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# California State Senate



## SELECT COMMITTEE ON DEFENSE & AEROSPACE INDUSTRY BRAC Commission

STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 2068  
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814

AUG 29 2005

SENATOR ROY ASHBURN  
CHAIR

Received

August 22, 2005

The Honorable Anthony Principi  
Chairman  
2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission  
2521 S. Clark St., Ste. 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi:

I am writing to support the Department of Defense (DoD) recommendation to create a Naval Integrated Weapons and Armaments Center located at the Naval Air Warfare Station China Lake.

The proposal to consolidate the Navy's air-to-air, air-to-ground, and surface launched missile Research, Development and Acquisition (RD&A) as well as the Test and Evaluation (T&E) activities creates an efficient, integrated weapons center that benefits the military and the taxpayer. This recommendation is consistent with the BRAC criteria and the Secretary of Defense's transformation goals.

The combination of military restricted airspace and training routes above and around China Lake provide the widest diversity of open-air range and test environments critical to proper weapons testing, evaluation and eventual training. In fact, over 65% of all military restricted airspace over the United States is located within California, Nevada and Arizona. Additionally, California and local communities, such as Kern County, have implemented programs to preserve this restricted airspace from future encroachment.

I am certain that upon final review, you and your fellow commissioners will see the significant benefits of this proposal for our military. Thank you for your consideration of my comments.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roy Ashburn", written over a large, circular scribble.

Roy Ashburn  
Chairman