



DCN: 4837

CITY COUNCIL

CITY COUNCIL OFFICE

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BRAC Commission

JUL 18 2005

Received

July 12, 2005

Mr. Anthony Principi, Chairman
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Mr. Principi:

SUBJECT: Department of Defense Recommendations for Base Realignment and Closures at
Naval Base Ventura County, California

The City Council of the City of Oxnard requests that you do not support the Pentagon's recommendations for the realignments at Naval Base Ventura County (NVBC) that result in transfer of war-fighting abilities to other bases. We oppose the realignments for the following reasons:

1. The Sea Test Range is unparalleled and cannot be duplicated anywhere else in the country. (Or in the world, for that matter.)
2. It does not make logical or economic sense to relocate the range support operations to a location 150 miles away, while keeping the test range and facilities open.
3. Many civil service and contractor employees have said they will retire or not move to Ridgecrest or China Lake, which is in Kern County, about 100 miles east of Bakersfield.
4. It would take the Navy years to reconstitute the above lost expertise, which means that the projects their personnel work on will suffer. That could create a problem with the continuation of programs and be detrimental to the nation's global war on terrorism.
5. Relocating the sea range and target personnel to a location 150 miles away from their primary operating area will increase the employees' response time to range tasking, reduce their on-range time, increase operating costs, and reduce safety.

Mr. Anthony Principi, Chairman
July 7, 2005
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We are hopeful that you will agree with us and reject the Department of Defense's recommendations to move weapons, range, and electronic warfare functions from NBVC to China Lake. Please feel free to call us at (805) 385-7430 if you have any questions.

Cordially,



Dr. Thomas E. Holden
Mayor



Andres Herrera
Mayor Pro Tem



Dean Maulhardt
Councilmember



Timothy B. Flynn
Councilman



John C. Zaragoza
Councilmember

TEH:CD

c: Edmund F. Sotelo, City Manager
Karen Burnham, Assistant City Manager
Cynthia Daniels, Public Works Department