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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

INDIAN HEAD DIVISION
NAVAL SURFACE WARFARE CENTER
101 STRAUSS AVE
INDIAN HEAD MD 20640-5035

5090
Ser 044SJ/58
22 May 02

Mr. Elmer Biles
6315 Indian Head Highway
Indian Head, MD 20640

Dear Mr. Biles,

This letter responds to the 31 October 2001 written feedback from a Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) Community Member concerning base security and the role of community review in the RAB process. Our 6 November 2001 response stated that we had elevated this issue to the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) for Navy-wide guidance on Information Repositories.

The CNO response was that the control of information retained in the Installation Repositories and the locations of these Repositories is left to the discretion of the Activity Commander. I have reviewed the 31 October 2001 letter with my Environmental staff and Corporate Communications personnel to determine the best course of action for providing community access to Installation Restoration (IR) program information, while maintaining a secure facility. As a result, we have decided to limit the number of Information Repositories to one. This would involve removing the documents that we currently have in the Charles County Library, La Plata Branch, and just have one Information Repository located in our General Library, Building 620.

This plan provides the Navy better control over access to this information. Community members that do not have an Activity badge would have to contact our Corporate Communications Office to obtain one from the Pass Office prior to entering the Activity. Anyone wishing to review IR program documents would then sign in with the Librarian prior to viewing any of these documents. Special arrangements could be made, if necessary, to allow community members to view documents outside of normal business hours.

If you have any additional comments or questions, please contact Mr. Shawn Jorgensen of my Environmental staff on (301)744-2263.

Sincerely,

MARC A. SIEDBAND
Captain, U. S. Navy
Commander

Copy to:
RAB Community Members
EPA Region III (D. Orenshaw)
MDE (C. DeTore)

5090
Ser 044SJ/58
22 May 02

Blind copy to:
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OC

Writer: SJorgensen, 044SJ, 2263
Typist: SJorgensen, 15 Apr 02

Rewritten: MSiedband, A, 4401
Retyped: KSulkowski, 22 May 02



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

INDIAN HEAD DIVISION
NAVAL SURFACE WARFARE CENTER
101 STRAUSS AVE
INDIAN HEAD MD 20640-5035

5090
Ser 046C/162
6 Nov 01

Mr. Elmer Biles
6315 Indian Head Highway
Indian Head, MD 20640

Dear Mr. Biles:

We are writing in response to your letter of October 31, 2001, concerning the role of community review as part of the Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) process and base security. We agree with you that having so much information, including maps, available to the public is a security issue, considering that we are currently at war against terrorism.

However, having these documents available for public review is a requirement of the Installation Restoration (IR) Program, which is modeled after the Comprehensive Environmental Restoration, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).

Therefore, your concerns (and ours) with the information in the repositories have been elevated to the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO). The CNO has taken the lead on this and plans to issue Navy-wide guidance on information repositories.

We will let you know the results of your letter and thank you for bringing this issue to our attention. If you have any additional comments or questions, please contact Mr. Shawn Jorgensen of my staff on (301) 744-2263.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Cheryl L. Deskins".

CHERYL L. DESKINS
Acting Director,
Environmental Division
By direction of the Commander



6315 Indian Head Highway
Indian Head, Maryland 20640

FAX 301 744 6533

Mr. William H. Bohli, Head, Safety Department
Indian Head Division
Naval Surface Warfare Center
101 Strauss Avenue
Indian Head, MD 20640-5035

October 31, 2001

RE: The role of community review as part of the RAB process and Base Security

Dear Mr. Bohli:

I would like to address an issue that concerns me and that I feel should be brought to the attention of those individuals responsible for security at the Navy's Indian Head facility.

As a community member of RAB I regularly receive voluminous documents for review that deal with the many sites that are part of the Navy's Site Management Plan for the Installation Restoration Program.

These documents include numerous maps of the base that identify in detail many of the buildings, roads and improvements. These maps note selected manufacturing sites, research laboratories, X ray buildings, pistol ranges, bunkers, rail lines etc. Some maps are in color and some include topographic detail.

The Charles County public library at La Plata is a repository for all RAB documents. This means that the general public has access to these documents and may have them copied without restriction.

We are now at war and are vulnerable domestically to terrorists acts either from a foreign state or from within. In normal times the public access to these maps may not have been considered a security risk. I believe, however, we should now review the need to provide public access to detail maps of this important Navy facility. I believe the mission of the RAB and its interest in community input can be fulfilled without compromising base security.

I recommend the following:

- 1. Either the RAB documents be removed from the public Library in La Plata and confined to the base where their access and use can be controlled or that maps and other documents that could compromise security are removed from the review material at the library.**
- 2. Distribution of maps or any information that could be construed to compromise base security is excluded from any public distribution of RAB material.**

I would appreciate a prompt reply.

Sincerely,

Elmer S. Biles
301 283 6298
Community RAB member

Cc: Captain Marc A. Siodband FAX 301 744-4935
Cheryl L. Deskins FAX 301 744-4180
Shawn Jorgensen FAX 301 744-4180