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# **1992 Department of Defense Surveys of Officers and Enlisted Personnel and Their Spouses**

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## **► Background and Characteristics of Military Families ◀**

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*for Army  
Museum*

7 May 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR MELANNE VERVEER AND ELLEN LOVELL

FROM: Bob Peck

SUBJECT: Army Museum and Southeast Federal Center

I am now confident that we can go ahead with planning to put the Army Museum at the Southeast Federal Center (SEFC) on the Anacostia waterfront in the District of Columbia. The Army civilian leadership had been reluctant to commit to this site because they had heard from some members of Senator Warner's staff that he objected to the site and wanted the museum in Northern Virginia.

I confirmed this week with a key personal staffer to the Senator that he does not object to the DC site. Last week, Mickey Ibarra had called the Army Secretary to tell him not to commit to a Virginia site; that was before we even knew that the Army had not understood Senator Warner's position. Thanks to you and to Janie Jeffers for getting that call made.

It turns out that what Warner objected to was an initial part of the Army Museum plan, presented to him more than a year ago, that would also have moved to the Southeast Federal Center--out of Northern Virginia--a large chunk of civilian Army office space. The Army has dropped that part of the plan. We have plenty of potential uses, both Federal and private, for the rest of the Southeast Federal Center.

But we need the Army Museum as a catalyst for development on the SEFC and the surrounding area. With the Navy Museum next door at the Navy Yard, we could have a great tourist attraction. Combined with retail and other associated development, we can make the site into an active urban waterfront, along the lines of the Inner harbor in Baltimore.

Rep. Norton supports the SEC site, as does the top Navy leadership. Mayor Williams is planning to write the First Lady of his support and may have done so today.

**ACTION:** GSA can, in short order, produce a plan in concert with the District for development of the SEC, with the Army Museum as the anchor. We need the Army leadership to endorse the site. The Association of the United States Army, which will fund the museum itself, will support whatever site the Army designates. **We need your support to get the Army front and center, as they say, on the SEFC site. I will call to follow up.**

Cc: Janie Jeffers