

DCN 3018

NARPAC, Inc.

06212005

(www.narpac.org)

4401 Boxwood Rd, Suite 400, Bethesda, MD 20816 tel: (301) 229-6076; fax: (301) 229-6077

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

June 17, 2005

My Dear Mr. Chairman:

Ref our May 2nd letter (copy attached), we are pleased that DoD included DC's Walter Reed and the Potomac Annex on their hit list, and that the Old Soldier's Home will shed its surplus land.

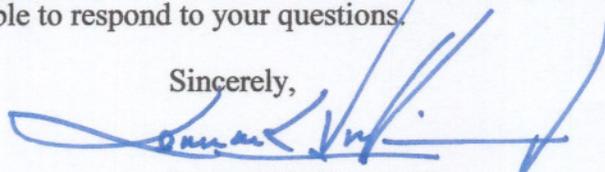
But DoD's largest under-utilized bases in DC remain unscathed, despite Service assessments that they have little military value, perhaps for fuzzy reasons such as "presidential support". Added to the city's huge, old, near-empty St. E's mental hospital, and near-full sewage treatment plant, these high-value, but untaxed, lands preempt 75% of DC's most severely disadvantaged Ward.

Assuming The Commission will find other military bases whose closure might incur real economic or security risks, *please* revisit DoD's 1000-odd prime acres along the banks of the Anacostia and Potomac Rivers. As big as DC's entire "downtown" area, and roughly twice the area of the National Mall, including the White House, these properties include the Naval Air Facility, Bolling AFB, and the Naval Research Lab (HQ?). Without full proof, we assert that *nothing goes on at these sites that could not be done equally well eight short miles away* at Maryland's huge Andrews AFB, which has much higher continuing military (and presidential support) value. For details, please see our prior submission, the attached graphic, or our web site.

We respectfully encourage The Commission to consider several subordinate options: if valid hush-hush reasons dictate keeping some fraction of these properties, then *please*: a) carve off that piece and release the rest; b) stretch out the release in time increments if that reduces DoD and local angst; but c) leave the released portion unencumbered for transfer (via GSA?) to the city.

You have a rare opportunity to materially improve further both the future prosperity and the world image of our nation's capital city. We trust that, in your wisdom, you will find it prudent to do so. We are of course available to respond to your questions.

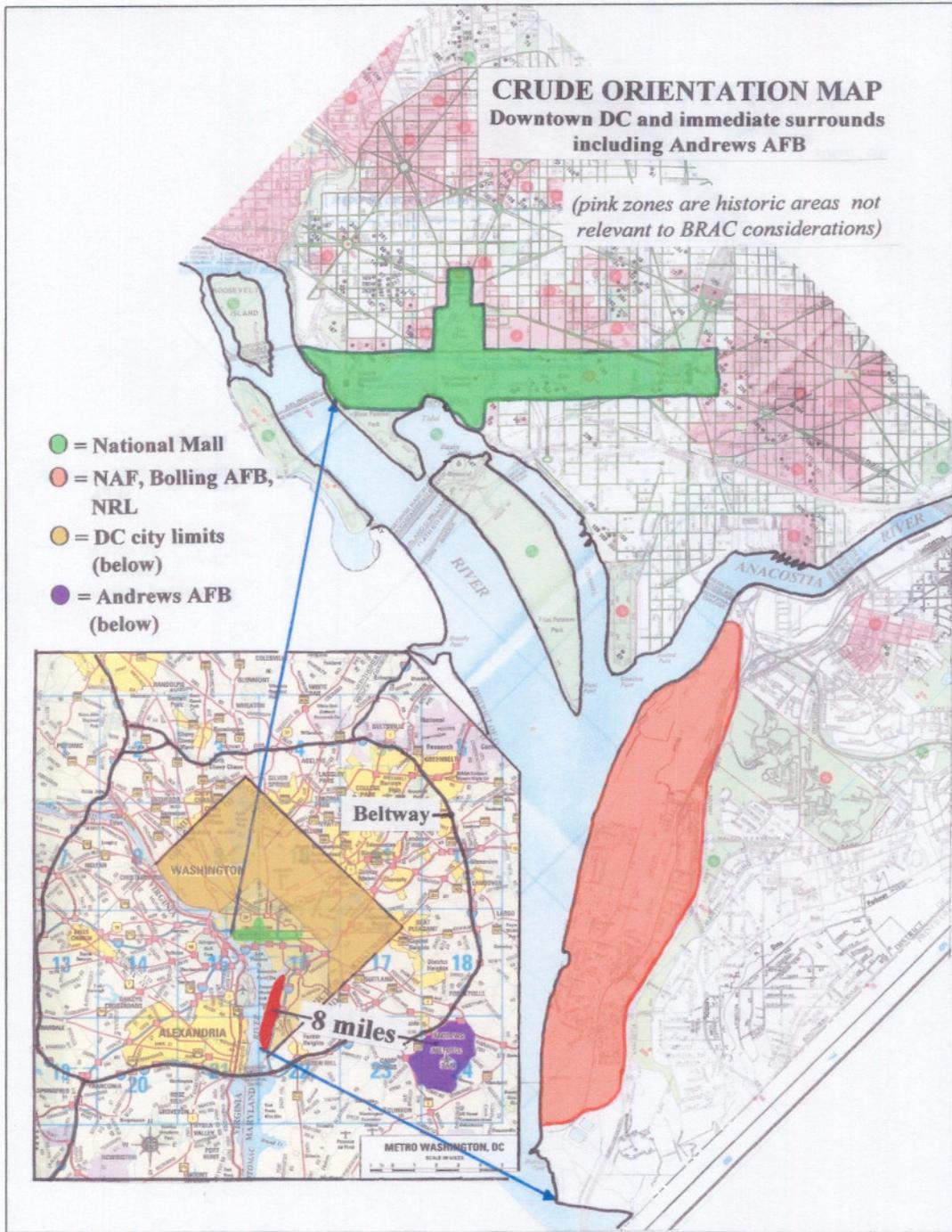
Sincerely,



Leonard Sullivan, Jr.  
president, NARPAC, Inc.  
(301) 229-6076

attachments: orientation map, prior NARPAC ltr dtd 5/21/05 to BRAC; (nine copies all)

LET'S GET WITH IT, AMERICA...IT'S OUR CAPITAL  
National Association to RESTORE PRIDE IN AMERICA'S CAPITAL



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4401 Boxwood Rd, Suite 400, Bethesda, MD 20816 tel: (301) 229-6076; fax: (301) 229-6077

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The Honorable Anthony Joseph Principi  
Chairman, Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission

Attn: Mr. Charles Battaglia  
Staff Director, BRAC Commission  
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

May 2, 2005

My Dear Mr. Chairman:

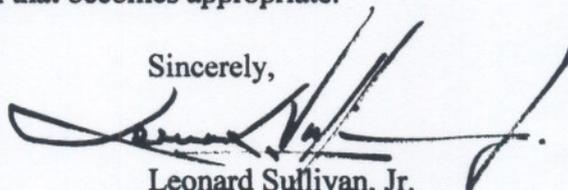
My non-profit organization has been working for some years to improve the image of our nation's capital city in the eyes of all Americans as well as others worldwide who look to the US for hope and inspiration. DC's socioeconomic ills flow from the fact that it is rich in poor people, and poor in available land that could enrich their lives and improve the city's below-average urban stature.

The District sorely needs hundreds more acres of unencumbered properties suitable for high-density development. Your commission could easily make them available, since alternate (and safer) military installations abound well within the national capital metro area.

Rather than repeat our rationale, I am attaching the letter we sent to Secretary Rumsfeld last fall as well as a hard copy of our web site analysis for those who may wish more detail. All of you are welcome to visit our web site at [www.narpac.org/REXBRAC.HTM](http://www.narpac.org/REXBRAC.HTM). We don't know DoD reactions to our inputs, but doubt their enthusiasm for ceding space so close to the seat of world power.

We look forward to an opportunity to plead our case for closing District military facilities before the Commission, if and when that becomes appropriate.

Sincerely,



Leonard Sullivan, Jr.  
president, NARPAC, Inc.  
e: [lsnarpac@bellatlantic.net](mailto:lsnarpac@bellatlantic.net)  
(301) 229-6076

attachments: NARPAC ltr dtd 9/21/04 to SecDef  
print-out of relevant NARPAC web site chapter

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