

BRAC 2005 - Ventura County Task Force

Preserving Our Bases, Homeland Security and the Economy

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Edward Summers,
Affinity Bank

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July 28, 2005

BRAC Commission

Mr. Anthony Principi
Chairman
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

AUG 01 2005

Received

Dear Chairman Principi:

We are concerned about a recent letter dated July 18, 2005, from a Member of Congress to the Secretary of Defense that stated that Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR) leaders told BRAC Commissioners and staff that "the data used by the Pentagon's Technical Joint Cross Service Group is inaccurate and resulted in incorrect recommendations that NAVAIR does not support." The Congressman goes on to say: "This is especially disturbing given that all data used by the Pentagon to create this recommendation were actually certified as accurate" by the Commander of NAVAIR.

The statements above are contradicted by the China Lake community group, in their July 18, 2005 correspondence to the Commission. The community group addresses this subject by saying: "The responses to data calls, including Question 47, were reviewed by higher command, the Naval Air Systems Command (NAVAIR). NAVAIR officially supported the relocation from Point Mugu to China Lake."

We understand how the Commission and its staff might be confused by the above statements. We wish to offer the following clarification to set the record straight:

1. All Naval Air Warfare Center, Pt. Mugu BRAC data were certified as being accurate at the local level.
2. NAVAIR leadership certified the submitted data, including specific statements (Question 47) which excluded certain inextricable Pt. Mugu functions from being considered for realignment.
3. The Technical Joint Cross Service Group (TJCSG) reworked the submitted data (converting it from TECH 2 to TECH 18) and, without consulting with NAVAIR, disregarded the certified Question 47 inputs.

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4. When questioned by the Commission and staff, NAVAIR leadership: (a) rightfully answered that the data they had certified was not properly considered by the TJCSG (specifically in disregarding the Question 47 inputs), (b) stated that they did not support the realignment of the inextricable personnel identified in Question 47, and (c) allowed Pt. Mugu personnel to clarify the certified personnel numbers, which were different from the numbers used by the TJCSG.

While we do not know the details of the TJCSG meetings, discussions and analyses, it is apparent that significant elements of certified NAVAIR data were not used to determine much of their realignment recommendations related to the Naval Air Warfare Center, Weapons Division. As you know, the Weapons Division is located at two sites (Point Mugu and China Lake) that are fully integrated and free of redundancies.

Finally, in the Congressman's letter, he implied that NAVAIR leaders either submitted incorrect data and/or are stating positions in opposition to their superiors. Neither is true, and both are unjust accusations. NAVAIR submitted correct data, but the TJCSG chose to ignore it. NAVAIR simply spoke in defense of the data which they had certified.

We are hopeful that the above clarification will help you in your deliberations. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can provide any further clarification.

Sincerely,



Kathy Long
Supervisor, County of Ventura
BRAC Task Force Co - Chair



Edward Summers
Affinity Bank
BRAC Task Force Co-Chair

Cc: BRAC Commissioners
Secretary of Defense
Secretary of the Navy
Chief of Naval Operations