Executive Correspondence
DCN 1285

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CONGRESSIONAL SPORTSMEN'S CAUCUS
CONGRESSIONAL TRAVEL AND TOURISM CAUCUS
PORT SECURITY CAUCUS
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ORIGINAL

CONGRESSMAN ROB SIMMONS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SECOND DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PROJECTION FORCES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TACTICAL AIR AND LAND FORCES

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON RAILROADS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON COAST GUARD AND MARITIME TRANSPORTATION

VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH
CHAIRMAN

May 2, 2005

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
Polk Building
Suites 600 and 625
2521 South Clark Street
Arlington, VA 22202

RECEIVED
05042005

Dear Representative Bilbray:

The State of Connecticut has a special appreciation for the unique relationship between the Naval Submarine Base New London; the Naval Submarine School; the Naval Undersea Warfare Center at Newport, Rhode Island; and the Electric Boat Corporation and its many regional subcontractors.

This military-industrial-educational nexus, anchored by Sub Base New London, represents a transformational diamond developed over the last 100 years. As you prepare your recommendation to the 2005 Commission on Base Realignment and Closure Commission, we urge you to consider the additional defense value produced by this special convergence of American expertise, talent and technology.

The Naval Submarine Base New London, "Home of the Submarine Force," is the core of an undersea warfare community that has produced many of America's greatest naval advancements. Some of these milestones include the design and production of the USS Nautilus – the very first nuclear-powered submarine – and the USS Jimmy Carter, the most sophisticated warship ever built.

The trend will soon continue through Tango Bravo, a cooperative research and development program to develop a submarine with all the capabilities of a Virginia-class, but at half the size and price. This transformational platform could ultimately help the Navy afford the number of submarines it needs.

Such initiatives thrive within the undersea warfare community around Sub Base New London because it is a true center of excellence. Instructors at the Naval Submarine School borrow lessons learned from the crews of the 16 home-ported attack boats to better train the silent service's newest volunteers. All of this interaction takes place both formally and spontaneously because that is the nature of great Americans with common passions and the blessings of proximity. It is hard to imagine this level and quality of interplay replicated at any other U.S. naval base.

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(860) 741–4053

TOLL FREE IN CONNECTICUT: (800) 822–4319

The undersea warfare community partnership also makes good business sense. Next door to the Sub Base, the Electric Boat Corporation uses its century of experience to maintain standards of excellence in the design, construction and lifecycle support of submarines for the U.S. Navy. Its primary operations are the shipyard in Groton (CT), and the automated hull-fabrication and outfitting facility in Quonset Point (RI), with a combined workforce of more than 11,000 employees.

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It is for these reasons that I urge you to duly weigh the defense value of this special relationship as you prepare your recommendations to the president.

All the best,

We can't synergy!

Rob Simmons
Member of Congress
Second District, Connecticut

Executive Correspondence
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May 2, 2005

The Honorable Philip Coyle
BRAC Commission
Polk Building
Suites 600 and 625
2521 South Clark Street
Arlington, VA 22202

RECEIVED
05052005

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Member of Congress
Second District, Connecticut

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CHAIRMAN

May 2, 2005

CONGRESSMAN ROB SIMMONS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SECOND DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

Admiral Harold W. Gehman (Ret.)
BRAC Commission
Polk Building
Suites 600 and 625
2521 South Clark Street
Arlington, VA 22202

RECEIVED
05062005

Dear Admiral Gehman:

The State of Connecticut has a special appreciation for the unique relationship between the Naval Submarine Base New London; the Naval Submarine School; the Naval Undersea Warfare Center at Newport, Rhode Island; and the Electric Boat Corporation and its many regional subcontractors.

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Rob Simmons
Member of Congress
Second District, Connecticut

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CONGRESSMAN ROB SIMMONS
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May 2, 2005

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05032005

The Honorable James V. Hansen
BRAC Commission
Polk Building
Suites 600 and 625
2521 South Clark Street
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Representative Hansen: Jim:

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All the best,

Rob Simmons
Member of Congress
Second District, Connecticut

We call it synergy!

Executive Correspondence
DCN 1285

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CHAIRMAN

May 2, 2005

CONGRESSMAN ROB SIMMONS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SECOND DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

RECEIVED
05032005

General James T. Hill (Ret.)
BRAC Commission
Polk Building
Suites 600 and 625
2521 South Clark Street
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear General Hill:

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All the best,

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Rob Simmons
Member of Congress
Second District, Connecticut

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CHAIRMAN

May 2, 2005

CONGRESSMAN ROB SIMMONS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SECOND DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

RECEIVED
05052005

General Lloyd Newton (Ret.)
BRAC Commission
Polk Building
Suites 600 and 625
2521 South Clark Street
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear General Newton: Fig:

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Rob Simmons
Member of Congress
Second District, Connecticut

Executive Correspondence
DCN 1285

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May 2, 2005

CONGRESSMAN ROB SIMMONS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SECOND DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

ORIGINAL

RECEIVED 5/6/05

The Honorable Anthony Principi
BRAC Commission
Polk Building
Suites 600 and 625
2521 South Clark Street
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Secretary Principi: Tony:

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Second District, Connecticut

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SPEAKER'S PRESCRIPTION DRUG ACTION TEAM
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NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE COMPONENTS CAUCUS
CONGRESSIONAL SPORTSMEN'S CAUCUS
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PORT SECURITY CAUCUS
CONGRESSIONAL CAUCUS FOR WOMEN'S ISSUES

ORIGINAL

ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON PROJECTION FORCES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON TACTICAL AIR AND LAND FORCES

TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON RAILROADS
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT
SUBCOMMITTEE ON COAST GUARD AND MARITIME TRANSPORTATION

VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH
CHAIRMAN

May 2, 2005

CONGRESSMAN ROB SIMMONS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SECOND DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

RECEIVED
05032005

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner
BRAC Commission
Polk Building
Suites 600 and 625
2521 South Clark Street
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Secretary Skinner: Sam:

The State of Connecticut has a special appreciation for the unique relationship between the Naval Submarine Base New London; the Naval Submarine School; the Naval Undersea Warfare Center at Newport, Rhode Island; and the Electric Boat Corporation and its many regional subcontractors.

This military-industrial-educational nexus, anchored by Sub Base New London, represents a transformational diamond developed over the last 100 years. As you prepare your recommendation to the 2005 Commission on Base Realignment and Closure Commission, we urge you to consider the additional defense value produced by this special convergence of American expertise, talent and technology.

The Naval Submarine Base New London, "Home of the Submarine Force," is the core of an undersea warfare community that has produced many of America's greatest naval advancements. Some of these milestones include the design and production of the USS Nautilus – the very first nuclear-powered submarine – and the USS Jimmy Carter, the most sophisticated warship ever built.

The trend will soon continue through Tango Bravo, a cooperative research and development program to develop a submarine with all the capabilities of a Virginia-class, but at half the size and price. This transformational platform could ultimately help the Navy afford the number of submarines it needs.

Such initiatives thrive within the undersea warfare community around Sub Base New London because it is a true center of excellence. Instructors at the Naval Submarine School borrow lessons learned from the crews of the 16 home-ported attack boats to better train the silent service's newest volunteers. All of this interaction takes place both formally and spontaneously because that is the nature of great Americans with common passions and the blessings of proximity. It is hard to imagine this level and quality of interplay replicated at any other U.S. naval base.

215 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-2076

2 COURTHOUSE SQUARE
NORWICH, CT 06360
(860) 886-0139

37-39 PEARL STREET
ENFIELD, CT 06082
(860) 741-4053

TOLL FREE IN CONNECTICUT: (800) 822-4319

The undersea warfare community partnership also makes good business sense. Next door to the Sub Base, the Electric Boat Corporation uses its century of experience to maintain standards of excellence in the design, construction and lifecycle support of submarines for the U.S. Navy. Its primary operations are the shipyard in Groton (CT), and the automated hull-fabrication and outfitting facility in Quonset Point (RI), with a combined workforce of more than 11,000 employees.

On any given day, hundreds of EB employees work within the gates of the Sub Base, addressing problems at the source. Submariners of all ranks interact with Electric Boat employees to ensure that future designs incorporate every war fighting lesson our sailors have to offer. This partnership between the highly skilled workers of Electric Boat and the Navy—the region's second largest employer—addresses the very special needs of the submarine community perhaps better than any other local-military partnership in the United States today.

The defense value of the Naval Submarine Base New London goes well beyond its obvious traditional military value. The unique base-submarine school-undersea warfare center-industrial nexus provides the Navy with a one-of-a-kind American asset—a gold mine for future transformational developments that will build upon the achievements of the past.

It is for these reasons that I urge you to duly weigh the defense value of this special relationship as you prepare your recommendations to the president.

All the best,

It's call synergy!

Rob Simmons
Member of Congress
Second District, Connecticut

Executive Correspondence
DCN 1285

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH
CHAIRMAN

May 2, 2005

CONGRESSMAN ROB SIMMONS
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
SECOND DISTRICT, CONNECTICUT

Brigadier General Sue Ellen Turner (Ret.)
BRAC Commission
Polk Building
Suites 600 and 625
2521 South Clark Street
Arlington, VA 22202

RECEIVED
05052005

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