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**Congress of the United States**  
Washington, DC 20510

May 24, 2005

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The Honorable Gordon R. England  
Secretary of the Navy  
1000 Navy Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20350-1000

Dear Secretary England:

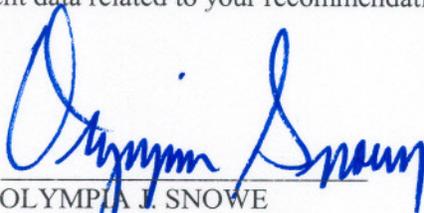
During a briefing to Congressional staff in December, 2004 regarding the Maritime Patrol Community Force Structure, the Navy informed us that the MPA force structure remained unchanged and the Navy intended to maintain the current number of airfields and squadrons. In response to staff questions, Navy briefers said that MMA basing option inputs to the BRAC models included the current airfields and squadrons as well. However, according to the configuration analysis section of aviation operations (Vol. 4, p. C-5), the Navy failed to consider the introduction of aircraft types not currently on board an activity – which would preclude any analysis of naval air stations to host the MMA.

Furthermore, Navy briefed staff that MMA site surveys were occurring on Naval Air Stations and we understand site surveys were completed for Naval Air Station Brunswick and Naval Air Station Jacksonville in March and April of this year. From an infrastructure perspective, NAS Brunswick is feasible as a Main Operating Base location with minimal investment required for the MMA's Initial Operating Capability. It follows then that predictably NAS Brunswick received a higher assessment than did NAS Jacksonville.

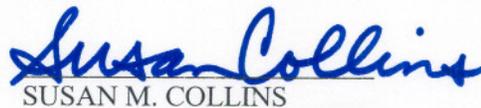
It is clear to us that Navy either worked to discount future mission capabilities as part of their assessment of Naval Air Station Brunswick or neglected them altogether. Accordingly we are asking the Navy to provide to us all MMA site surveys, whether in draft or final form, as well as all data, calculations, models and analyses used to support Navy's recommendation to realign NAS Brunswick. We also require all similar decisional information regarding any other maritime patrol community base including but not limited to NAS Jacksonville, NAS Whidbey Island and MCB Kanehoe Bay.

Because time is of the essence, we require this information not later than June 3, 2005. Mr. Secretary, we remind of your personal pledge to each of us to provide any and all Navy resident data related to your recommendations.

Sincerely,



OLYMPIA J. SNOWE  
United States Senator



SUSAN M. COLLINS  
United States Senator



THOMAS H. ALLEN  
United States Representative



MICHAEL H. MICHAUD  
United States Representative

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cc: Sec. Anthony Principi, Chairman, 2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment  
Commission  
Hon. James Bilbray, Member  
Hon. Phillip Coyle, Member  
ADM Harold Gehman, USN (ret), Member  
Hon. James Hansen, Member  
Gen. James Hill, USA (ret), Member  
Gen. Lloyd Newton, USAF (ret), Member  
Hon. Samuel Skinner, Member  
Gen. Sue Ellen Turner, USAF (ret), Member

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