



DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

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**Chairman:** The Honorable Anthony J. Principi  
**Commissioners:** The Honorable James H. Bilbray • The Honorable Philip E. Coyle III • Admirable Harold W. Gehman, Jr., USN (Ret.) • The Honorable James V. Hansen  
General James T. Hill, USA (Ret.) • General Lloyd W. Newton, USAF (Ret.) • The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner • Brigadier General Sue Ellen Turner, USAF (Ret.)  
**Executive Director:** Charles Battaglia

June 22, 2005

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FROM: BRAC Commission

SUBJECT: Visit to Redstone Arsenal, 7 June 2005.

1. Joint Program Office Robotics (Robotic Development and Acquisition) at Redstone Arsenal is already a joint Army-Marine operation with Navy funding. Its mission is developing, testing, and even fielding cutting-edge robots for use in theater. Robotic devices essentially have three integrated components: the vehicle that carries the payload, the payload, and the software to make the robot work. The DOD proposal would split out the vehicle component and transfer it to PEO GCS at Detroit Arsenal. Detroit Arsenal does not have the land necessary to test such devices. Additionally, the robot is usually developed as a unit. While the Redstone personnel indicated that the recommended split could work, there is no clarity on how such a split would increase military value over the present arrangement. Request statement on how the DOD proposal increases military value over the current situation.
2. OMEMS conducts training in hazardous devices with emphasis on explosive ordnance disposal (EOD). The school element that conducts the EOD training is heavily involved in supporting the FBI Hazardous Devices Training facility, located on Redstone Arsenal. The training facility is a national resource, training both federal and state personnel. Request DOD position on future support to the FBI facility. Were any costs included in the DOD cost estimates for backfill of the support to the FBI facility, either for DOD activities or other governmental activities?
3. During his testimony before the Committee, Dr Craig College cited previous experience for major RDT&E moves and mentioned a low PCS rate. The local community of Huntsville has conducted previous highly successful efforts under such conditions to draw in as many of the existing workforce as possible. The actual PCS number at Redstone in a previous BRAC RDT&E move was a 75% transfer rate. Request clarification on anticipated PCS rate be provided to the Committee.

Regards,

R. Gary Dinsick  
Army Team Leader



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JUL 8 2005

The Honorable Anthony Principi  
Chairman  
Defense Base Realignment and Closure Commission  
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi:

Following a Base Realignment and Closure Commission visit to Redstone Arsenal, your staff submitted questions concerning the Arsenal's operations. At enclosure, please find responses from the Technical Joint Cross Service Group (TJCSG) and the Education and Training JCSG.

Thank you for the opportunity to address your questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan R. Shaffer", written in a cursive style.

Alan R. Shaffer  
Executive Director  
Technical Joint Cross Service Group

Enclosure  
As stated.



Defense Base Realignment and Closure Commission Questions  
And Joint Cross-Service Groups Responses Concerning Redstone Arsenal  
July 8, 2005

Question 1:

Joint Program Office Robotics (Robotic Development and Acquisition) at Redstone Arsenal is already a joint Army-Marine operation with Navy funding. Its mission is developing, testing, and even fielding cutting-edge robots for use in theater. Robotic devices essentially have three integrated components: the vehicle that carries the payload, the payload, and the software to make the robot work. The Department of Defense (DOD) proposal would split out the vehicle component and transfer it to the Program Executive Office Ground Combat Systems at Detroit Arsenal. Detroit Arsenal does not have the land necessary to test such devices. Additionally, the robot is usually developed as a unit. While the Redstone personnel indicated that the recommended split could work, there is no clarity on how such a split would increase military value over the present arrangement. Request statement on how the DOD proposal increases military value over the current situation.

Response:

From the Technical Joint Cross Service Group: The intent of the recommendation consolidates manned and unmanned ground vehicle program management and Development and Acquisition activities at Detroit Arsenal that constitutes the Army's largest ground combat and automotive research, development, and sustainment organization. The recommendation promotes increased jointness, technical synergy, and the positioning of the DOD to exploit a center-of-mass scientific, technical, and acquisition expertise with the personnel involved in manned and unmanned ground vehicle Research, Development & Acquisition that currently resides at Detroit Arsenal.

Question 2:

Ordnance Munition and Electronics Maintenance School (OMEMS) conducts training in hazardous devices with emphasis on explosive ordnance disposal (EOD). The school element that conducts the EOD training is heavily involved in supporting the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Hazardous Devices Training facility, located on Redstone Arsenal. The training facility is a national resource, training both federal and state personnel. Request DOD position on future support to the FBI facility. Were any costs included in the DOD cost estimates for backfill of the support to the FBI facility, either for DOD activities or other governmental activities?

Response:

From the Education and Training Joint Cross Service Group: All OMEMS required Military Construction costs were included the Combat Service Support Center recommendation, which included the facility currently utilized to support FBI training requirements. No additional training costs were calculated at Redstone Arsenal to support FBI training; however, the FBI may pursue similar training agreements with Fort Lee if desired.

Question 3:

During his testimony before the Committee, Dr. Craig College cited previous experience for major RDT&E moves and mentioned a low Permanent Change of Station (PCS) rate. The local community of Huntsville has conducted previous highly successful efforts under such conditions to draw in as many of the existing workforce as possible. The actual PCS number at Redstone in a previous Base Realignment and Closure RDT&E move was a 75% transfer rate. Request clarification on anticipated PCS rate be provided to the Committee.

Response:

From the Education and Training Joint Cross Service Group: The Permanent Change of Station (PCS) rate is expected to vary depending on a number of factors unique to each recommendation.