

## PRESS INVESTIGATION CITED

# N.J. lawmakers pushing for about-face on fort

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In a flurry of activity Thursday, state and federal leaders condemned the 2005 process that led to the closure of Fort Monmouth and called for two separate federal investigations into the vote that shuttered the 90-year-old Army post.

Citing an Asbury Park Press investigation that revealed the cost to close Fort Monmouth has doubled — from \$780 million to \$1.5 billion — since a federal panel voted to close it and that key information was withheld from the Base Realignment and Closure commission:

■ U.S. Sens. Frank Lautenberg and Robert Menendez, both D-N.J., requested that the Inspector General of the Department



**Col. Ricki L. Sullivan (right) is succeeded by Col. Stephen M. Christian (left) as garrison commander at Fort Monmouth at Thursday's ceremony. Between them is Diane Devens, director of the installation management command for the Army's Northeast region.** (STAFF PHOTO: BOB BIELKO)

See **Fort**, Page **A4**