



TONI COPELAND  
CLERK TO THE  
COUNTY BOARD

**ORIGINAL**

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May 20, 2005

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

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In accordance with the provisions of the public input process established by the BRAC Commission, I am writing on behalf of the Arlington County Board to request that you conduct a public hearing in Arlington, Virginia, and that the Commission conduct a short site visit/tour of several affected locations in Arlington.

The base closing and realignment recommendations to your Commission would have an unprecedented impact on Arlington, based on the projected loss of approximately 20,000 direct DoD jobs, in addition to threatening major economic disinvestment.

We urge you to visit the newly constructed site into which the Office of Naval Research has just relocated within the last week. Its landlord invested some \$10 million in security enhancements -- in close coordination with DoD. The DoD has proposed the abandonment of this facility. A tour of this facility would permit the Commission to see state of the art force protection construction and would also provide you an opportunity to inquire into the reliance on building security standards.

Arlington is one of the most severely affected communities under the DoD recommendations. With the equivalent of three to four base closings within Arlington alone, we want to ensure that the Commission is fully informed of all the facts associated with the Secretary's BRAC recommendations in the context of the prescribed criteria.

We will work with any date that is convenient to the Commission and will provide whatever logistical support the Commission may need. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jay Fissette  
Chairman

c: Virginia Congressional Delegation

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5/26/05