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International Council of Ophthalmology (ICO)

The Executive Body of The International Federation of Ophthalmological Societies (IFOS)

*From the Office of
The President*

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi
Chairman
2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington VA 22202
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Erlangen, August 29, 2005
Nau/sc

Armed Forces Institute of Pathology

Dear Chairman Principi,

please allow me to briefly emphasize that the Profession of Ophthalmology worldwide respects the immense contributions of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology also to Pathology of the Eye.

On behalf of the more than 80 ophthalmological Societies within the International Federation of Ophthalmological Societies, I want to express my deep disappointment about the proposed decision to close the AFIP.

I like to remind you and your colleagues of the unique contribution of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology has made also to our specialty in diagnosis, teaching and clinically oriented research.

May I ask you to maintain the integrity of the AFIP and to maintain the accumulated knowledge and the science of the morphologic elements of ocular disease.

Thank you for your attention
Sincerely

G.O.H. Naumann, MD, FRCOphth. (Hon.)

President ICO/IFOS

1998-2002-2006

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PS

Personally I am also affected by your considerations: My own academic carrier in ophthalmology started with a fellowship 1965 – 1966 at the Department of Ophthalmology under the leadership of Dr. Lorenc E. Zimmerman at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology.