

Media Packet

DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION



WASHINGTON, DC
OSD, GAO, OBC HEARINGS

MONDAY, JULY 18, 2005



DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

OSD, GAO, OBC HEARING
WASHINGTON, D.C.

JULY 18, 2005 8:30AM

SD-106 – Dirksen Senate Office Building

WITNESS LIST

OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

8:30am

Panel I

Michael W. Wynne - Chairman of the Infrastructure Steering Group

General William L. Nyland - Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps

General T. Michael Moseley - Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force

Admiral Robert F. Willard - Vice Chief of Naval Operations

Panel II

Lieutenant General Stephen Wood - Deputy Chief of Staff of the Air Force
for Plans and Programs

Major General Gary W. Heckman - Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff of the
Air Force for Plans and Programs

Major General Scott Mayes - Commander, 1st Air Force and Commander,
Continental U.S. North American Aerospace Command Region

Lieutenant General Daniel James, III - Director, Air National Guard

GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABILITY OFFICE

10:30am

The Honorable David M. Walker - Comptroller General of the United States

Barry W. Holman - Director Defense Capabilities and Management

Michael Kennedy - Assistant Director Defense Capabilities and Management

OVERSEAS BASING COMMISSION

1:30pm

The Honorable Al Cornella - Chairman

Vice Admiral Anthony (Tony) A. Less, USN (Ret)

Brigadier General Keith Martin, PA ARNG (Ret)

Lieutenant General H.G. (Pete) Taylor, USA (Ret)



BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

Chairman's Opening Statement

2005 Base Closure and Realignment Commission

Information Hearing

Secretary of Defense Response to Additions Considerations
Government Accounting Office Report on BRAC Process
Overseas Basing Commission Findings

8:30 a.m.
July 18, 2005

Senate Dirksen Room 106

Good Morning,

Today the Base Closure and Realignment Commission will be hearing from several distinguished witnesses representing the Department of Defense, the Government Accountability Office, and the Overseas Basing Commission as we continue to assess the Secretary of Defense's 2005 BRAC recommendations.

As part of our first panel, I would like to welcome Michael Wynne, Chairman of the Infrastructure Steering Group; General William Nyland, Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps; General Michael Moseley, Vice Chief of Staff of the Air Force; and Admiral Robert Willard - Vice Chief of Naval Operations. Thank you for your participation in this extremely important review process.

As you are aware, before the Base Closure and Realignment Commission can even consider making a change to the Department of Defense's recommendations – a change that would add military installations for closure or realignment, or expand a realignment, we are required by statute, to seek an explanation from you as to why such

actions were not included on the May 13, 2005 list. On July 1st, this Commission forwarded to the Secretary of Defense a series of questions seeking further explanation and comment on a number of installations that we felt warranted further consideration. We greatly appreciate the timely receipt of the Department's written explanation last week. The Commissioners and staff have read your responses and we welcome this opportunity to elaborate on your explanations further.

No deliberation will be made on whether to include any of these installations for further study of closure or realignment until the Commission's open hearing tomorrow. The purpose of this morning's session is to clarify the process and rationale behind certain BRAC recommendations.

The testimony we will hear today and our subsequent deliberations will lead to decisions about adding bases for further consideration, not because we have determined that we need to close more bases than the Secretary of Defense has recommended, but because we want to make sure the best possible closure or realignment

choices are made. Our job as an independent Commission is to render a fair judgment on the Secretary of Defense's recommendations. In some cases, we cannot make that fair assessment without first being able to make direct comparisons between installations that are part of the Secretary's recommendations and similar installations that were not included in the May 13th recommendation list.

I want to make it clear that it is not our intent to disrupt or to unreasonably target communities that may have breathed a sigh of relief in May when the Secretary's list of recommendations was released or to further burden communities already facing losses. We are, as a Commission, acutely aware of the anxieties communities experience when faced with the prospect of losing an important military presence in their local area. Through our site visits and regional hearings, we have witnessed first hand the close relationships between so many communities and the military members that make those communities home.

I've said this before, but it bears repeating. This Commission takes its responsibility very seriously to provide an objective and independent analysis. We continue to study carefully each Department of Defense recommendation in a transparent manner, steadily seeking input from affected communities, to make sure those recommendations fully meet the Congressionally mandated requirements.

And, as the Commission has traveled across the nation, visiting many installations, including Air National Guard Bases, we have heard a number of issues raised regarding the Air National Guard recommendations. Representatives of Air Guard facilities speak of the potential negative aspects the recommendations would have on retention, recruitment and training. We have heard them tell us how aircraft relocations may not provide the optimal mix and how air guard support of the homeland security mission may suffer. And we have heard the Adjutants General concerns that they were not an integral part of this decision making process.

The issues raised are a concern to us as well and, as a result, our second panel this morning will deal exclusively with the Commission's questions regarding the Air National Guard recommendations. Before introducing our witnesses allow me also to make this point. All interested parties to this issue should be aware that the Commission believes a solution is needed. To say that eliminating all of the Secretary's recommendations regarding the Air National Guard is a solution would be irresponsible. Therefore, we would urge our next panel of witnesses, and the Governors, and the TAGs, to work to a solution that serves the best interests of national security and the country. We look forward to seeing the results. We will now hear from Lieutenant General Stephen Wood, Deputy Chief of Staff of the Air Force for Plans and Programs; Major General Gary Heckman, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff of the Air Force for Plans and Programs; Major General Scott Mayes, the Commander of 1st Air Force and Commander of the Continental U.S. North American Aerospace Command Region, and Lieutenant General Daniel James, Director of the Air

National Guard. The Commission looks forward to hearing your views on this important subject.

Following the testimony of our first two panels, we will hear from the Government Accountability Office's Comptroller General, the Honorable David Walker who will offer testimony on the GAO's analysis of the Defense Department's BRAC selection process. This separate view and examination of the methodology used to arrive at the decisions embodied in the Secretary's realignment or closure proposals is an important step in the Commission's process.

And finally, at 1:30 today, we look forward to hearing from Commissioners of the Overseas Basing Commission, chaired by Mr. Al Cornella. As we continue to assess the BRAC proposal's ability to support military force structure, including the 70,000 military personnel anticipated to return to our shores, the afternoon's testimony should provide important insight and additional framework for our independent assessment.

At this time I would invite all our Department of

Defense witnesses for this hearing to please stand for the administration of the oath required by the Base Closure and Realignment statute. The oath will be administered by Dan Cowhig, the Commission's Designated Federal Officer.



2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 Jefferson Davis Highway
Arlington, Virginia 22202
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Biographies of the Nine BRAC Commissioners

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi – Chairman



Recently served as Vice President of Pfizer Corporation and is a decorated Vietnam War veteran. Mr. Principi was nominated to be Secretary of Veterans Affairs by President George W. Bush on December 29, 2000, and was confirmed by the Senate on January 23, 2001. He once served as a Republican chief counsel for the Senate Armed Services Committee and Senate Veterans Affairs Committee. He also has been a top official with defense contractor Lockheed Martin. Mr. Principi is a 1967 graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland, and first saw active duty aboard the destroyer USS Joseph P. Kennedy. He later commanded a River Patrol Unit in Vietnam's Mekong Delta. Mr. Principi earned his law degree from Seton Hall University in 1975 and was assigned to the Navy's Judge Advocate General Corps in San Diego, California. In 1980, he was transferred to Washington as a legislative counsel for the Department of the Navy.

The Honorable James H. Bilbray



Primary area of practice is government relations and administrative law. Former Congressman Bilbray received his B.A. in Government and Public Administration from the American University in Washington, DC in 1962, and his JD from the Washington College of Law in 1964. He is a Nevada native, and prior to being elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1987, was a Nevada State Senator, where he served as Chairman on the Taxation Committee and was a member of the Judiciary Committee. During his four terms in the US Congress, he served as Chairman of the Small Business Sub-Committee on Taxation, Tourism and Procurement. He was also a member of the Foreign Affairs, Armed Services, and Intelligence Committees. He joined the firm of Kummer Kaempfer Bonner & Renshaw as Of Counsel in 1996, where he specialized in dealing with local, state and federal issues. In 2001, he received an honorary doctorate of laws from the University of Nevada Las Vegas for his extensive contributions to the State and U.S. government.

The Honorable Phillip Coyle



Philip Coyle is a Senior Advisor to the President of the Center for Defense Information and a defense consultant. Formerly, the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Test and Evaluation, (1994-2001), Mr. Coyle is a recognized expert on U.S. and worldwide military research, development and testing. During the 1995 BRAC, he served as the Co-Chairman of the DoD Joint Cross-Service Group for Test and Evaluation. Prior to serving at the Pentagon, Mr. Coyle served as Laboratory Associate Director of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in Livermore, California, and as Deputy to the Laboratory Director. During the Carter Administration, Mr. Coyle served as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Defense Programs in the Department of Energy. With more than 40 years of experience in testing and test-related matters, he was selected by Aviation Week magazine as one of its "Laurels" honorees for 2000, a select group of people recognized for outstanding contributions in the aerospace field.



Biographies of the Nine BRAC Commissioners

Page 2 of 3

The Honorable James V. Hansen



Former US Representative from Utah, Congressman Hansen was elected to the 97th Congress and to the 10 succeeding terms (January 3, 1981 to January 3, 2003). Congressman Hansen did not seek re-election to the 108th Congress in 2002. During the 105th Congress, he served as Chairman on the Standards and Official Conduct Committee. During the 107th Congress, he served as Chairman of the Committee of Resources. He served in the United States Navy from 1951 to 1955. He also served as a member of the Farmington, Utah City Council from 1960 to 1972. He then was elected to the Utah State House of Representatives from 1973 to 1980 and served as Speaker of the House, 1979 - 1980.

General James T. Hill (USA, Ret)



Former Commander of the United States Southern Command. General Hill previously served as the Commanding General, I Corps and Ft Lewis. He is from El Paso, Texas, and was commissioned into the infantry following graduation from Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas, in 1968. He also graduated from the Command and General Staff College and the National War College. In addition, he holds a Master's degree in Personnel Management from Central Michigan University. General Hill's other key assignments include: Commanding General 25th Infantry Division and Deputy Commander United States Forces UN Mission Haiti.

Admiral Harold W. (Hal) Gehman, Jr., (USN, Ret)



Retired after 35 years of service on active duty in the U.S. Navy in October 2000, with his last assignment as NATO's Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic and as the Commander in Chief of the U.S. Joint Forces Command, one of the five U.S. Unified Commands. Immediately after retiring, Admiral Gehman served as Co-Chairman of the Department of Defense review of the terrorist attack on the USS Cole. In 2003, he served as Chairman of the Columbia Accident Investigation Board. He graduated from Pennsylvania State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Engineering and received a commission in the Navy from the NROTC program. He served at all levels of leadership and command before being promoted to four-star Admiral in 1996. He became the 29th Vice Chief of Naval Operations in September 1996. As Vice Chief, he was a member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, formulated the Navy's \$70 billion budget, and developed and implemented policies governing the Navy's 375,000 personnel.



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Page 3 of 3

General Lloyd W. "Fig" Newton (USAF, Ret)



Currently serves as Executive Vice President of Pratt & Whitney, Military Engines. Former Commander of Air Education and Training Command, headquartered at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas. He was responsible for the recruiting, training and education of Air Force personnel. His command included Air Force Recruiting Service, two numbered air forces and Air University. He was also commander of three wings and an air division and held numerous staff positions. From 1993 to 1995, he was Director of Operations, J-3, U.S. Special Operations Command. General Newton is a command pilot with more than 4,000 flying hours in the T-37, T-38, F-4, F-15, C-12 and F-117 stealth fighter. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in aviation education from Tennessee State University and a Master of Arts degree in public administration from George Washington University.

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner



Mr. Skinner is the retired Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of USF Corporation, one of the nation's leading transportation and logistics companies. He also served from 1993-1998 as President of Commonwealth Edison Company and its holding company, Unicom Corporation. Prior to joining Commonwealth Edison, Mr. Skinner served as Chief of Staff to President George H.W. Bush. Prior to his White House service, he served in the President's Cabinet for nearly three years as Secretary of Transportation. As Secretary, Mr. Skinner was credited with numerous successes, including the development of the President's National Transportation Policy and the development and passage of landmark aviation and surface transportation legislation. Mr. Skinner is currently an Adjunct Professor of Management and Strategy at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University. He served as a member of the Illinois National Guard and the United States Army reserve from 1957-1968.

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner (USAF, Ret.)



General Turner retired in 1995, following 30 years active duty. Her key assignments included: Director, Nursing Services, Office of the USAF Surgeon General; Chief Nurse, Wilford Hall Medical Center; and the Medical Inspection Team, USAF Inspector General. General Turner joined the Air Force Nurse Corps in 1965 and went on to earn a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Incarnate Word College and a Master of Science in nursing from the University of Alabama in Birmingham. She also completed Squadron Officer School, Air Command and Staff College, Air War College, and National Security Management. In recent years, she has served on the American Battle Monuments Commission and the Board of Directors of a large credit union.
