



## Miami Valley Military Affairs Association

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### President's Message

#### SHIELA WALLACE



I want to take this time to extend Happy New Year's greetings to each of you. I hope everyone had a joyful holiday season. As the MVMAA moves in to 2005, I am looking toward our goals for this year. My primary goal is to work on increasing our membership. At the close of the year our total was 614 members. I would like to see MVMAA try to increase that number by at least 10% in 2005. Many organizations have seen a decline in membership as times have been tighter financially. It is my hope that we can show people in the Miami Valley, the good things that the MVMAA does to support our military and their families. Enclosed in this newsletter is a copy of the membership application. I would encourage each of you to share this newsletter and the application with a friend or co-worker as a way to begin the growth process. Your MVMAA board has also implemented a Public Relations committee that we are very proud of. I am sure that they will be

very visible in the community over the coming months.

Looking at the next goal, your board worked very hard to put together a strategic plan. As a part of any good plan, we have short term and long term projects. I am proud to say that many of these projects have already been started and they are progressing well. This newsletter is one example of those projects. We are going to be looking at the continued development of some and the improvement of others.

Please note that I am always looking for suggestions from any of our members. I know there are many great ideas that each of you has, and I would love to hear from you. Please feel free to call me (429-2473) or send an e-mail (swal3754@ameritech.net). It is truly a pleasure to hear from our wonderful members.

By now each of you should have received your invitation for the Get-Acquainted Reception on January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. at the Hope Hotel. I hope to see each of you there.

### New Member Spotlight

James Ater is a native Daytonian, served in the US Army during the Cuban crisis, attended Wright State and then in 1976 started Executive Mold

Corp. Jim and his wife, Sue Ellen, live in Bethel Township and have three grown children and enjoy dancing.

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# **Securing the Future of the Dayton Region's Defense Installations**

**BY LOUIS C. FERRARO**

The Dayton Development Coalition created the Wright-Patt 2010 Committee (WP2010) in 2001 to deal directly with the economic sustainment and growth of the Dayton Region's military installations. These regional military installations include Wright-Patterson AFB and Springfield Air National Guard Base. The goal of the WP2010 Committee is to grow the economic impact of the Dayton Region military installations 10% by the year 2010. This is a long-term commitment.

Indeed, as part of the WP2010 Committee's long term vision, the group formed a task force to address the Department of Defense upcoming BRAC 2005 process.

"BRAC" is an acronym that stands for Base Realignment and Closure. It is the process DoD has previously used to reorganize its installation infrastructure to more efficiently and effectively support its forces, increase operational readiness and facilitate new ways of doing business. DoD anticipates that BRAC 2005 will build upon processes used in previous BRAC efforts. All military installations within the United States and its territories will be examined as part of this process.

The Department, utilizing the BRAC process, hopes it will be able to divest itself of unnecessary installation infrastructure and use the resultant savings for improving fighting capabilities and quality of life for military forces. This will allow the Department to rationalize installation infrastructure with 21st century national security imperatives.

Because of the drastic change in the threats to the United States and the World, the DoD decided to "Transform" its way of doing business to adapt to the new threats more efficiently and effectively. Our greatest threat today is

global terrorism as demonstrated by the terrorist attack upon the United States on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001. Most of our DoD infrastructure was built to address the Cold War and isn't necessarily an efficient structure to cope with global terrorism.

According to the Department's April 2003 Transformation Planning Guidance document, transformation is "a process that shapes the changing nature of military competition and cooperation through new combinations of concepts, capabilities, people and organizations that exploit our nation's advantages and protect against our asymmetric vulnerabilities to sustain our strategic position, which helps underpin peace and stability in the world."

BRAC provides a singular opportunity to reshape Defense infrastructure to optimize military readiness. The BRAC 2005 process will help find innovative ways to consolidate, realign, or find alternative uses for current facilities to ensure that the U.S. continues to field the best-prepared and best-equipped military in the world. BRAC will also enable the U.S. military to better match facilities to forces, meet the threats and challenges of a new century, and make the wisest use of limited defense dollars.

The DoD's position is that significant excess capacity exists in the defense infrastructure. The specific level of excess is very dependent on the assumptions used in the DoD analysis. Past experience indicates that more extensive study of joint basing use and cross-Service functional analysis could further increase the level of excess through better utilization of the remaining infrastructure.

The Department estimates that a future BRAC round, based on the costs and savings experiences of BRACs 93/95 and a reduction in installation infrastructure of approximately 20 percent, could generate approximately \$7 billion if annual recurring savings in today's dollars. Resources currently being spent on excess installation infrastructure could be allocated to higher priority requirements, such as efforts to

modernize weapons, enhance quality of life, and improve readiness.

Additionally, another BRAC round will afford the Department a significant transformation opportunity. September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001, reinforced the imperative to convert excess capacity into warfighting ability. The performance of our forces in Iraq underscores the benefit of transformational war fighting. The Department must be allowed to reconfigure its infrastructure to best support the transformation of our warfighting capability. The Department must be allowed the opportunity to assess its installation infrastructure to ensure it is best sized and placed to support emerging mission requirements for our national security needs.

So, transformation into a more efficient, more effective, and more globally integrated fighting force is a key goal for the DoD and in this effort.

## **Changes in the BRAC Process**

This BRAC is very different from past BRACs. Anyone participating in the BRAC process must sign a non-disclosure statement and not discuss any part of the BRAC process outside of the BRAC participants. A primary role of installation commanders in the BRAC process is to certify information used to conduct the analyses. To enhance fairness in the BRAC process by treating all installations on an equal footing, all information submitted to the Secretary of Defense and the 2005 BRAC Commission for use in making recommendations for base realignment and closures must be certified by the submitter as accurate and complete to the best of their knowledge and belief. Much of this information regarding installation facilities and operations will be gathered in data calls initiated by the Military Departments and sent to installations for processing. Installation commanders will have the ultimate responsibility for certifying that information before it is used in the BRAC process.

Installation commanders may attend

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meetings, in a liaison or representational capacity, with state and local officials, or other organizations that may seek to develop plans or programs to improve the ability of installations to discharge their national security and defense missions. However, DoD officials may not manage or control such organizations or efforts. In their official capacity, DoD personnel may not participate in the activities of any organization that has as its purpose, either directly or indirectly, insulating DoD installations from closure or realignment. This guidance is aimed at ensuring the fairness and rigor of the BRAC process.

Like previous BRAC rounds, the Pentagon will draw up a list of bases to close, and hand it off to an independent, nine-member commission, appointed by lawmakers and the White House, that will come up with final recommendations. The Commission selection process states that the commissioners must be nominated by the President for Senate confirmation no later than March 15, 2005. In selecting individuals for nominations for appointments to the Commission, the President will consult with the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the majority leader of the Senate concerning the appointment of two members each, and consult with the minority leaders of the House of Representatives and the Senate concerning the appointment of one member each.

In the end, this process has been changed to better accommodate the DoD's vision for Integrated Global Defense.

## **The Dayton Region's Role in Integrated Global Defense**

The Air Force has made substantial investments in WPAFB and Springfield ANG Base. In 2003, the Air Force spent over \$150 million in new construction and building renovation at WPAFB and Springfield ANG Base. These investments reflect the high military value that exists at these bases. However, the BRAC 2005 process can

have a profound impact on the Dayton Region.

The DoD has described the 2005 round of realignment and closures as a "global BRAC". The 2005 round of base closings could be larger than previous ones held in 1988, 1991, 1993 and 1995. In those four previous rounds, about 20 percent of domestic military bases were closed or realigned for a savings of \$17 billion. An additional \$7 billion have been saved each year since 2001 in reduced operating costs.

The DoD is stressing that the goals of the upcoming round of closures will include more than saving money, but also aligning the military's more than 400 bases in the U.S. with its new force structure. A review of overseas bases will have a major impact on forces based stateside. For example, the Army may realign a division in Germany, about 10,000 soldiers, to the United States and the service would then decide where to base them in the U.S.

So, here in the Dayton Region, the Dayton Development Coalition, through the WP2010 is focused on ways it can positively influence the process to strengthen our military installations – not only for the benefit of the Dayton Region but for the nation and the world.

The Dayton Development Coalition led Ohio's BRAC Commissioner Nomination effort. The goal was to nominate a commissioner who understands the great military value of the Dayton Region to include the Springfield Air National Guard Base and Wright-Patterson AFB. Retired General Dennis Samic (CACI) is the Dayton Development Coalition representative on Governor Taft's All-Ohio Task Force to Save Defense Jobs. In this capacity, Dennis provides the Task Force with the experience and knowledge that exists with the Dayton Region. In this way, we all hope to be winners in the BRAC process.

## **The BRAC Commission and Governing Laws**

The 2005 BRAC round will have nine commission members rather

than the previous eight to prevent tie votes; this BRAC will rely on a 20-year force structure plan instead of a six-year plan for deciding which bases are needed; and greater reliance on the joint working groups at the Pentagon to consider where services may consolidate common functions. Some areas being examined for consolidation are: intelligence, research and development laboratories, training, and depot operations. We are anticipating that WPAFB will be a "receiver site" for consolidated or joint realignments. WPAFB is the only base in any service that has a mission combination of acquisition, intelligence, research & development, education, and a depot sustainment headquarters located on the same installation.

The four previous BRAC rounds have eliminated approximately 20 percent of DoD's capacity that existed in 1988 and, through 2001, produced net savings of approximately \$16.7 billion, which includes the cost of environmental clean-up. Recurring savings beyond 2001 are approximately \$7 billion annually. In independent studies conducted over previous years, both the general accounting office and the Congressional Budget Office have consistently supported the Department's view that realigning and closing unneeded military installations produces savings that far exceed costs.

The BRAC process is governed by law; specifically, the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990. The process begins with a threat assessment of the future national security environment, followed by the development of a force structure plan and basing requirements to meet these threats. DoD then applies published selection criteria to determine which installations to recommend for realignment and closure. The Secretary of Defense will publish a report containing the realignment and closure recommendations, forwarding supporting documentation to an independent commission appointed by the President, in consultation with congressional leadership.

The commission has the authority to change the Department's recommendations if it determines that the Secretary deviated substantially from the force structure plan and/or selection criteria. The Commission will hold regional meetings to solicit public input prior to making its recommendations. History has shown that the use of an independent commission and public meetings make the process as open and fair as possible. The Commission forwards its recommendations to the President for review and approval, who then forwards the recommendations to Congress. Congress has 45 legislative days to act on the commission report on an all-or-none basis. After that time, the Commission's realignment and closure recommendations become binding on the Department. Implementation must start within two years, and actions must be complete within six years.

The 2005 BRAC process, outlined in the BRAC Act of 1990, Public Law 101-510, as amended, remains primarily the same as used in the three previous rounds. This process has served the Department well during the previous rounds and is designed to be as fair as possible. However, there are some changes.

Military value will continue to be an element of the published selection criteria. In previous rounds, as DoD policy, the military value criteria took priority over the other criteria. However, in BRAC 2005, there is now a statutory requirement that military value be the primary consideration.

The BRAC 2005 process requires a separate report prior to the Secretary's recommendations on closures and realignments. In this report, which was due to Congress along with the budget for fiscal year 2005 (about February 2004), the Secretary must include, among other things, the 20 year force structure plan of probable threats, a comprehensive inventory of installations, a discussion of categories of excess capacity and a certification by the Secretary that a BRAC round in 2005 is necessary.

In addition to statutory changes,

there are BRAC process changes which the Secretary directed in his November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2002, kick-off memorandum, Transformation Through Base Realignment and Closure. For example, based on recommendations from the Infrastructure Steering Group to the Infrastructure Executive Council, specific common or business oriented support functions will receive analysis by Joint Cross-Service Groups (JCSG) rather than within individual Military Departments. The JCSGs are empowered to make closure and realignment recommendations for review and approval by the Secretary. During previous BRAC rounds, JCSGs developed alternatives for consideration by the Services.

The 2005 BRAC round has the following milestones:

1. DoD published the proposed selection criteria for a 30-day comment period by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2003;
2. The final selection criteria was published on February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2004;
3. Submit a report to Congress with the FY 2005 budget justification that includes:
  - A force structure plan based on an assessment of probable threats to the national security over the next 20 years, the probable end strength levels and military force units needed to meet those threats, and the anticipated levels of available funding,
  - A comprehensive inventory of military installations worldwide,
  - A description of infrastructure necessary to support the force structure,
  - A discussion of categories of excess capacity,
  - An economic analysis of the effect of realignments and closures to reduce excess infrastructure, and
  - Secretary of Defense certification of the need for BRAC, and that annual net savings would result by 2011;
4. Secretary of Defense forwards

recommendations for realignments and closures to the BRAC Commission by May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2005;

5. The BRAC Commission forwards its report on the recommendations to the president by September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2005.

6. The President will have until September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2005 to accept or reject the recommendations in their entirety.

7. If accepted, Congress will have 45 legislative days to reject the recommendations in their entirety or they become binding on the Department.

## Engaged Vigilance is the Key to Success

The Dayton Development Coalition is going into the BRAC process expecting to be a winner based on the tremendous military value of our defense installations as well as the intellectual, IT, educational, and support talent that surrounds our military installations.

With more than 8,000 acres, about 850 buildings, 16 million square feet of space, five miles of runways, Wright-Patterson is one of the nation's largest and most complex defense installations.

In anticipation of BRAC, the community's strategy includes making sure that our base's strengths are understood by base closure decision makers. Given the size and complexity of the base, we cannot take for granted that all the defense leaders are familiar with the base, especially those outside the Air Force.

The great strength of Wright-Patterson, going into this round of base closings, is that it is strong in a traditional military sense, made stronger in recent years by the vigilance of our congressional delegation and community support.

That, along with an aggressive education campaign within the Pentagon, should keep us in the winners' column when the process is over.

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# **Hearts Together**

**BY DON WALLS**

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On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, the MVMAA was proud to sponsor a “Hearts Together” program for children whose parents are deployed. The party was a huge success with a special visit from Ronald McDonald! For an event such as this to be successful it requires many people “behind the scenes” to do the planning. Sheila Wallace, President of the MVMAA was very instrumental in overseeing this event and a great time was had by both the children and their parents. McDonalds graciously supplied the food. Beverages were provided by members of the Kettering, Moraine and Oakwood Chambers of Commerce and also the Dean’s Office of the College of Education and Human Services at Wright State University. It was great to see so many people cooperate and support this event. When we asked for help in any way the response was always “yes”. We are proud of our men and women serving our country from Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, and the MVMAA is always happy to help their children until they return safely home.

## **All American Evening**

**BY MELISSA WEAVER**

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Looking for a great way to support the troops and their families both domestically and abroad? Interested in providing our active duty military and retirees peace of mind at a time when they need it most?

Mark your calendars for April 29<sup>th</sup>. This is the date for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual “An All-American Evening” held by the Fisher/Nightingale Houses,

Inc. (FNHI). The purpose of this charitable event, supported in part by the Air Force Association, is to raise much needed funding to support the day-to-day operating expenses of the Fisher/Nightingale compassionate care facilities at Wright-Patterson AFB.

This wonderful event will include gourmet dining and wine tasting, a live performance from country western artist Kevin Sharp (the only Make a Wish recipient to beat the odds and become the Wish of another Wish child), and both silent and live auctions.

For those of you not familiar with the Fisher/Nightingale Houses, these compassionate care homes are located on Wright-Patterson AFB, adjacent to the Wright-Patterson Medical Center. The mission of these Houses is to provide an affordable on-base refuge close to the Medical Center for patients and their families. Through the efforts of our house managers and many volunteers, patients are provided a safe-haven after those long days at the hospital, a place where they can rest and regain strength for the next day’s challenges.

How can you help? Join the event’s major sponsors, Intergraph Solutions Group, Robbins-Gioia, Boeing Corporation, and Dayton Development Coalition to insure the success of this event. FNHI is currently accepting donations of silent and live auction items for “An All-American Evening.” They are also looking for individuals willing to donate their valuable time and talents to prepare for this charitable event.

If you or your business would like to make a donation in support of this

evening, or if you have any questions about this organization or what they do to support our military men and women and their families please contact Chris Stanley, Executive Director, at (937) 864-5998 or [cstanley@woh.rr.com](mailto:cstanley@woh.rr.com). Additionally you may e-mail Melissa Weaver, Chairman of “An All-American Evening” at [mlw@kascable.com](mailto:mlw@kascable.com).

## **AN IMAX EXPERIENCE**

### **FIGHTER PILOT Operation Red Flag**

At Red Flag, the international training exercise for the air forces of allied countries, hundreds of pilots meet for the most challenging flying of their careers. The object is to make the exercises as real and challenging as possible -- to take the pilots, ground crews, mechanics and rescue personnel to the limits of what they can handle. The film follows Captain John “Otter” Stratton as he makes his way through this extraordinary event held in the desert of Nevada. As he participates in the exercise, he realizes that being a hero is not quite as simple as he once believed. He notices team members who work all night rebuilding engines and re-installing them so he can keep flying and training. There are people who practice rushing into a flaming mock-up of a crashed aircraft, so if there is a real accident, they will be ready to save the pilot. In the flying exercises, John realizes there are other pilots who aren’t just out to prove themselves -- they are helping him -- watching his back, taking personal risks to cover his mistakes. And he is doing the same for them.

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## Mark Your Calendars

January 11<sup>th</sup> --- Get Acquainted Reception  
6:30 p.m., Hope Hotel  
April 29<sup>th</sup> ----- An all American Evening  
May 4<sup>th</sup> ----- Golf Outing  
August 9<sup>th</sup> ----- Annual Dinner

## Membership Update

**BY NANCY LANIER**

We welcome the following new members to the organization. For 2004, our membership total is 614.

**James Ater**

President/Owner, Executive Mold Corp.

**Dan Berry**

Regional Manager, Vectren

**Col. Wayne Cheatum**

Chairman, Department of Pharmacy, 88<sup>th</sup> Medical Group

**Burleson Grimes II**

Navy Veteran

**Jeffery Hoagland**

Vandalia City Manager

**Brad McWilliams** – Owner, MBM Inc.

**Tom Singleton** – Executive Vice President and General Manager, UES, Inc.

## Commander's Corner

**COLONEL BRUCE E. DAVIS**

**COMMANDER OF THE 445<sup>TH</sup> AIRLIFT WING**



The 445<sup>th</sup> AW is in the process of demobilizing after 2 years of active duty; however, our aircraft and aeromedical evacuation mission have become critical to our nation. We've been asked to provide as many aircraft and crews as possible until the end of the fiscal year in September 2005. Since the limit of the presidential call-up is 2 years, only volunteers will be utilized for future missions into Iraq. We believe that we can continue to provide 4 aircraft and 10 crews to move the wounded troops back to the states freeing up 12 C-17s daily to do other airlift missions.

All of this comes at a time when we are beginning our transition to the C-5 aircraft. Ground-breaking for the first C-5 hangar is scheduled for January and the first aircraft will arrive next October. While some aircrews will be flying the C-141 into Iraq, others will be learning how to fly the C-5. The next year will be extraordinarily busy for this wing and we thank the local employers for their support and patience.