

BRAC Commission



**AUG 12 2005**

Received  
The Honorable James V. Hansen  
Commissioner  
Base Realignment and Closure Commission  
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

8 August 2005

Dear Commissioner Hansen:

I was informed by the staffs of Congressmen Holt and Pallone that you were interested in discussing my views on the BRAC recommendation that would relocate the Team C4ISR activities from Fort Monmouth to Aberdeen. As the BRAC Process moves into its final stages, I realize you must have a punishing schedule, and I very much appreciate your affording me the opportunity to share my views on this issue with you.

In my judgment, and based on my 32 years of service in the Army as a Signal Corps Officer, I am certain that a relocation of the magnitude contemplated in this case, will have a direct, immediate and catastrophic impact upon the mission performed by Team C4ISR and the Warfighter.

The Government team at Fort Monmouth has briefed Commissioners Principi, Newton and Coyle on the numerous operations, acquisitions, and rapid deployments that have been enabled by Team C4ISR, as well as, their ongoing support of the war in Iraq, the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT) and to Homeland Security. If this extraordinary capability were to be lost through a relocation to Aberdeen, the impact upon the survivability and effectiveness of our Warfighters would be devastating. As was noted in the 29 June 2005 letter from the National Defense University to Chairman Principi, there is no core of C4ISR expertise or facilities located at Aberdeen, and the vast majority of trained C4ISR personnel performing the mission will not relocate. Accordingly, whether that organizational capability can ever be reconstructed completely after the proposed move is questionable. Without the Commission's intervention, a world-class

organization that plays a critical role in meeting the C4ISR needs of the Warfighter every day is going to be arbitrarily and unjustifiably dismantled, in the midst of the GWOT.

It is my understanding that this BRAC round was supposed to be an opportunity to achieve inter-service jointness within DOD. The proposed relocation of Team C4ISR to Aberdeen does nothing in this regard and, in fact, completely severs that organization's connections with nearby Fort Dix/Lakehurst Naval Air Engineering Center/McGuire AFB. This Joint Base, with its three contiguous service installations, is the home to many C4ISR test and evaluation activities and is near the Army's center for C4ISR expertise at Fort Monmouth. Accordingly, it would have been an ideal location for a truly Joint DOD C4ISR Command structured reporting to the Commander, Joint Forces Command. I briefed this concept to Army, Air Force and Navy leadership during my last year in command and would welcome the opportunity to discuss it with you if your schedule permits.

As a resident of Virginia, I have no personnel equity in the final BRAC decision. Yet as a citizen and taxpayer, I do want to ensure the facts are adequately evaluated resulting in the right/best decision for the well being of our nation. That is the reason that I have elected to share my concerns.

I look forward to discussing this issue with you at your convenience. I firmly believe that if the Army fully understood the role performed by Team C4ISR at Fort Monmouth, it would never have recommended their relocation to Aberdeen, and it is my sincere hope that the Commission will rectify this situation. The lives of countless Warfighters depend upon it.



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