

Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
2521 Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202
(703) 699-2950

Memorandum of Meeting

DATE: 5 August, 2005

TIME: 1000

MEETING WITH: Community representatives from Newport News, VA.

PARTICIPANTS:

Name/Title/Phone Number:

Joe S. Frank/ Mayor, City of Newport News, VA

Florence Kingston/ Director of Development, City of Newport News, VA/ (757) 926-3789/ fkington@nngov.com

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Josh Cohn/ Special Assistant to Governor Warner/ (202) 783-1769/ josh.cohn@governor.virginia.gov

Commission Staff:

* Dean Rhody

James D. Durso

Lesia Mandzia

Tom Pantelides

David Epstein

MEETNG SUMMARY:

1. Community representatives proposed realigning the Naval Supply Corps School currently at Athens, GA, to Fort Eustis, VA. In addition to comments, they provided a written summary of the proposal to David Epstein detailing the financial advantages of moving to Ft Eustis instead of Naval Station, Newport, RI.
2. Following the proposal, they focused on issues affecting Fort Eustis, VA. They specifically addressed :

- Their support for the retention of Fort Monroe, VA.
 - If Fort Monroe closes, the movement of the TRADOC Headquarters, the Installation Support Activity (NE & SE), and NETCOM to Fort Eustis.
 - The City's willingness to provide extensive support to any activity moving to Fort Eustis, to include property transfer, road building, and enhanced use lease.
 - Their reservations on the move of SDDC from Fort Eustis. They expanded on the issue by citing facts that supported the consolidation of SDDC at Fort Eustis.
 - Their reservations on the move of U.S. Army Aviation Logistics School to Fort Rucker, AL. They provided specific concerns with this proposed move.
 - Their reservations with the move of the Transportation School to Fort Lee. Among other concerns, they cited force protection and impediments to training related to rail and water assets.
3. In closing the representatives raised the possibility of moving the Army Material Command to Fort Eustis, VA, citing several factors they believed made that location better than the DOD proposal.
 4. Copies of this memo and the materials provided will be submitted to the library for record.

BRAC Issues with Fort Eustis

Questions that need to be answered about the cost benefit of moving the US Army Aviation Logistics School (USAALS) from Fort Eustis to Fort Rucker

How is it possible to accomplish the USAALS training mission at Fort Rucker with the stated BRAC resources?

- **Answer: It is not possible to meet the mission with the BRAC allocation of 219 personnel. The BRAC savings is based on elimination of personnel positions. Any requirement for personnel above the 219 called for in the BRAC eliminates savings.**
 - FY07 personnel authorization for USAALS at Fort Eustis is 602 people
 - BRAC calls for all but 219 of the 602 positions to be eliminated prior to the move to Fort Rucker.
 - If all 219 personnel moved were instructors it would fall short by 175 instructors of the number required to train the student load.
 - In addition to instructors there is no commonality between Training Developers and administrative support staff between USAALS and Fort Rucker.

What is the commonality between the course material taught at Fort Eustis and the course material taught at Fort Rucker?

- **Answer: There is no commonality in training that will enable “consolidation” as called for in BRAC**
 - The training currently conducted at Fort Eustis is for initial entry level enlisted aviation personnel and Basic Non Commissioned Officer Courses.
 - Fort Rucker conducts pilot training for student officers.

What is the military construction cost requirement to support the BRAC?

- **Answer: Nearly half billion dollars in Military Construction (MILCON)**
 - BRAC COBRA data base estimated approximately 494 million dollars in new construction at Fort Rucker.
 - BRAC calls for more than 2 million net square feet to be built for USAALS at Rucker.

What will the disruption to the Army aviation maintenance training mission of as a result of this move?

- **Answer: Unknown. The move is predicated on a construction schedule that must be synchronized with the recruiting command and orchestrated with transportation assets to ensure no more than a 90 day disruption in each course over the move years (estimate 3 years to move)**
 - Each course to be moved must be shut down at Fort Eustis, moved over a 90 day period, and restarted at Fort Rucker
 - Facilities must be designed, built and ready for occupancy prior to move.

BRAC Issues with Fort Eustis

- USAALS has more than 135 non flying aircraft or aircraft sized computerized trainers that must be moved on special air ride trailers (one per trailer) in addition to thousands of tool boxes, computers, shop sets, and equipment.
- Training devices were not designed to be moved nor left out in the weather.
- Delay in occupancy of new facilities or delay in recertifying training devices will significantly impact on the ability to restart training.

Skilled civilian workforce in the local area

- Fort Eustis has conducted aviation maintenance training for more than 50 years.
- There is a multi layered workforce of skilled aviation maintenance instructors readily available to fill vacancies.
- This work force does not exist at Fort Rucker and will require many years to develop.

What is the real cost of this move?