



AEROSPACE ENGINEERING & ENGINEERING MECHANICS  
THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

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BRAC Commission

July 27, 2005

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Received

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

Dear Mr. Secretary:

This letter is written to urge you to conduct a very thorough review of the U.S. Naval Post Graduate School in Monterey before you recommend any changes. For more than thirty years, I have had very strong connections with this institution, with the faculty as well as the administration. Currently, for example, I have corresponded recently with Professors William Maier and William Colson about technical matters concerning free electron lasers and electro-magnetic guns. On February 25, 2005, I delivered a lecture to about 150 faculty and students on the naval applications of electro-magnetic guns. In addition, I have had discussions with Provost Richard Elster and others about the management of the school and curriculum matters. Finally, I served as a member of the school's visiting committee for about ten years in the late 1970s and early 1980s during the time Admiral Russell was chairman of the committee.

There is no question in my mind that the U.S. Naval Post Graduate School is the best of the military graduate schools. This judgment is based on long experience in higher education and in military matters as you can see from the enclosed biosheet. It is impossible to get a quantitative measure of the impact of an institution such as the Naval Post Graduate School. What one has to do is to look at the record of achievement of the graduates. I need not make a list and I am sure that your staff people have already done that. One example I know about is that the new Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Michael G. Mullen is a graduate of the school. He is typical of the distinguished line of naval officers who have expanded their knowledge and honed their skills at the post graduate school.

Let me repeat what I said at the beginning of this letter: Please be careful before you recommend any changes. The merger and closure proposals that I have heard about would all seriously compromise the quality of the institution.

With very best wishes,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Hans Mark".

Hans Mark

**The University of Texas at Austin**  
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 and Engineering Mechanics  
 Woolrich Hall, Room 401  
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Hans Mark is a Professor of Aerospace Engineering and Engineering Mechanics at The University of Texas at Austin, a post he has held since 1988. Since 1992, he also holds the John J. McKetta Centennial Energy Chair in Engineering. Since 1990, he has been associated with The University's Institute for Advanced Technology as a Senior Research Engineer. In that capacity he works on advanced weapons systems for the U.S. Army.

Dr. Mark was named Chancellor of The University of Texas System on September 1, 1984 and served until September 1, 1992. The University of Texas System consists of fifteen separate institutions, nine academic campuses, four medical schools and two research oriented hospitals, The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston and The University of Texas Health Center at Tyler. Two of the academic campuses, The University of Texas-Pan American and The University of Texas at Brownsville, were added to The University of Texas System during Dr. Mark's term of service as Chancellor. The externally funded research performed at U.T. System campuses increased from \$270 million in 1984 to \$600 million in 1992. In addition, two industrial research consortia were established and housed in facilities partly financed by the University, the Microelectronics and Computer Corporation

(MCC) and SEMATECH. The University of Texas System is one of the largest university systems in the U.S. having 60,000 employees, 160,000 students and an annual budget of about \$7.5 billion.

Prior to joining The University in September 1984, Dr. Mark was the Deputy Administrator of NASA having been appointed to that position by President Reagan in March 1981. During his term of service he oversaw the first fourteen space shuttle flights and helped to initiate the U.S. Space Station Program. Dr. Mark moved to Washington in April 1977 when he was appointed Undersecretary of the Air Force and director of the National Reconnaissance Office by President Jimmy Carter. In the latter post, he was responsible for managing the U.S. satellite reconnaissance program. In April 1979, President Carter named Dr. Mark Secretary of the Air Force, a post he held until February 1981. During his service as Secretary of the Air Force, Dr. Mark initiated the establishment of the U.S. Air Force Space Command which is now the U.S. Space Command with headquarters in Colorado Springs. In June 1998, Dr. Mark took a leave-of-absence from The University to return to the Pentagon to serve in the Department of Defense as the Director of Defense Research and Engineering. In that position, he was the chief technical advisor to the Secretary of Defense and the Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics. He returned to his post at The University in March 2001.

Before moving to Washington, Dr. Mark was the director of the NASA-Ames Research Center in Mountain View, California for eight years (1969-1977). The Center is responsible for conducting a wide variety aeronautical and space research projects. During his term as director, he supervised the management of the "Pioneer" planetary exploration program. Pioneer 10 was launched on March 2, 1972 and became the first spacecraft to fly past Jupiter and the first man-made object to leave the solar system. Dr. Mark was also responsible for initiating the Bell XV-15 experimental tiltrotor aircraft program which in 1996 led to the development of the first privately

funded commercial venture in tiltrotor aviation, the Bell-Boeing 609.

From 1955 to 1969, Dr. Mark was associated with the University of California at Berkeley and at Livermore, California. He served as a professor of nuclear engineering and department chairman at the University of California in Berkeley and as a research scientist and division leader at the University's Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. Dr. Mark led research groups working in nuclear and atomic physics and also contributed to astrophysics and to developing instrumentation used in the testing of nuclear weapons. In addition to his regular academic appointment, Dr. Mark has held non-tenured or adjunct appointments at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Stanford University, the University of California at Davis and The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer in Houston. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of Polytechnic University in New York and is a director of several corporations. He served on President Ford's Science and Technology Advisory Group and on the Defense Science Board.

Dr. Mark is the author or co-author of more than 200 scholarly articles and numerous books including "Experiments in Modern Physics", "The Management of Research Institutions", "Power and Security", "The Space Station: A Personal Journey" and "Adventures in Celestial Mechanics".

Dr. Mark was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 1976. He is an Honorary Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, The American Physical Society and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He is a member of Tau Beta Pi, Phi Beta Kappa, Sigma Xi, The American Nuclear Society, the American Society for Engineering Education, the Cosmos Club and the Council on Foreign Relations. In 1966, Dr. Mark was named outstanding engineering teacher at the University of California in Berkeley by Tau Beta Pi. He was awarded NASA's Distinguished Service Medal in 1972 and again in 1977. In 1981 and again in 2001, he received the Distinguished Public Service Medal from the

Department of Defense. The U.S. Air Force bestowed the Exceptional Civilian Service Medal on Dr. Mark in 1979 and in 1984 he received the Exceptional Scientific Achievement Medal and the Exceptional Engineering Achievement Medal from NASA. Most recently in 2001, Dr. Mark was awarded the Gold Medal of the Department of Energy by the Secretary of Energy. Dr. Mark holds four honorary degrees, a Doctor of Science from Florida Institute of Technology (1978), Doctor of Engineering degrees from Polytechnic University (1982) and the Milwaukee School of Engineering (1991) and a Doctor of Humane Letters from St. Edward's University (1993).

Born in Mannheim, Germany on June 17, 1929, Dr. Mark came to the United States with his parents in 1940 and became a U.S. citizen in 1945. He earned an A.B. degree in physics from the University of California in Berkeley in 1951 and a Ph.D. in physics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1954. From 1954 to 1955, he served as acting chief of the neutron physics group at MIT.

Dr. Mark married the former Marion G. Thorpe in 1951. She holds a doctorate in education and specializes in educational testing, linguistics and English literature. Dr. Marion Mark currently teaches at St. Edward's University in Austin. They have two children, Jane Mark, a bilingual psychologist in Spokane, Washington, and Dr. Rufus James Mark, who is director of radiation oncology at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Los Angeles. The Marks have five grandchildren.