May 16, 2005

Honorable Anthony Principi  
Chairman  
Base Realignment and Closure Commission  
Polk Building, Suite 600  
2521 South Clark St.  
Arlington, VA, 22202

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This is to extend my personal invitation to host one of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) regional hearings in Corpus Christi, Texas. As you know, my South Texas 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 Station Corpus Christi; and realign Corpus Christi Army Depot are implemented. I am confident that as the Commission reviews these DoD recommendations you will find that they deviated from statutory criteria, and more importantly, are inconsistent with the national security and homeland defense needs of the United States.

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 the BRAC Commission and to showcase the infrastructure, mission capabilities, and area assets that make South Texas such a critical element of our national security, especially now during the Global War on Terror. 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