

Szymanski, Peter (TACOM)**From:** Redacted - Privacy Act**Sent:** Sunday, January 05, 2003 5 40 PM**To:** Szymanski, Peter (TACOM)**Subject:** S.A.E.P. site

Redacted - Privacy Act

E-Mail address: Redacted - Privacy Act

RE:Former Stratford Army Engine Plant

United States Army

Attention:Peter Szymanski, Installation Manager

DearUnited States Army,

Subject:Possible transfer of ownership to town of Stratford, CT.

For many years theformer site of the Stratford Army Engine Plant (S.A.E.P.) was home to the many thousands who worked there. When theonce thriving plant closed it was not only a loss to those who worked there,but also to those whos home is Stratford. I've been told the S.A.E.P. was Stratford second largest tax contributor. Everyone wholives here must now share the added tax burden placed upon us This is the mosteasily measured loss for town residents Being a business & property ownerdirectly across the street from this former behemoth ofS.A.E.P. Whether they be subcontractors such as machine shops, tool & dieshops, shops which supplied tools & equipment to those shops, restaurants,deli's, auto repair shops, truck repair shops, leasing companies, gasolinestations, hotels, airport, & all the many businesses & people whosupplied products & services to those business. I understand, at least tosome degree, the economics behind the Army's decision to pull out of Stratfordbut, there is a way to help fill the void. The transfer of ownership of theformer S.A.E.P. site to the town ofStratford would be a genuine way of helping a town to once again flourish &thrive as we begin a new millennium. Do not underestimate the importance of thisproperty to Stratford & its people. There is not a single person in ourtown that has not been affected by S.A.E.P.'s closing. Their lack of voice onthe matter does not mean they do not care. They are like most, members of thesilent majority. The Army has always been there to protect its people regardless of the cost. Our people have been there for our armed forces. My request is simple. If the Army has no plans to ever utilize the former S.A.E.P. site wetownspeople of Stratford Connecticut would like to ask to takeownership of the vast property andrestore it to the valuable asset itonce was. Not as a site of defense contractor but, a site of perhaps a community college, a seaportvillage, hotels, restaurants, retail shops, or who knows. The possibilities areunlimited. I am confident though, that no matter what we set our minds to it will benefit us all. I thank you fortaking the time to listen to the words of an average citizen who care greatlyfor his town & its people.

Respectfully,

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G K.

1/6/2003

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