



ACQUISITION,
TECHNOLOGY
AND LOGISTICS

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3010 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3010

JUL 19 2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify at the July 18, 2005, Commission hearing. During the hearing, the Department committed to provide the Commission with responses to questions regarding excess capacity at Potomac Annex and Department of Homeland Security requirements. Enclosed are responses to these questions for the record.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michael W. Wynne".

Michael W. Wynne
Chairman, Infrastructure Steering Group

Enclosure:
As stated



QUESTIONS FOR THE RECORD
DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION HEARING
JULY 18, 2005

Potomac Annex

QUESTION: Why did you not use the excess capacity at the Potomac Annex for the collocation of the Medical Commands?

ANSWER: The use of the Potomac Annex was considered during the Department's BRAC analysis but the excess amount of square feet available is not adequate to collocate the Medical Command HQs at Potomac Annex. Additionally, due to the historic nature of the facility and the lack of available buildable acres, increasing the size of the existing footprint by adding new construction is considered problematic. Therefore, we did not run a scenario to consider the Medical HQ collocation at Potomac Annex.

QUESTIONS FOR THE RECORD
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Homeland Security Requirements

QUESTION: Does the Department of Defense have a list of homeland security requirements from the Department of Homeland Security?

ANSWER: As noted in the December 10, 2004, memo, "Transformation Through Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC 2005) Policy Memorandum Five – Homeland Defense", "the Department's homeland defense mission has three major elements: homeland defense against direct attacks to the United States, including in the air and maritime approaches; civil support to the nation as requested by lead federal agencies and approved by the Secretary of Defense; and enabling activities to improve national and coalition capabilities for homeland security, to include sharing expertise, technology, and training."

In terms of the second element – civil support to the nation as requested by lead federal agencies and approved by the Secretary of Defense -- DoD has historically provided, and continues to provide, assistance to civil authorities when their resources are overwhelmed or when faced with challenges necessitating use of the Department's unique capabilities. Such assistance can be provided: (1) at the direction of the President; (2) at the request of another Federal agency under the Economy Act, or (3) in response to a request from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS)'s Federal Emergency Management Agency under the Stafford Act. The second and third mechanisms require a request for assistance (RFA) and approval of the Secretary of Defense. RFAs articulate the Department of Homeland Security's requirements for an event or response activity and are shared with DoD on an expedited basis once specific requirements have been formulated.

RFAs can also be developed for support of a longer duration. For example, DoD worked extensively to support DHS's development and execution of an Interagency Security Plan to address heightened terrorist threats following the March 2004 Madrid train bombing. This process began with DHS mission area initiatives and led to the development of specific requests for assistance, which were fulfilled by DoD following approval by the Secretary of Defense.