DCN 4181

MEC

MILITARY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

Beaufort County, South Carolina

"A great tradition.
A great future."

COL John Payne (Ret) USMCR, MEC Chair

June 28, 2005

BRAC Commission Regional Hearing - Charlotte, NC

103-06A –RH8 – State Input
Regional Hearing – June 28, 2005 – Charlotte, NC
BRAC COMMISSION – FY 2005
COFF:_____ DISPOSITION: Permanent

Beaufort County, South Carolina Tri-Command: A National Asset

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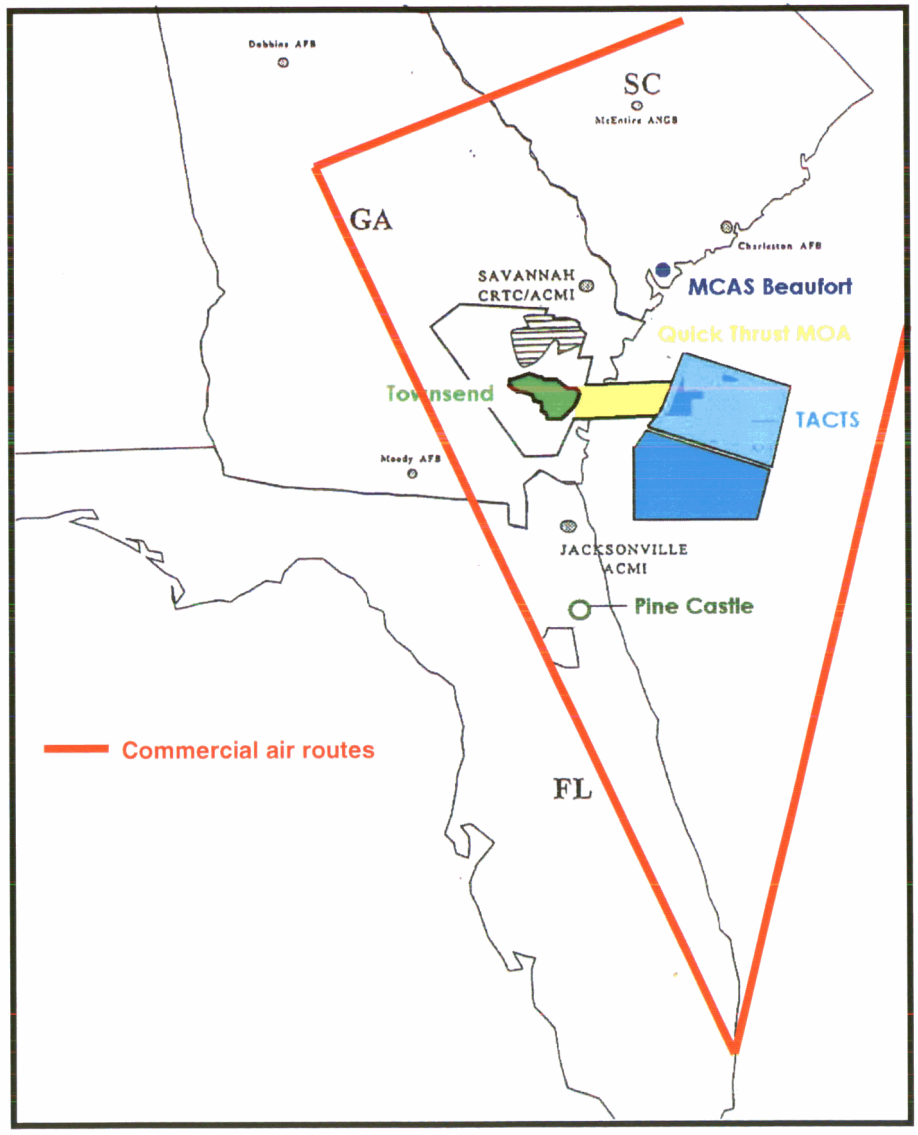
- **Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort**
  - Expansion capability to roughly double in size
- **Marine Corps Recruit Depot at Parris Island**
  - Proven surge capability to train more than double the number of graduating recruits
- **Naval Hospital Beaufort**
  - Serves MCAS Beaufort, MCRD Parris Island, DoD Retirees and their dependants

MCAS Beaufort: Exceptional Military Value

Beaufort is the ONLY Air Station on the East Coast where simulated attacks can be initiated from the sea and completed in a fully tactical scenario against a defended coastline.

- **Strategically valuable, irreplaceable, geographic location**
  - Null in commercial air routes
  - The air station has air traffic control authority for all air traffic between Savannah, GA and Charleston, SC from surface to 10,000 feet
  - Proximity to Pine Castle range
- **Unparalleled, cost-effective training capabilities**
  - Computerized off-shore air-to-air range (TACTS)
  - Air-to-ground range (Townsend)
  - Ranges connected by "Quick Thrust Corridor" MOA
  - Full training mission to both ranges on one tank of gas

Simply put Beaufort is the best place to train like we fight.



Encroachment Prevention: Leading DoD

Encroachment is a major concern at EVERY air installation.

MCAS Beaufort has had some recent developments that are critical to the future value of the installation that were not recognized in the BRAC data call process.

- JLUS (Joint Land Use Study) completed in 2004
  - Currently being implemented by local governments
- Selected by DoN for an OSD pilot program as a model for other communities
  - Partnering with DoD to buy land
  - Recently conducted OSD "Developer's Forum"

Encroachment does NOT affect the day to day operations of the base

Significant Expansion Capability

MEC

Runways

- Land for additional 8,000 foot runway
- Four outlying field locations identified

Ranges

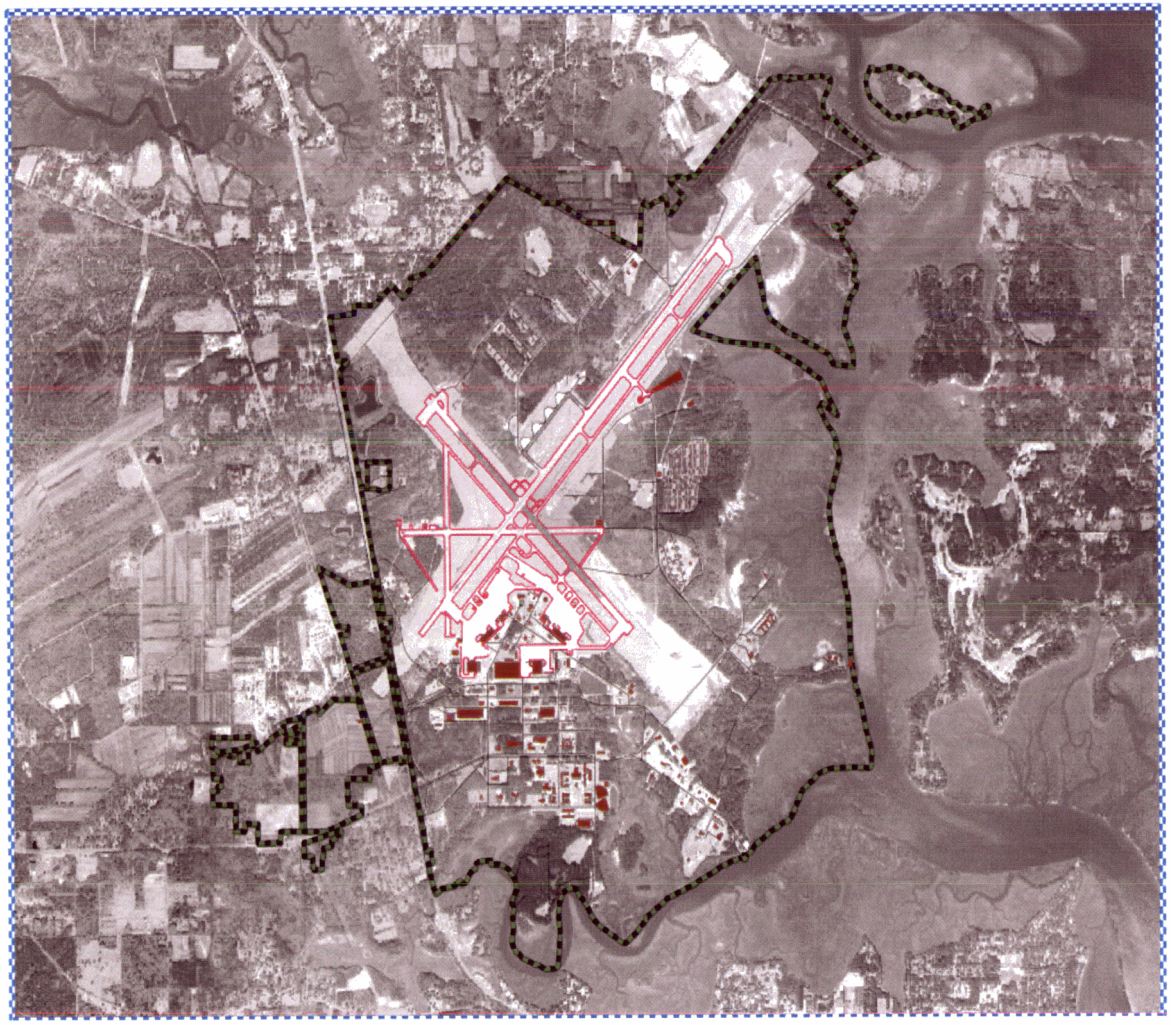
- Our ranges are not at full capacity

Units

- 3-5 immediate additional squadrons, or
- 8-10 additional squadrons with reasonable milcon

Air Quality

- Beaufort is, and will easily remain, within air quality standards even when the JSF comes on line



Beaufort – Great Training and A Great Home to the Military

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- Significant expansion capability
- Proactive encroachment prevention
- Strategic geographic location
- Unique local training capabilities
- Positive relationship with the local community

Contact Information

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