



REPLY TO
THE ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY RESEARCH LABORATORY (PROVISIONAL)
2800 POWDER MILL ROAD
ADELPHI, MARYLAND 20783-1145

December 1, 1992

TP 100
Princeton



D2-2664-F

Engineering, Plans and Services Branch

DEC 1

Mr. Hugh C. Miller *[Signature]*
State Historic Preservation Officer
Director, Department of Historic Resources
221 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

Dear Mr. Miller:

We have completed a review of the existing information on the Cold War period contribution of the Woodbridge Research Facility (WRF). WRF is an installation selected for closure and disposal by the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission using criteria recommended by the Secretary of Defense. This closure decision became effective on March 15, 1991, as mandated by the 1991 National Defense Authorization Act (Public Law 101-510). We reassessed the Cold War historical importance of the installation after meeting with your staff member, Mr. Tony Opperman, on July 10, 1991 at our Woodbridge installation.

The criteria for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (36 CFR Part 60.4), and the criteria of exceptional significance applying to properties less than 50 years in age were utilized in the review process. As a result of the review, the Army has determined that part of the facilities at Woodbridge do qualify marginally for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. They do so based on criterion "a" because of their association with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of history during the Cold War period. Specifically, the events connected with electromagnetic pulse (EMP) experimentation and generation are important contributions to the broad patterns of our nation's and world's history. These events are discussed within enclosed documents on the historical significance of the Woodbridge Research Facility. The Army EMP Simulator Operation (AESOP) simulator provides the largest free-field radiating, horizontally polarized EMP environment available for conducting tests on mobile and/or transportable electronic systems. Additional testing and associated events occurred in three buildings that still retain physical integrity. These three buildings are Building 202 (High Voltage EMP Simulations Building of 1952), Building 211 (High Voltage EMP Simulation Laboratory of 1979), and Building 306 (EMP Command and Control Building of 1979). Of the Woodbridge EMP facilities only AESOP meets the criteria of

assoc. directly w/ AESOP, but it's just a shell to hold the on-off switch ATO

exceptional significance necessary to determine resources of less than 50 years in age eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. We have determined it eligible for listing on the National register.

In conclusion, we request your concurrence with our determination that the AESOP simulator is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places under criterion "a", because of its exceptional significance and unique nature. Further, we request your concurrence with our determination that no other places or facilities are presently eligible for the Register due to their association with the Cold War. We believe that no other standing buildings or structures except the AESOP simulator, are eligible for listing on the Register. We are withholding determinations on archeological resources until we have additional information.

For your convenience and our own, we offer a signature block for your concurrence at the end of this correspondence. If you have any questions or need any further information, please contact Mrs. Clara Bennett, Installation Historic Preservation Contact, (301)394-2220, (301)394-1386 FAX.

Sincerely,



Teresa K. Kines
Installation Manager

Enclosure

Copy Furnished:

Mr. McGuff, Ft. Worth District Corps of Engineers

I concur with the determinations of eligibility reported above.

H. Bryan Miller,
Virginia State Historic Preservation Officer