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Subject: Area 51 is Deal Breaker for Independence Day pact w/ Military

Here's something interesting from a 20th Century Fox Newsletter;

"As most of Hollywood has learned, the process of obtaining the government's cooperation and blessing on a motion picture project can often make for a riveting story in its own right. Such cooperation is highly sought after by the major studios, especially for big-budget productions involving military hardware. Perhaps Hollywood's toughest critic, Uncle Sam sets forth an extremely detailed and strict set of criteria that must be met before such cooperation is granted.

"The filmmakers behind 20th Century Fox upcoming sci-fi epic INDEPENDENCE DAY made every effort to meet these requirements. The government, in turn, was impressed by the story's patriotic themes and heroic portrayals of the country's fictional leaders, including the President. Prepared to give INDEPENDENCE DAY producers it's blessing, the government requested only one change ... "All references," said Uncle Sam, "to Area 51 MUST BE DELETED."  
(Located in Nevada, Area 51 is a block of government land on which a military base is situated (officially denied by the government). It's long been rumored to be the site of a top secret alien study project.)

Since Area 51 was critical to the film's theme of our work being visited by a non-terrestrial force of incredible magnitude, the filmmakers, as much as they desired the military's cooperation, could not comply. Filming proceeded without the government's help."