

Delich Bentley, Benjamin L. Cardin, C. Thomas McMillen, Steny H. Hoyer, Beverly B. Byron, Kweisi Mfume, and Constance A. Morella, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; Mr. Michael P. W. Stone, Secretary of the Army, Department of the Army, The Pentagon, Room 3E718, Washington, D.C. 20310; Mr. Richard Cheney, Secretary of the Department of Defense, The Pentagon, Room 3E880, Washington, D.C. 20310; Mr. Manuel Lujan, Jr., Secretary of the Interior, Department of the Interior, Room 6151, C Street between 18th and 19th Streets, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240; and Colonel Alfred Shehab, Chairman of the Ft. Meade Coordinating Council, 1192 Hillcrest Road, Odenton, Maryland 21113.

Signed May 2, 1990.

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No. 9

(House Joint Resolution No. 36)

A House Joint Resolution concerning

**Surplus Acreage at Ft. George G. Meade**

FOR the purpose of requesting the United States ~~Army~~ Department of Defense to transfer approximately 9,000 acres at Ft. George G. Meade to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as an addition to the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center for certain purposes.

WHEREAS, A 9,000 acre portion of Ft. George G. Meade in Anne Arundel County may be declared excess to the needs of the U.S. Army under the Base Closure and Realignment Act (U.S. Public Law 100-526); and

WHEREAS, This 9,000 acre tract is primarily mature, undeveloped forest consisting of over 6,900 acres of contiguous forest land, the largest remaining tract of forest land in central Maryland, located 18 miles from the centers of Baltimore and Washington and 12 miles west of Annapolis; and

WHEREAS, The Ft. Meade acreage, when combined with adjacent land at the Patuxent Wildlife Research Center and the Beltsville Agricultural Research Area, constitutes a contiguous forest of over 15,000 acres; and

WHEREAS, The site contains over 1,200 acres of nontidal wetlands within the floodplain corridor of the Patuxent and Little Patuxent Rivers which protect the three miles of the site bordering the Patuxent River and four miles bordering the Little Patuxent River; and

WHEREAS, There are over 106 breeding species of birds on the 9,000 acre tract, including federally protected bald eagles and other species such as pileated woodpeckers, wood ducks, barred owls, black ducks, and numerous rare songbird species; and

WHEREAS, Many species of plants abound on the site, including the Maryland