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Received

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BRAC 2005 Independent Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite #600
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Dear Commissioners,

I watched with great interest the presentations made to your Commission in Boston today. The hearing was shown live on Connecticut Television Network.

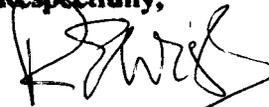
I expected to witness local boosterism, partisan political posturing, appeals to tradition, and resistance to change. What I saw were extremely thorough and insightful meta-evaluations of the data that the Department of Defense used to support its recommendations to you, and comprehensive assessments of the real effects of the proposed base closures and realignments locally, regionally, and nationally.

I was especially dismayed by apparent lack of thoroughness and thoughtfulness in DoD's analyses. The presentations I saw today give me no confidence that the DoD's analyses are on-target. In fact, considering DoD's historical tendency to overestimate benefits and underestimate costs, I would conclude that the analyses on which the Department of Defense based its recommendations to you are probably deeply flawed and not reliable.

But if the DoD analyses are wrong, what's right? I don't know and, most importantly, neither do you. I believe that DoD has failed to demonstrate the strategic and economic benefits of the proposed closures and realignments.

Therefore, I urge you to **reject** the Department of Defense's recommendations on base closures and realignments in their entirety, and to report to the President that **no** base closures are justified at this time.

Respectfully,



Richard E. Wise
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