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# Congress of the United States

House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-4327

COMMITTEES:  
ARMED SERVICES

SUBCOMMITTEES:  
RANKING MINORITY, MILITARY  
READINESS  
TACTICAL AIR AND LAND FORCES

RESOURCES

SUBCOMMITTEES:  
ENERGY AND MINERAL RESOURCES  
FISHERIES, CONSERVATION, WILDLIFE,  
AND OCEANS

May 16, 2005

Admiral (Ret.) Harold Gehman  
Commissioner  
Base Realignment and Closure Commission  
Polk Building, Suite 600  
2521 South Clark St.  
Arlington, VA, 22202

RECEIVED  
5/17/05

Dear Mr. Commissioner:

This is to extend my personal invitation to you to visit our South Texas military facilities located in my Congressional District. These facilities have and continue to fulfill critical national defense and homeland security needs. As you know, my Congressional District will be severely impacted if the Department of Defense (DoD) recommendations to close Naval Station Ingleside and disestablish the Mine Warfare Center of Excellence; realign Naval Air Station Corpus Christi; and realign Corpus Christi Army Depot are implemented.

I am confident that given the chance to showcase the infrastructure, mission capabilities, and area assets, that the military value of the South Texas Military Complex – including Naval Station Ingleside, Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Corpus Christi Army Depot and Naval Air Station Kingsville – will be obvious, particularly in the Global War on Terror. To ensure that the commission has an opportunity to see firsthand the military value of the defense complex in my Congressional District, I have asked Chairman Principi to host one of the Commission's regional hearings in Corpus Christi, Texas. I would appreciate you lending your support to hold the hearing in South Texas.

I would again like to thank you for taking on this difficult, but important task for our nation. Our community looks forward to the opportunity to host you on a visit and to showcase the facilities and assets that make South Texas such a critical element of our national security mission. Please feel free to contact me or my staff if you have any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,



Solomon P. Ortiz  
Member of Congress