

The Honorable Anthony Principi
Chairman
2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

BRAC Commission

AUG 08 2005

Received

Dear Chairman Principi:

As former commander of Red River Army Depot and subsequently the commanding general of the Army's depots in CONUS and Germany I am able to attest to the uniqueness and the criticality of the Red River Army Depot complex. It was and remains, the only depot combining the missions of maintenance, munitions and supply distribution. The synergism of these capabilities, along with the adjoining Lone Star Ammunition Plant make the depot complex a national asset in peace and in war.

Based on their military value, the Red River Army Depot, the Red River Munitions Center, and the Red River Defense Distribution Depot (DDRT) are vital to our national defense. Several flaws in the Department of Defense analysis and the technical facts dealing with the case were presented in the regional hearing in San Antonio, TX. These include an overstatement of the expected savings, a significant understatement in the costs of implementation and a questionable calculation of the time to break even. Also, current workload and firm out-year projections were not used, and the current available capacity at the gaining installations is insufficient to handle this workload without enormously large sums for re-facilitization of operations already in existence at the Red River Defense Complex.

The number 1 rated DLA Distribution Depot in the Central Region was selected for designation as a Strategic Distribution Platform (SDP) by the Supply and Storage Joint Cross Service Group based on its current capabilities and its ability to minimize our customers' wait time for supplies. It was the optimal alternative! But based on the Army's recommendation to close Red River Army Depot, our military customers will have increased supply wait times, degrading their military readiness and sustainment posture. Additionally, \$43M will be required to construct a building 65% the size of the DDRT operations center, which is already performing these SDP functions.

I believe that these above stated facts constitute significant deviation from the BRAC criteria and would appreciate your careful and deliberate review. Thank you for your service as chairman of the BRAC Commission and the service of your fellow commissioners. The determination of how our national defense organization should be structured in the future is critical for the United State of America to remain the leader of the free world.

Sincerely,



Jack A. Apperson

P. Don (Ret), U.S. Army