

25 Aug 2005

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Received

Mr. Skinner,

To state that I am disappointed and dumbfounded with your lack of preparedness and factual presentation of the proposal to realign TACOM-RI to Detroit Arsenal (Supply + Storage Group, Chapter 9, Section 176) would be an atrocious understatement.

You are an intelligent man and I find it hard to believe you accepted as fact, the falsehoods presented to you by Detroit Arsenal representatives.

Our small community is in shock. Nearly everyday since May 13, 2005 our local media have covered the BRAC. Comparably, you would be hard pressed to find a half dozen articles in the large Detroit metropolitan area for the same period of time. I'm convinced if Detroit Arsenal had been scheduled to close, the only one who would have been upset for more than one week would have been Senator Levin.

TACOM's Commanding General, housed in Warren, MI, visited TACOM-Rock Island for a townhall after May 13, 2005 & his presentation was shocking. Basically a "suck it up & shut up" address. He alone created such a large divide between the Warren & Rock Island workforce, TACOM may NEVER recover.

Mr Skinner, I have no comprehension of what could make you roll over on such an unfeasible recommendation. I would have never believed that you would not do your job.

May I remind you of just a few of the BRAC deviated facts:

- 1- RT military value is higher than Detroit Arsenal. This is obvious. You visited both sites, there was no dispute.
- 2- Extensive cost of new construction at Detroit Arsenal. The "NEW" COBRA data provided was obviously understated.
3. Barely enough room to accommodate the expansion at Detroit Arsenal. No capacity to grow. Hand locked. Shuttles will have to be used to bus employees from parking areas to their office buildings.
4. - Higher cost of living area in Detroit.
5. - No MWR facilities on sites. Children bused to care facilities.

WHAT WERE YOU THINKING?! This is not the decision of a reputable ex-CEO and Chief of Staff.

Sleep well tonight. I haven't slept through the night since you made your irresponsible decision regarding TACOM-Rock Island.

It's one thing to lose in a fair fight. I'm now convinced the fight was not fair. Shame on you and your analysts for allowing outside pressures to skew the facts.

Respectfully,

Kim Anderson
Displaced TACOM-RI employee