



CONGRESSMAN  
**FRANK  
PALLONE**



**PROTECTING OUR MILITARY BASES**

***Pallone Fights for Ft. Monmouth, NWS Earle***

**O**ur area is home to two important military installations that provide critical support to our nation's fighting men and women. Fort Monmouth is headquarters to one of the Army's most sophisticated communications centers. Naval Weapons Station (NWS) Earle, located near Sandy Hook, is home to one of the Navy's most critical supply ports.

***Fighting Military Base Closures***

Since the 1980's, the military has held four Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) rounds, where the Department of Defense (DoD) closes and consolidates our nation's military bases. The DoD has announced that the next round of closures will take place in 2005.

Concerned that base closures could undermine the war on terrorism and hurt our troops in Iraq, I and many of my colleagues in Congress have urged President Bush to

delay or stop the 2005 BRAC. Still, White House and DoD officials have announced intentions to close a quarter of our nation's military bases. This would make the 2005 round of base closures the largest ever, equal to the four previous closure rounds combined.

***Monmouth, Earle Prove Their Value***

While many bases are now scrambling to prepare for the 2005 base closures, Fort Monmouth and Earle have spent years improving their bases and expanding their military mission. I have worked closely with both bases to ensure that they are able to remain current and valuable to our nation's military.

Over the last several years, I have secured federal funding for both Fort Monmouth and NWS Earle for new construction projects, security upgrades and advanced military programs and technology development.

**Projects that I secured funds for include:**

- \$5 million for communication improvements at Fort Monmouth. The funds will allow the Fort to upgrade and further integrate technology at its vast communications research and development center.
- \$182,000 in funds for the planning and design of a new facility at Fort Monmouth to research, design and test new portable power battery sources for use by troops in the field. This facility gives the Fort the ability to perform this research for all branches of the military.
- \$20.6 million in funds for phase one of the construction of a new pier at NWS Earle.
- \$4.37 million for the construction of a structure at NWS Earle to safely house military transport trucks that carry weapons to be loaded onto naval ships.

***NWS Earle Plays Vital U.S. Military Role***

**A**s one of the premiere naval supply depots, Naval Weapons Station Earle is of vital importance to the Navy, the Atlantic Fleet and maritime strategy.

Since September 11th and during the war in Iraq, NWS Earle's role has increased ten-fold. With the increased Naval presence in the Middle East, Asia and the Atlantic, the men and women stationed at Earle work around the clock to supply our troops with the ammunition they need.

With some of the strictest security measures of any military installation

in the country, the base has taken dozens of new steps to ensure that both the base and the surrounding community is safe.

***Critical to Operations in Iraq***

NWS Earle has proven critical to supplying a majority of the Naval and Marine units for Operation Iraqi Freedom. Earle loaded 82% of the Navy and Marine munitions needed to support the war. This tremendous effort involved the restocking of nine ships in a 106-day period with the contents of 700 tractor-trailers and 200 rail cars.

***Keeping the Ships at Earle***

Several years ago, the Navy announced its intention to move the USS Detroit's homeport from Earle to Norfolk, VA. After months of objections, meetings and negotiations, I was successful in keeping the USS Detroit home-ported here in Monmouth County.

The sailors of the Detroit, along with the civilians that man the USNS Supply, the USNS Arctic, and the USNS Mount Baker at Earle, provide significant economic value to Monmouth County. The men and women who work and supply these ships, when not at sea, eat in our restaurants, shop in our supermarkets and visit our beaches. I am continuing to work with the Navy to bring more missions to Earle.



***NWS Earle is the only deep-water naval supply port on the eastern seaboard. It provides a majority of the Atlantic Fleet with ammunition and fuel, both at sea and at their three-mile long pier in the Sandy Hook Bay, pictured at left.***

# Fort Monmouth is Key to Our National Security

Fort Monmouth has played a leading role in the transformation of our nation's military to meet the challenges of the 21st Century. Headquarters to one of the Army's foremost communication technology centers, Communication-Electronics Command (CECOM), Fort Monmouth is on the cutting edge of information technology research and development.

## 21st Century Military

From advanced radar systems that allow our troops to quickly identify enemy threats, to frequency jammers that keep enemy fire at bay, the software and electronics developed at Fort Monmouth are critical to national security and the war on terrorism. Much of today's modern weaponry depends on the technology developed and supported at Fort Monmouth. Fort Monmouth supported a \$1 billion information technology upgrade at the Pentagon and played a vital role in restoring the Pentagon communications network following the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Software developed at

Fort Monmouth allows the military to run more efficiently by tracking personnel and supplies, and streamlining operations.

## A Community Partner

One of the region's largest employers, Fort Monmouth generates over 22,000 jobs and pumps an estimated \$3.5 billion into the local economy. Those employed at Fort Monmouth make their homes in area towns, send their children to local schools and support local businesses.

## Save Our Fort Committee

The Save Our Fort Committee was established as a coalition of groups and individuals committed to promoting and preserving Fort Monmouth. The committee, meeting monthly, has been instrumental in keeping Fort Monmouth safe from previous rounds of military base closures.



*Rep. Pallone, left, stands before an Army battlefield command vehicle during a recent tour of Ft. Monmouth. During the tour, Pallone and other officials viewed a demonstration of military equipment now being used in Iraq. Also pictured is U.S. Rep. Rush Holt, right.*

As co-chairman of the Save Our Fort Committee, I have worked closely with business leaders, local elected officials and employees of the fort to ensure that Fort Monmouth remains a thriving military base.

## Rep. Pallone's District Offices – Reaching Out to You

*If you have a problem of a federal nature or want to obtain information on legislative issues, contact these offices, open weekdays 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.*

### Middlesex/Somerset/Union

67/69 Church St., Kilmer Square  
New Brunswick 08901  
732-249-8892

### Coastal Monmouth

504 Broadway  
Long Branch 07740  
732-571-1140

### Bayshore/West Monmouth

I.E.I. Airport Plaza  
1390 Rt. 36, #104, Hazlet 07730  
732-264-9104

Web site: [www.house.gov/pallone](http://www.house.gov/pallone)

CONGRESSMAN

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MILITARY BASES

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Official Business



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