

DCN: 5042

FORT ORD REUSE AUTHORITY

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BRAC Commission

July 18, 2005

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Received

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

RE: Professional Development Education related to Defense Language Institute and Naval
Postgraduate School

Dear Chairman Principi and Members of the Commission:

The Fort Ord Reuse Authority ("FORA") is a broadly representative organization facilitating the reuse of the former Fort Ord, a 1991 closure action. In this regard, we have been working in close coordination with the City of Monterey and the Monterey County Board of Supervisors with the BRAC Commission's inquiry to Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld regarding "professional development education." We concur with our regional colleagues that this inquiry is very worthwhile, and we applaud the Commission for your interest in this matter.

The proposed consolidation of the base operations at the Naval Postgraduate School ("NPS") and the Presidio of Monterey ("POM") installations has been supported by several of our members since the 1993 BRAC. The proximity of NPS to POM creates opportunities for better coordination of services, reducing redundant overhead, and taking advantage of substantial economies of scale thereby.

Since 1999, the Cities of Monterey and Seaside have delivered a variety of municipal services to POM on a reimbursable basis, and an Army Audit Agency analysis confirmed that the arrangement with Monterey has saved the Army 49% of its base operating dollars compared to the prior service system. This has saved taxpayers millions of dollars to date, and these savings can grow through further coordination of services between NPS, POM, and adjacent municipalities and utility systems.

Regarding the potential realignment of the NPS and Defense Language Institute ("DLI") missions into a single command, we believe this idea may merit further study. Whether it be a consolidated professional development education center, as the Commission's letter to Secretary Rumsfeld suggests, or a National Security Research University addressing Department of Defense and other national interests, such an organization could benefit from its proximity to the other world-class higher education and research facilities in the greater Monterey area.

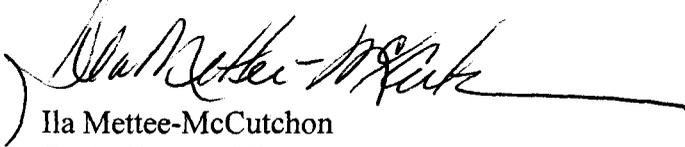
We suggest that the organizational structure outcome from such proposed realignment be designed to ensure that critical national security and language research missions remain as

responsive to the combat commanders and curriculum sponsors. The resulting organizational structure must continue its responsiveness to the State Department in nation building and post-conflict reconstruction, and to the Department of Homeland Security, in addition to supporting combat commanders.

With regard to the potential relocation of the Air Force Institute of Technology to Monterey, the local community has never recruited another community's mission to Monterey. Consequently, we do not advocate such action but will support the Commission's actions either way.

In closing, the Board of Directors of the Fort Ord Reuse Authority thanks the Commission for its efforts and interest in Professional Development Education.

Sincerely,



Ila Mettee-McCutcheon
Chair, Board of Directors
Fort Ord Reuse Authority

- C: Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, California
- The Honorable Sam Farr, 17th Congressional District, California
- Leon Panetta, California's Council on Base Support & Retention, Co-Chair
- Mayor Dan Albert, City of Monterey
- Fred Meurer, City of Monterey City Manager
- Fort Ord Reuse Authority Board of Directors