

# Defense *advocate*

## Encroachment Mitigation

When the 2005 BRAC Commission recommended that NAS Oceana be closed, it was a wake-up call for the Commonwealth. The Virginia Beach base, employing around 12,000 people with an annual payroll approaching \$1 billion, had become a poster-child for encroachment nationwide.

Virginia Beach is now spending millions of dollars a year to roll-back encroachment at Oceana, including \$7.5 million annually in state funds administered by VNDIA. Over the next year the authority will partner with the Virginia Association of Counties, the Virginia Municipal League, the American Planning Association, the DoD's Office of Economic Adjustment and other organizations to provide education and materials to localities and military installations in the Commonwealth to help everyone understand the complex realities of encroachment.

Look for VNDIA's article in VACO's February 15 [Community Connections](#), attend our panel discussion at the [APA Virginia Conference](#) in Williamsburg on March 26, or call us directly for more information.

## Adams Named Foundation Chair



Jay Adams

VNDIA board member John B. "Jay" Adams, Jr. was recently named Chairman of the [George C. Marshall Foundation](#) at the Virginia Military Institute. He becomes the foundation's ninth chairman since its founding in 1953.

Adams is President and CEO of the Bowman Companies in Fredericksburg, Va., and has been a member of the Marshall Foundation board since 1988. He is a graduate of VMI and Washington and Lee University School of Law.

Gen. George Marshall graduated from VMI in 1901, and was a combat leader in WWI and Army chief of staff during WWII.

Marshall later served as both secretary of state and secretary of defense, and received the Nobel Peace Prize for his European Recovery Program, known as the Marshall Plan, for Western Europe following WWII.

Marshall died in 1959 and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

## Coming Events

**March 10, 2009**

**Virginia Military Advisory Council**  
Fort Lee, Va.

Contact: Office of Commonwealth Preparedness,  
[Wendy.Hoffman@governor.virginia.gov](mailto:Wendy.Hoffman@governor.virginia.gov)

**March 19, 2009**

**Fort Monroe FADA Meeting**  
Richmond, Va.

Contact: FMFADA, (757) 637-7778  
[jbaker@fmfada.com](mailto:jbaker@fmfada.com)

**March 19, 2009**

**Radford Army Ammunition Plant Restoration Board**

Radford, Va.  
Contact: Joy Case, (540) 731-5762

**March 19, 2009**

**LEAD Hampton Roads: Military Impact Day**  
Fort Monroe, Va.

Contact: Frank Roberts, (757) 644-6324

**March 25-27, 2009**

**2009 APA Virginia Conference**  
Williamsburg, Va.

Contact: (804) 754-4120/[office@apavirginia.org](mailto:office@apavirginia.org)  
VNDIA will sponsor a panel on encroachment

**March 27, 2009**

**Hampton Roads Mil. & Fed. Facilities Alliance Meeting**

Norfolk, Va.  
Contact: Frank Roberts, (757) 644-6324

**April 3, 2009**

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Industry Day**  
Alexandria, Va.

Contact: See website - event registration required.

**April 15, 2009**

**VNDIA Quarterly Meeting**  
Washington, D.C.

Contact: Patrick Tremblay, (810) 545-5716  
[ptremblay@YesVirginia.org](mailto:ptremblay@YesVirginia.org)

**April 16, 2009**

**Fort Monroe FADA Meeting**  
Fort Monroe, Va.

Contact: FMFADA, (757) 637-7778  
[jbaker@fmfada.com](mailto:jbaker@fmfada.com)

**May 15, 2009**

**Fort Monroe FADA Meeting**  
Richmond, Va.

Contact: FMFADA, (757) 637-7778  
[jbaker@fmfada.com](mailto:jbaker@fmfada.com)

Visit [www.VNDIA.org](http://www.VNDIA.org) for more events.

# The OLF Issue in a Nutshell

The Navy is continuing its evaluation process for the five sites it has identified as potential locations for an outlying landing field to serve F/A-18 Hornets and Super Hornets at NAS Oceana and additional aircraft at NS Norfolk's Chambers Field. Under consideration are two sites in North Carolina and three in Virginia, potentially affecting Southampton, Sussex and Surry counties.

The \$200 million project is made necessary by intensive training requirements for aircraft carrier landings, one of the most difficult and dangerous maneuvers performed by Navy pilots, particularly in complete darkness. The field at Oceana and nearby auxiliary base Fentress don't have the capacity needed by the Navy, who hope to have a new outlying field operational by 2013. The Navy needs around 30,000 acres, with a 2,000 acre core area within 50 nautical miles of NAS Oceana.

The Navy is facing opposition from organizations in both states. Both of North Carolina's senators (Richard Burr and Kay Hagan) and the affected areas representatives (Walter Jones and G.K. Butterfield) have voiced opposition to any Navy move not supported by the localities. Senator Burr has vowed to use his position on the Senate Armed Services Committee to deny the Navy funding, and Representative Butterfield last month requested the House Armed Services Committee insert a provision into any bill authorizing construction of the OLF that requires the Navy to demonstrate local support for the project.

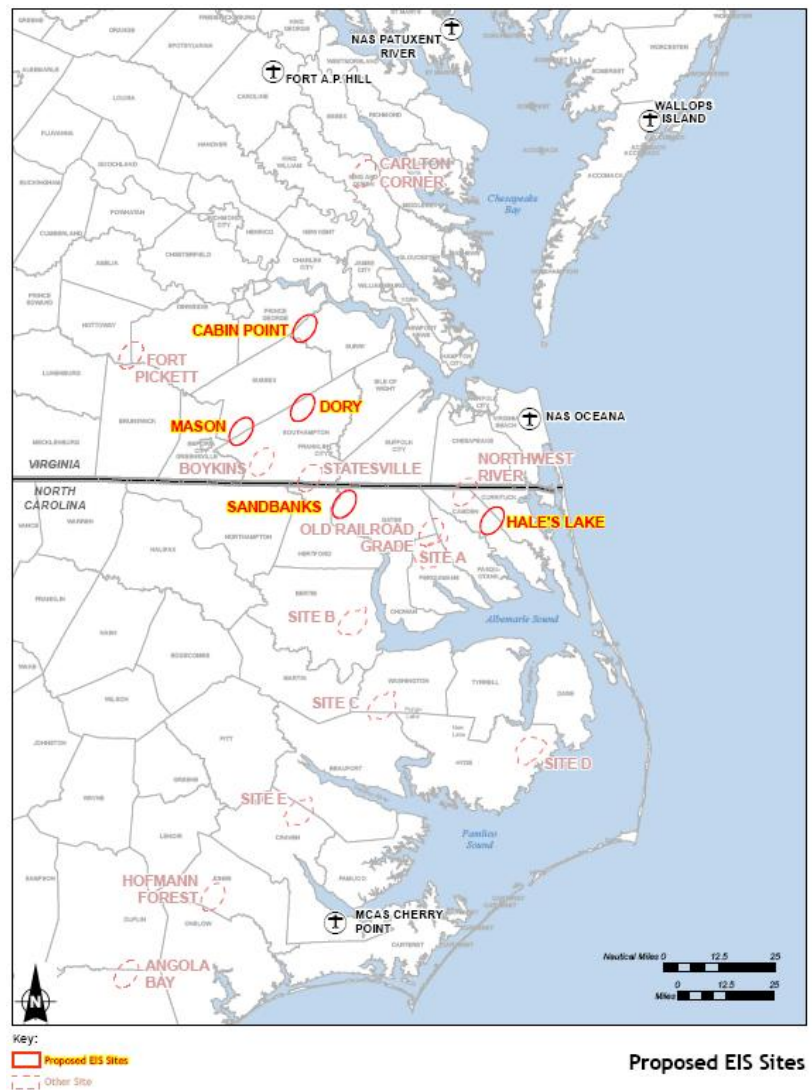
Opposition is organizing in Virginia as well. Last month a series of meetings were held in the potentially affected counties by grassroots organization [Virginians Against the Outlying Landing Field](#). The group is working with an attorney familiar with military environmental requirements.

However, much is at stake for the Commonwealth. The Navy spends nearly \$20 billion annually in Virginia, and while most of this entails Hampton Roads, it has huge economic implications state-wide. The OLF is a critical component supporting Oceana's role as the East Coast's Master Jet Base, and Oceana's 19 squadrons of F/A-18s are in turn critical to the aircraft carriers homeported at Norfolk.

Gov. Tim Kaine recognizes the importance of the OLF to meet Navy training needs, and is mindful of local concerns. Virginia Senators John Warner and Jim Webb issued a [joint statement](#) in January 2008 calling the Navy's approach "diligent and responsible" and emphasized the protection of operations at Oceana's Master Jet Base.

For their part, the Navy is being as transparent as possible. The service has posted complete details of its proposals and progress on a separate site, [www.olfeis.com](http://www.olfeis.com), and is open to working with local officials in answering questions and working on a positive conclusion to the search.

For now, the Navy is continuing to work toward publishing a draft environmental impact statement (EIS), expected next year, that will address a majority of questions and ultimately lead to a recommended site. In the end, the Secretary of the Navy, using input from the EIS and mission requirements, will make the final decision.



Navy map of the proposed OLF sites. From [www.olfeis.com](http://www.olfeis.com)

## General Assembly 2009

The 2009 General Assembly session ended on February 28, and several defense-related bills have passed both the House and Senate and await Gov. Kaine's consideration.



Among these are [House Bill \(HB\) 1727](#), which has Virginia joining other states in a compact on education designed to make transitioning between states, often required by military service, easier for families. [HB 2056/Senate Bill \(SB\) 1321](#) creates a grant program to support advanced shipbuilding activities involving nuclear warships for the Navy. [HB 2529](#) adds the Secretary of Commerce and Trade to the VNDIA board, and [SB 1550](#) authorizes the City of Chesapeake to provide for the emergency replacement of the Jordan Bridge, a common commuter route for workers at Portsmouth's Norfolk Naval Shipyard.

In addition, the legislature passed resolutions commending or celebrating [Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding](#), the [Virginia National Guard and Defense Force](#), and the [Virginia National Guard's 3rd Battalion, 16th Brigade Combat Team](#).

As reported last month, Langley Air Force Base in Hampton is among six finalist for the headquarters location of the 24th Air Force, a new numbered Air Force focused on the cyber mission. Air Force Space Command will be the 24th's parent command.

## Cyber Command Takes Shape

In late February AF Secretary Michael Donley approved a plan calling for a combined

headquarters element and operations center and three operational wings. The 24<sup>th</sup> will have about 5,500 people. The headquarters will have about 400 people, split between the two-star commander's staff and an around-the-clock cyber operations center.



Air Force officials say operations will be about 85 percent defensive, ensuring that the services networks aren't disrupted, while the remaining 15 percent will be offensive cyber actions.

The preferred location will be announced in April or May, and a final decision will be made following completion of the required environmental impact statement process. In addition to Langley, the proposed bases are Barksdale Air Force Base, La.; Lackland AFB, Texas; Offutt AFB, Neb.; Peterson AFB, Colo.; and Scott AFB, Ill.

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## Army, Marine Museums in Virginia

Assistant Secretary of the Army Keith Eastin and retired Army Gen. William W. Hartzog, president of the Army Historical Foundation, signed an agreement in January formally detailing the public-private partnership needed to build and operate the National Army Museum.

The new museum is expected to open in 2013 at Fort Belvoir, only a half-hour's drive from the National Museum of the Marine Corps (shown at right) at MCB Quantico, which opened in 2006.

The location of these two important museums is another sign of Virginia's significance as a home to our national defense services.

