school, Kindergarten, middle school and high school?

I would appreciate your response by June 23, 2005. Please provide a control number for this request and do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide further information concerning this request.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Cirillo
Director
Review & Analysis

Enclosures (5): Questions for the record to the Secretary of Defense, Secretary of the Army, Secretary of the Navy, Secretary of the Air Force and the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition and Technology).



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June 9, 2005
DSE #9

Chairman:

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi

Commissioners:

The Honorable James H. Billray
The Honorable Philip S. Coyle, III
Admiral Harold W. Gehman, Jr., USN (Ret.)
The Honorable James V. Hansen
General James T. Hill, USA (Ret.)
General Lloyd W. Newton, USAF (Ret.)
The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner
Brigadier General Sue Ellen Turner, USAF (Ret.)

Executive Director:

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Mr. Bob Meyer
Director
BRAC Clearinghouse
1401 Oak St.
Roslyn VA 22209

Dear Mr. Meyer:

I respectfully request a written response from the Department of Defense concerning the enclosed document:

- Base Closure & Realignment Commission question*
- Question for the record*
- Community input*
- COBRA run*

X *Other: In LCDR SOSA's explanation of the difference in locality pay, we understood him to say that the difference in locality pay between Newport, RI and Athens, GA is the difference between the factors of 1.147 and 1.109. This ratio would indicate that pay in Newport is 1.147/1.109 or 3.427% higher. However, according to the OPM website, Athens, GA is not in a locality pay area and Newport's locality pay is 18.49%. Thus, it would appear that Newport's salaries are 18.49% higher than those in Athens, not the 3.427% that was utilized.*

I would appreciate your response by June 23, 2005. Please provide a control number for this request and do not hesitate to contact me if I can provide further information concerning this request.

Yours sincerely,

Frank Cirillo
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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
 OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
 1000 NAVY PENTAGON
 WASHINGTON DC 20350-1000

5 July 2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi:

This is the response to the June 9, 2005 inquiry from Mr. Frank Cirillo of your staff concerning COBRA data for school-age children and for locality pay variations between Newport, RI, and Athens, GA.

HJT #3. COBRA Run: How was number of dependents associated with personnel movement determined? Are there data that delineates number of school-age children by pre-school, kindergarten, middle school and high school?

COBRA considers military dependents based on the percentage of accompanied military personnel standard factor. The standard factor applied for DoD activities is 72 percent for officer and 55 percent for enlisted personnel. The standard factor is applied to the movement of personnel costs reflected in the COBRA transportation algorithm. COBRA data does not distinguish the age groups of school-age children, and COBRA calculations are not based on a specific number of dependents.

DSE #9. COBRA Run: In LCDR Sosa's explanation of the difference in locality pay, we understood him to say that the difference in locality pay between Newport, RI and Athens, GA is the difference between the factors of 1.147/1.109 or 3.427%. However, according to the OPM website Athens, GA is not in a locality pay area and Newport's locality pay is 18.49%. Thus, it would appear that Newport's salaries are 18.49% higher than those in Athens, not the 3.427% that was utilized.

The COBRA model is populated with fiscal year 2004 data from the following Office of Personnel Management (OPM) website:
<http://www.opm.gov/oca/04tables/txt/gstbls.txt> (Standard Table 2004-GS, 2004 General Schedule, Incorporating a 2.70% General Increase, Effective January 2004).

The differences in locality pay between Newport, RI and Athens, GA is 1.17 and 1.109, not 1.147/1.109. These factors are based on the OPM Standard Table, which identifies DoD activities located in Newport, RI as part of the greater Boston-Worcester-Lawrence, MA-NH-ME-CT-RI salary table. The standard locality rate for Boston-

Worcester-Lawrence, MA-NH-ME-CT-RI region is 16.99 percent or 1.17 percent). The standard locality rate for DoD activities located in Athens, GA is identified, as 10.9% for the "Rest of US" or 1.109. The use of these figures indicates that salaries at Newport are 6.09 percent higher than at Athens, and these are the figures utilized by the Department of the Navy.

I trust this information satisfactorily addresses your concerns. If we can be of further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Anne Rathmell Davis
Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Navy
for Base Realignment and Closure

Enclosures:
As Stated