



July 27, 2005

*The Honorable Donald Rumsfeld
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301-1000*

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I invite you and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Richard B. Myers, to appear before the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission on August 20, 2005. This hearing will be the Defense Department's last opportunity to present testimony to the Commission prior to our final deliberations regarding the totality of our review process to date, to include those facilities added for further consideration on July 19, 2005. Given the magnitude of the decisions before the Commission, I request that you invite senior civilian and military leadership, including Secretary of the Army Francis J. Harvey, Chief of Staff of the Army General Peter J. Schoomaker, Acting Secretary of the Navy Hansford T. Johnson, Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Michael G. Mullen, Commandant of the Marine Corps, General Michael W. Hagee, Acting Secretary of the Air Force Michael L. Dominguez and Chief of Staff of the Air Force General John P. Jumper, or their representatives, to join you in testifying at this hearing. I also ask you to invite any defense agency or Joint Cross-Service Group representatives you feel appropriate for such a hearing.

It is unfortunate that the hearing must be held on a Saturday; however, no other satisfactory arrangement could be made. The Commission would appreciate receiving a copy of your witness list, a suggested itinerary (8:30 A.M.-4:00 P.M.) and unclassified statement or statements for the record, in hard copy and electronic format (CD), by noon on Monday, August 15, 2005. My point of contact for this hearing is my Executive Director, Charles Battaglia, at 703-699-2952.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anthony J. Principi".

Anthony J. Principi

Chairman: Anthony J. Principi

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

Executive Director: Charles Battaglia

DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

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Chairman

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