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**Congress of the United States**  
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CHAIR OF THE CONGRESSIONAL HISPANIC  
CAUCUS CIVIL RIGHTS TASK FORCE

August 22, 2005

BRAC Commission

**AUG 25 2005**

Received

The Hon. Anthony J. Principi  
Chairman  
Base Realignment and Closure Commission  
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, Virginia 22202-3909

Dear Chairman:

I have recently become aware of the statements made by the Northeast Pennsylvania Alliance (NEPA), as well as Pennsylvania Senator Rick Santorum and Congressman Paul E. Kanjorski regarding the Cryptologic Systems Group (CPSG), currently located in my congressional district in San Antonio, Texas, and DoD's proposal to realign the CPSG's maintenance workload from San Antonio to Tobyhanna Army Depot in Pennsylvania.

In response, I would like to address a few of the assertions made by the NEPA and my colleagues from Pennsylvania.

In 1995, the National Security Agency (NSA) held a tri-service competition to consolidate the Signals Intelligence (SIGINT) workload. CPSG and Tobyhanna competed head-to-head for this workload. CPSG won this competition and NSA's national SIGINT workload was consolidated at CPSG in 1996. As you are likely aware, NSA Director, William Black, Jr., has recently expressed his concern with the BRAC proposal affecting the CPSG to the Chairmen of four Joint Cross Service Groups.

It is my understanding that neither the CPSG nor Tobyhanna have conducted site surveys of the other's facilities and thus the San Antonio delegation has made no assertion as to the capacity of Tobyhanna Army Depot. However, there is clearly some doubt that Tobyhanna has adequate space at the proper security level required to perform the CPSG mission and COBRA did not allocate any MILCON dollars for expansion or conversion of space.

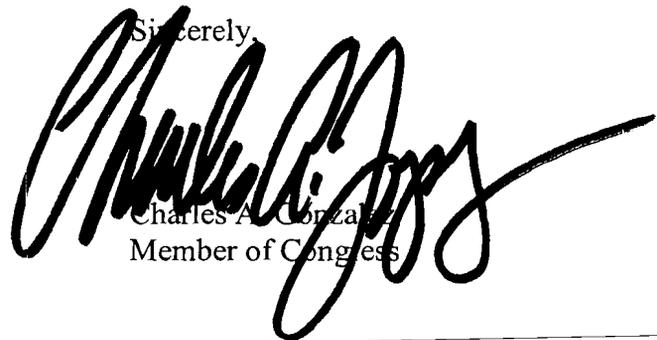
The NEPA also asserted in its letter that the San Antonio delegation has stated that the CPSG work cannot be performed by civilians. This is obviously an inaccurate statement made by the NEPA. The truth is that the CPSG performs maintenance today with a combination of military, civilians, and contractors. However, we do know that there is a disconnect between the DoD BRAC recommendation for civilian transfers and actual CPSG civilian authorizations in maintenance.

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As part of their argument, the NEPA offers variety of runways ranging from 103 miles to 300 miles from Tobyhanna as "within commuting distance." Currently, the CPSG utilizes a runway for several missions that require a government controlled runway, one of which requires an 11,000-foot runway and hanger for a WC-135 aircraft with a 72-hours maintenance response time.

I, along with the entire San Antonio delegation maintain that the primary reasons to reverse the recommendations applying to CPSG are that COBRA's own data shows the recommendations applicable to CPSG financially never pay back. Furthermore, we have the same position as NSA Director Black that taking a single, effective and efficient organization with collocated functions and dispersing it to six separate organizations in five separate locations with different priorities, different capabilities, and different operating procedures will hurt this critical mission.

Thank you for your continued attention to this matter.

Sincerely,  
  
Charles A. Gonzalez  
Member of Congress

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