Taylor, Bob (Thune)

From:

Taylor, Bob (Thune)

Sent:

Thursday, July 14, 2005 12:08 PM

To:

'holmanb@gao.gov'

Subject:

Dyess MOA Issue

Attachments: Critique of AF Eval of DY EL Ranges BS product 7-6 R2 Cover page.doc; 02-60288 0

wpd.pdf; 02-60288 2 wpd.pdf; ROD.pdf; Order operating cond dct.pdf

Barry, you may be interested in the attached paper we presented to the BRAC Commission on Tuesday. We found no evidence in any of the DoD/USAF documents produced thus far that this rather significant problem was ever discussed in the USAF deliberative process much less factored into the scoring of range access under Current and Future Mission category. As you know, Dyess edged Ellsworth in overall points largely through the USAF assertion that Dyess had better access to proximity MOAs and MTRs. They failed to mention, however, that Dyess' primary 5-star MOA, "lancer MOA," and IR-178 has been mired in litigation for almost 5 years; and since October 2004 the AF's ROD has been nullified by the court and, further, the MOA is now under the control of the federal court pending approval of a supplemental environmental impact study - which will probably take another two years to prepare and approve. More litigation is likely down the road, especially if the number of B-1s are doubled at Dyess via the BRAC recommendations (and the USAF has yet to inform the court of that potential development in the case). Overall, this is a rather significant omission.