

NOT FOR PUBLICATION
UNTIL RELEASED BY THE HOUSE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

STATEMENT OF

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(ENERGY, INSTALLATIONS, AND ENVIRONMENT)

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SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS

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COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

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Chairman Wittman , Congresswoman Bordallo, and distinguished members of the subcommittee, I welcome this opportunity to appear before you today to discuss the Department of the Navy's position on efforts to reduce its infrastructure, both at home and abroad.

The American public expects its military to spend wisely the resources entrusted to us. The fiscal uncertainty we now face as a nation only heightens the need to make prudent investments that ensure our Navy and Marine Corps team remains ready to respond to crises wherever they may occur. We must, therefore, conserve our resources and properly align our infrastructure with our evolving force structure. In this regard, the Department is ready to conduct a capacity analysis that will provide the basis for consolidating military infrastructure in Europe. It should be noted the Navy has a limited footprint in the European theater, relocating its European headquarters from London to Naples in 2005 and closing Naval Air Station Keflavik in 2007 and Naval Support Activities Gaeta and La Maddalena in 2006 and 2008, respectively. We are undertaking preliminary capacity assessments of our remaining bases at Naval Station Rota, Naval Air Station Sigonella, and the Naval Support Activities in Naples and Souda Bay that will inform a Defense-wide path forward. Our assessment will also include, in partnership with NATO and Norway, a review of the Marine Corps' prepositioning site in central Norway,

With respect to consolidating our domestic infrastructure, the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process offers the best opportunity to assess and evaluate opportunities to properly align our domestic infrastructure with our evolving force structure and laydown. Since the first round of BRAC in 1988, the Department has closed 186 domestic installations and activities, including 52 major installations. Figure 1 demonstrates the evolution of the Department's force structure since 2005:

Year	Service	Battle Force Ships	Primary Authorized Aircraft-Active	Personnel- Active	Installations
PB 2005	Navy	290	1402	365900	94
	USMC		995	175000	26
	Total		2397	540900	120
PB 2013	Navy	284	2012	322700	83
	USMC		1041	197300	25
	Total		3053	520000	108

Figure 1: Force Structure vs. Number of Installations

I will now briefly highlight our accomplishments regarding the prior BRAC rounds. First, I want to assure you that our BRAC program will be properly funded in Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 to continue environmental cleanup, caretaker operations, and meet property disposal plans. By the end of FY 2012, we had disposed 91% of our excess property through a variety of conveyance mechanisms with less than 17,000 acres remaining. Here are several examples of what we were able to achieve in the past year.

Since the former Naval Air Station Brunswick in Maine closed in 2011, the Navy has disposed of 79% of the surplus property. The community is experiencing success in creating short-term and long-term jobs as it continues to implement its redevelopment plan for the property.

In FY2012, the Navy completed the last disposal action at the former Naval Station Ingleside, Texas, with the public sale of 155 acres on October 7, 2011 to Kiewitt Offshore Services, LTD for \$2,010,100.

And at the end of 2012, the Navy and South Shore Tri-Town Development Council reached agreement on an EDC amendment that resulted in the disposal of 556 acres of the former Naval Air Station South Weymouth in Massachusetts. This agreement brought the total percentage disposed to 93%, with less than 150 acres pending disposal upon completion of environmental remediation actions.

Overall, the Navy continues to reduce its inventory of properties closed under BRAC. Of the original 131 installations with excess property, the Navy only has 23 installations remaining with property to dispose. We anticipate reducing this number by six installations this year, with the remainder to be disposed as we complete our environmental remediation efforts.

Under the previous BRAC efforts, the Navy has been able to realize approximately \$4.4 billion in annual recurring savings. The efforts alone during BRAC 2005, resulted in approximately \$863 million in annual recurring savings. Although the remaining BRAC installations present cleanup and disposal challenges, we continue to work with regulators and communities to tackle complex environmental issues, such as low-level radiological contamination, and provide creative solutions to support redevelopment priorities, such as Economic Development Conveyances with revenue sharing.

In closing, the Department of the Navy's shore infrastructure serves as the foundation from which we re-supply, re-equip, train, and shelter our forces . However, given the increasingly constrained fiscal environment we must navigate, we can no longer afford to sustain infrastructure that is beyond our needs or ability to maintain.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify before you today. I look forward to working with you to sustain the warfighting readiness and quality of life for the most formidable expeditionary fighting force in the world.