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## UD's Mound Commercialization Study has Implications for Others on Closure List

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# The University of Dayton

# News Release

March 12, 1993  
Contact: Teri Rizvi

## **UD'S MOUND COMMERCIALIZATION STUDY HAS IMPLICATIONS FOR OTHERS ON CLOSURE LIST**

DAYTON, Ohio -- Even though the Clinton administration has agreed to reconsider a Bush administration plan to close the Mound facility in Miamisburg, researchers at the University of Dayton are moving ahead to identify ways to commercialize the nuclear weapon plant's technologies.

Researchers say the study's focus could be of value to the Defense Electronic Supply Center (DESC) and other military installations targeted for closure or consolidation.

UD has received a \$120,000 contract from the Ohio Department of Development, Montgomery County and the city of Miamisburg to evaluate the commercial potential of the Mound facility. Gerald A. Paprocki, Voinovich's regional representative for economic development, said that whether the Mound remains open or closes, defense conversion -- converting unneeded defense facilities to civilian uses -- "is a big topic in Ohio and nationally. This could be a prototype study. The task force the governor appointed to study the Mound situation felt very strongly for the need for this study."

The University of Dayton study is not intended to influence any decisions regarding reduction or transfer of the current Mound facility mission, according to Joseph Martino, a senior research mathematician in the University of Dayton Research Institute. "Instead, the study is intended to identify capabilities at the Mound facility that have the potential to be commercially viable business units, providing products or services in demand in the private sector. We want to alert local businesses that we might be calling on them to see if they could be customers for what the Mound could provide."

The study will be carried out jointly by UD's Research Institute and Center for

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Business and Economic Research. Researchers will evaluate the technological capabilities of the Mound facility and identify those showing the most promise of commercial viability. The Center for Business and Economic Research will conduct marketing studies to determine the potential market for capabilities deemed most promising.

"Those capabilities found to have both technological and commercial merit will then be identified as potentially viable business units for which business plans should be developed," Martino said.

One capability might be the Mound's acoustic imaging technology, a non-destructive evaluation technique used to find defects in materials, according to Martino.

The study is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

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