



DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600

Arlington, VA 22202

Telephone: 703-699-2950

September 8, 2005

George W. Bush
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The 2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission is proud to present its Final Report for your consideration. As required by law, the Commission thoroughly and objectively reviewed the domestic installation closure and realignment recommendations proposed by the Secretary of Defense on May 13, 2005.

In 2005, the Secretary made more recommendations, with more complexity, than all four previous base closure rounds combined. We held ourselves to a high standard of openness and transparency in all our activities and deliberations as we assessed these recommendations. Over the past four months, the Commission conducted 182 site visits, held 20 legislative and deliberative hearings, hosted 20 regional hearings, and received well over 200,000 written and electronic communications from the public. We publicly sought, and received, expert analysis and commentary from a variety of governmental and non-governmental sources to assist our independent analysis.

We recognize that our final recommendations will have profound effects on many communities and the people who bring them to life as well as on the uniformed men and women embodying our Armed Forces. We are confident that the recommendations contained in our Final Report will positively shape our military for decades to come. The warfighters securing our way of life will depend on the successful implementation of our recommendations to shape the infrastructure supporting their current and future missions.

In addition to the Commission's assessment of the Secretary's recommendations, we have addressed issues relevant to future rounds of base realignment and closure.

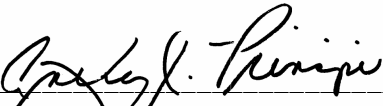
Chairman: Anthony J. Principi

Commissioners: The Honorable James H. Bilbray, the Honorable Philip E. Coyle III, Admiral Harold W. Gehman Jr., USN (Ret), the Honorable Jim Hansen, General James T. Hill, USA (Ret), General Lloyd Newton, USAF (Ret), the Honorable Samuel K. Skinner, Brigadier General Sue Ellen Turner, USAF (Ret)

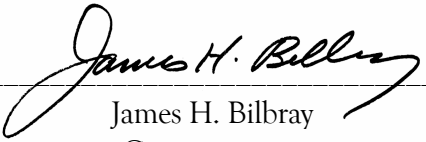
Executive Director: Charles Battaglia

Mr. President, it has been an honor and privilege for us to serve on the 2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission.


Respectfully Yours,



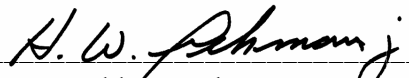
Anthony J. Principi
Chairman



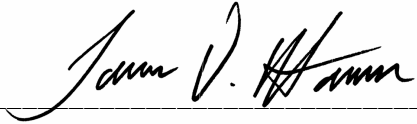
James H. Bilbray
Commissioner



Philip E. Coyle III
Commissioner



ADM Harold W. Gehman Jr., USN (Ret)
Commissioner



James V. Hansen
Commissioner



GEN James T. Hill, USA (Ret)
Commissioner



Gen. Lloyd W. "Fig" Newton, USAF (Ret)
Commissioner



Samuel K. Skinner
Commissioner



Brig. Gen. Sue Ellen Turner, USAF (Ret)
Commissioner