

JUL 13 2005

Received



July 7, 2005

Commissioners
2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioners,

My friends in Harford County recently told me of your forthcoming deliberations and I wanted to take this opportunity to tell you about my wonderful hometown.

As you may know, we have created a national baseball destination in Aberdeen with the construction of Ripken Stadium and the Ripken Youth Baseball Academy.

Ripken Stadium is a beautiful 6,000-seat minor league ballpark that serves as the home of the Class A Aberdeen IronBirds of the New York-Penn League. This is the 4th season of existence for the IronBirds and they have been a real hit in the Harford County community...in fact, they have sold out every game they have ever played here!

The Ripken Youth Baseball Academy is adjacent to the minor league ballpark and hosts youth baseball and softball camps and tournaments each summer. This year more than 10,000 kids from over twenty different states will visit the academy and have a great time learning the fundamentals of the game and competing in a fun, constructive atmosphere.

We would love to welcome the incoming families to Harford County and Aberdeen and I believe that all we have to offer at our complex would make their time here enjoyable, interesting and satisfying. In addition to the baseball, the complex is growing to include a hotel, shops and restaurants and, when complete, will further enhance this great community that I grew up in.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. I am proud to say that Harford County is where I grew up and to see the growth that the area has experienced since then is nothing short of amazing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cal Ripken, Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Cal Ripken, Jr.

JUL 13 2005

Received

July 6, 2005

Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Arlington, VA 22202-3920

Dear Commissioners,

Recently it has come to our attention that the proposed BRAC actions include moving the vast majority of ARL-SLAD elements at White Sands Missile Range (WSMR), NM, to the Aberdeen Proving Ground (APG) in Maryland. We have both been senior managers at White Sands Missile Range for many years - each of us recently retiring as the senior Civil Servant in our respective organizations. We know from first hand experience the degree of integration and the interdependence of the Army Test and Evaluation Command at WSMR and the ARL-SLAD at WSMR. Indeed the interdependence is so great that neither organization can accomplish its mission without the support of the other. For over 50 years these two organizations have been working together to ensure that the Test and Evaluation Mission at WSMR is technically sound and responsive to the needs of the Army and the Nation. The synergy between these organizations (and other organizations at the WSMR) is far greater than any possible synergy with ARL or other organizations at Aberdeen Proving Ground. The BRAC failed to even consider this relationship.

After a careful review, it is our conclusion that the BRAC decision is seriously flawed in a number of ways.

First, it fails to account for the interdependence and synergy with organizations at WSMR. This synergy with ATEC-WSMR is particularly critical. But additional synergies with other WSMR organizations are also essential to the overall mission of WSMR organizations. A partial accounting of ARL-SLAD's close relationship with other WSMR organizations is shown at TAB A.

Second, it makes the tacit assumption that the ARL-SLAD mission can be performed at APG. Simply stated this assumption is incorrect. Many of the facilities that ARL-SLAD uses to perform its mission cannot be either moved to, or used at, the APG. Space limitation, safety restrictions, radio frequency interference constraints, aircraft over-flight control, laser radiation hazards, and environmental restraints must have been ignored. A comparison of the restrictions at APG and WSMR can be found at TAB B.

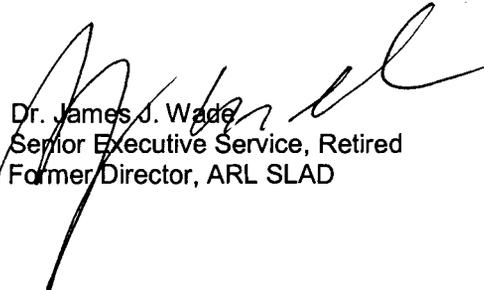
Third, ARL SLAD currently occupies 117,000 sq ft of office and laboratory space. The BRAC action proposes to replace that with "shared use of" 70,000 sq ft (with estimated new construction cost of \$15M) at APG. This, coupled with the cost of moving essential equipment, demonstrates how the COBRA model greatly under states the cost of the proposed move. It is our belief that the cost of the move is understated by a factor of at least two and probably more. Errors and omissions are shown at TAB C.

Fourth, in order for WSMR to continue to perform its T&E mission after the move, two things will have to occur. Many ARL-SLAD engineers and scientists will have to travel frequently to WSMR and/or ATEC WSMR will have to hire additional people. Neither of these two costs was properly accounted for in the BRAC analysis. Our analysis indicates that the added cost to the Army is estimated to be \$7-9M per year. There are no known cost savings created by the move to APG to offset this annual expense. TAB D itemizes the cost to support the test and evaluation mission at WSMR should ARL-SLAD move to APG.

As two career senior civilians, with a combined experience of 86 years (77 of those years at WSMR) who understand the impact of this move to the Army and to the nation, we feel compelled to bring this matter to your attention and request your help in reversing the BRAC proposal. We are ready to assist in any way we can.



Paul K. Arthur
Rear Admiral, US Navy Reserve, Retired
Former Technical Director and Deputy to the
Commanding General, White Sands Missile Range



Dr. James J. Wade
Senior Executive Service, Retired
Former Director, ARL SLAD

JUL 13 2005
James Fasig
Received
Churchville, Md.
7 July 2005

The Honorable Phillip Coyle
Commissioner
2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
2521 S. Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Va. 22202

Dear Sir:

Considerable concern has been voiced over the impact of moving the Communication and Electronics (C&E) Command from Fort Monmouth to APG, especially at a time when the Army & DOD transformation is in full swing. The move of C&E Com to APG is clearly profound since C&E Com is a major player in the transformation process. However, careful examination shows that it not only makes sense; it is necessary to meet the Army goals of a Networkcentric Joint Warfighter. This conclusion is based on three important factors.

1. The Future Combat System (FCS) has already committed its technical base to APG. Investing \$30 million to build an East Coast Networkcentric System Node at the proving ground.
2. The act of creating a Triad that includes Acquisition, R&D and T&E stationed together has proven exceptional in delivering quality and timely systems to the warfighter.
3. APG has a plethora of R&D and T&E facilities, technical expertise and instrumentation unmatched anywhere available to C&E Com.

Examining each of these factors individually will bring a clear understanding of how the move assures and promotes the Army Transformation providing a coherent acquisition base for decades into the future.

1. Boeing, SAIC and APG have partnered to build a \$30 million Network Centric Node at the proving ground to test, prove, and develop the FCS family of systems. Presently FCS consists of 8 manned platforms, 4 unmanned aerial (UAV) platforms and 4 unmanned ground (UGV) systems. These systems must function in a Joint Multi-National Force. To assure the success of this concept Boeing, the system integrator, contracted with Aberdeen Test Center to build an East Coast Networkcentric Node. The node will enable any combination of the FCS systems to be networked operationally while simultaneously being stressed electronically and mechanically. Computer, software and comms systems can be tested and at the same time viewed to prove performance in a simulated battle space. The node can also simulate all kinds of variants, placing systems into the network even before the hardware is ready. This gives the design, development and user community knowledge and confidence in the system capability to meet mission requirements.

The node is networked to ATC's VISION system to get complete online data streams

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from platforms, personnel and comms centers throughout the APG. This system has been proven during Stryker tests and Nationwide for the Dept of Transportation. Also the VISION system is used throughout all ATEC test centers thereby linking Boeing's node throughout the country. The Boeing node is tied directly to the California based System of Systems (SoSIL) laboratory. These powerful network linkages provide data and technical knowledge across the FCS acquisition, R&D and T&E family. It enables government industry and research labs to function as one when building the new Units of Action for FCS. It also assures rapid insertion of new technology to the warfighter as systems are proven.

Bringing C&E Com to this partnership will benefit the total process. Clearly many of the C&E systems will be incorporated into FCS and will provide a major part of the Networkcentric capability essential to FCS success. Adding C&E Com completes a mosaic that will bring rapid transition seamlessly to the transformation force. The wealth of existing R&D, T&E capability brought Boeing/FCS to APG; C&E Com will benefit even more as a result of the FCS Network Node.

2. A triad of Acquisition, R&D and T&E at one location has proven its value time and again. The latest example is PAX River where the Navy implemented this triad concept. The benefits are powerful: synergy builds from the experts in the three disciplines being readily available to work each problem as it occurs. The Army has built its centers of excellence the same way, i.e. MICOM @ Redstone.

The history of communication systems in the Army has been difficult. Frequently systems have failed OT&E for lack of adequate DT&E. At one point, six systems failed in OT. Failure in OT is extremely costly. Even worse, delays fielding of an essential product to our war fighter. Acquisition of new systems does not have the luxury of time and is strangled by cost growth, a given when OT has to be repeated. Just recently, a C&E system passed its OT&E. The OT test was conducted at APG after a solid DT at the proving ground confirming acquisition, R&D, and T&E work best together. With the FCS node and the extensive technical based facilities also in place at Aberdeen, the triad naturally belongs at APG.

3. APG brings a foundation of support to C&E Com that is truly exceptional:

a. A Scalable Networkcentric Development and Test Range, that includes Army controlled air, ground and littoral environments, provides an instrumented capability to evaluate transformation systems. The keystone of this complex is the U.S. Army Phillips Airfield with an 8000 foot runway and restricted special use air space. This airfield has been extremely useful for UAV tests; Finder, Telemaster, Dragon Eye, Spider, Joker, Scout, etc.. Sensor testing is linked with UAVs, since these systems are mainly designed to provide reconnaissance. The restricted air space allows extensive flying of the systems without the need for chase planes. Since APG has a wealth of foreign material the systems are tested against typical targets. Adjacent to the airfield is Range 8 where system signatures are carefully measured. This sensor test capability includes IR, electromagnetic, seismic, millimeter wave, visible chromatic and spatial measurements. Therefore, these precise measurements can be compared to the output of the sensors on UAVs, UGVs, and combat systems. Night Vision Lab uses these assets extensively. This powerful RDT&E capability is essential to FCS. In a single mission scenario, the technical

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personnel can evaluate the performance of the carrier systems (UAV, UGV, CV) at the same time the sensor systems are being measured. All data is automatically transmitted to the FCS Node and the ATC Vision System.

b. Aberdeen Proving Ground has DOD's premier high performance computer center. This complex of computers is used extensively to model and simulate systems in design and development. Also, it has proven exceptional in test and evaluation. The ability to use hard test data to confirm model and design parameters is key to assuring predictable performance. Once validated, these models can be used to explore high risk system performance without damaging the hardware. Ballistic shock is a good example. Extensive electronic systems, sensors, and comms gear can be stressed on the computer system, thereby minimizing destructive testing. This will become even more critical as new armor systems are incorporated to reduce overall platform weight. It is important not only for the armor to stop the threat, but also the systems inside must continue to function after attack.

c. The survivability R&D, T&E center of excellence is also at APG. All live fire tests of ground systems have been conducted at the Proving Ground. Aerial systems have been tested by the Research Center at Aberdeen. Close in air support by helos and aircraft have in large measure been hardened by this Aberdeen team effort.

d. Robotic systems, R&D, T&E, are another center of excellence in the Aberdeen tool bag. Using all the technology to develop and field landbased systems ATC and ARL have helped field a number of robotic systems. Examples include mine sweepers for the Army and Marine Corp, security systems, and UAVs. Road shock and vibration are frequent killers of electronic systems. ATC has test courses that span the spectrum of off and on road conditions worldwide. These courses incorporated with unique facilities- Roadway Simulator, Shock and Vibration test cells, Environmental and Electromagnetic chambers provide an array of environmental conditions as stressors to proposed systems, including manportable equipment.

e. ATC and ARL Human Research Lab have a unique test and development capability for Soldier Systems. ATC and PM Soldier have teamed to create an instrumented reconfigurable Urban environment for development and test of the many systems the soldier carries. This facility coupled with the air and littoral ingress/egress gives PM Soldier a full spectrum of environment to assess his systems. The modern soldier will be dressed in C&E gear, bringing the developers and C&E acquisition team to APG, will enable onsite corrective action, full identification of capability early in the development cycle.

f. The Chesapeake Regional Range Complex (CRRC) is an asset of incalculable value to the joint warfare RDT&E. This Complex is a partnership of commands throughout the Chesapeake region. It includes: ATC, Joint Interoperability Com. Indian Head, Pax River, AP Hill, Fleet Forces Command and NSWC@ Dahlgren and Dam Neck. This team has accomplished many unique joint training exercises. It enables joint warfare scenarios. The partnership opens capability of one command to all. Therefore, Pax can fly mission in ATC's restricted airspace, use Phillips as a staging area, and test sensor systems using ATC's Scalable Networkcentric Range. Similarly, ATC can work tests in PAC's ranges and facilities. This combined command complex is another reason FCS has come to the proving ground. It gives easy access to a broad range of activities. The CRRC not only provides shared facilities, it has a broad range of technical experts to apply to any development or test problem.

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In summary, the foundation of technology found at Aberdeen for support of the soldier and joint warfighter is unmatched. If the system moves across the ground, ^{Received} has to sense the enemy, or survive attack, it will come to Aberdeen. C&E Com systems do all these things, therefore, bringing that command to Aberdeen only strengthens Army acquisition. It will assure success of FCS and joint warfare.

There is no question moving a command is difficult for the personnel. Some will not come. However, it is time to look at the long term technical advantage of the move. As disturbing as the move is to some, the overall outcome is bright for Army transformation and the fielding of C4ISR systems.

Yours Truly,



Jim Fasig

Aberdeen Test Center Technical Director Ret.

JUL 13 2005

Resolution
186-05

Received

OPPOSING THE CLOSURE OF FORT MONMOUTH

WHEREAS, on May 13, 2005, the Department of Defense announced that it was recommending the closure of more than 30 major military bases in the United States, including Fort Monmouth; and

WHEREAS, Fort Monmouth, which has been in service since 1917, is the largest employer in Monmouth County, with over 5,000 military and civilian personnel; and

WHEREAS, local officials say that the Fort contributes \$3 billion to the local and State economies, and its closure would not only put thousands of people out of work, but would also have a devastating impact on local businesses; and

WHEREAS, Fort Monmouth, which is home to the Army's Communications and Electronics Command, has long been at the forefront of developing state-of-the-art battlefield technology, including many devices currently being used by our troops in Afghanistan and Iraq; and

WHEREAS, Fort Monmouth's contributions to the war in Iraq include electronic jamming devices to interfere with the detonation of roadside bombs, airborne sensors to provide troops with radar images of both stationary and moving targets, and fielding systems to locate enemy artillery pieces and prevent friendly fire casualties; and

WHEREAS, keeping Fort Monmouth open is not only vital to the economy of the State and the County, but also to our nation's efforts in Iraq and the war on terror;