

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

April 27, 2005

The Honorable Gordon R. England
Secretary of the Navy
1000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20350-1000

Dear Secretary England:

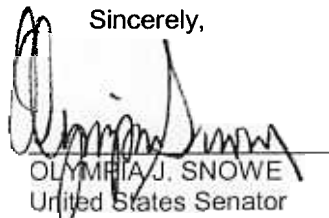
At the conclusion of our meeting with you and Assistant Secretary Young on February 14, both of you indicated that you would again compare the Navy's current planned workload at the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard with the 600,000 manday per year plan we proposed last summer to see if the Navy could more fully utilize the expertise and efficiency of the Shipyard to meet its mission.

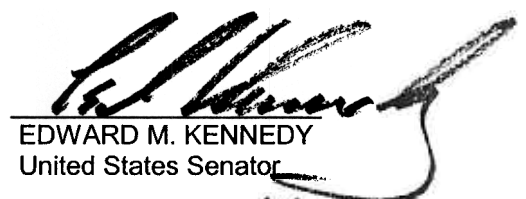
We received a response from Secretary Young on March 22 that, in essence, was no different than the original response we received last September and offered two conclusions that we specifically refuted during our presentation to you in February. We categorically reject the reasoning, analyses and conclusions presented by Secretary Young and the Navy.

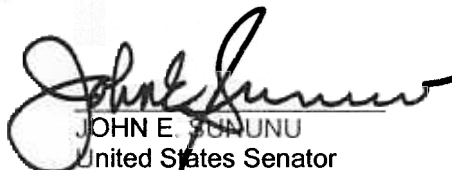
In spite of your espoused position that the Navy must seek savings in every aspect of its business, it is unfortunately very clear to us that the Navy has determined that cost savings, operational time buyback, and innovation are not primary factors in assigning workload to its industrial facilities. Any objective review of the record leads to the inescapable conclusion that the Navy, and the American taxpayer, would be best served by assigning more, not less, work to the nation's most efficient, most economical, and most innovative Shipyard – the Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

Sincerely,

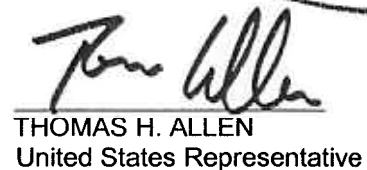

JUDD GREGG
United States Senator

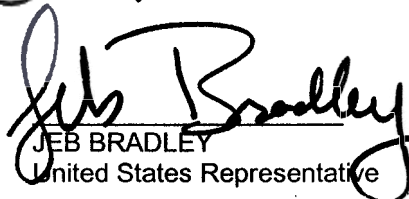

OLYMPIA J. SNOWE
United States Senator

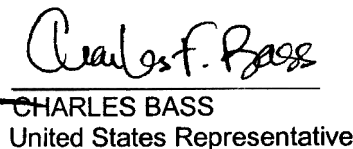

EDWARD M. KENNEDY
United States Senator


JOHN E. SUNUNU
United States Senator

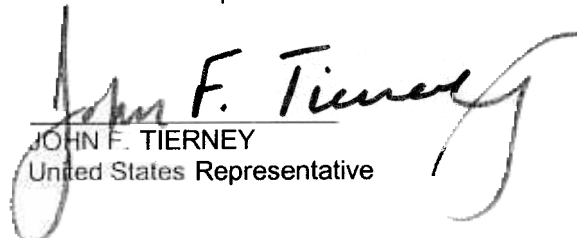

SUSAN M. COLLINS
United States Senator


THOMAS H. ALLEN
United States Representative


JEB BRADLEY
United States Representative


CHARLES BASS
United States Representative


MICHAEL H. MICHAUD
United States Representative


JOHN F. TIERNEY
United States Representative