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May 26, 2005

The Honorable Donald Rumsfeld
Secretary of Defense
The Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301-4000

The Honorable Anthony Principi
Chairman, BRAC
2521 South Clark, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Secretary Rumsfeld:

To date, full justification data for closing or realigning installations still remains unavailable. As stated by the BRAC Commission,

“The recommendations provided by the DoD are extremely complex and interrelated and will require in-depth analysis and careful attention to detail. The Commission will follow a fair, open, and equitable process as set forth by statute.”

The failure of the Department of Defense to provide ALL of the justification data used to recommend closing or realigning installations in a timely fashion is anything but “fair, open or equitable.” The Department of Defense has had over two years to review and collect this data and people associated with the installations selected for closure should have at a minimum two weeks to review prior to any BRAC hearings or site visits. Sufficient time to review this data is necessary to ensure they can make an appeal based on the criteria established by the Department of Defense.

We are requesting from the BRAC that each installation recommended for closure or realignment be given the opportunity to review the crucial information used to evaluate its closure or realignment for a full two weeks prior to any BRAC hearing.

Sincerely,

Jim Talent
Susan Collins
L. D. Kennedy
Samuel Alito
Dick Durbin
Frank R. Lautenberg

Pat Bond
John Cornyn
Jont Lott
J. Kyl
Jay Byrnes
Kay Bailey Hutchison
Tom Harkin
M. H. McP