



DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600

Arlington, VA 22202

Telephone: 703-699-2950

August 23, 2005

Brigadier General Stephen M. Koper
One Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20001

Dear General Koper,

Thank you for your correspondence of August 15th regarding the Air National Guard (ANG) flying units and ANG personnel. I appreciated hearing from you and value your contributions to the Base Closure and Realignment process. Your input is important in helping this Commission conduct an independent, fair, and equitable assessment and evaluation of the Department of Defense's recommendations.

As we near September 8th, when the BRAC Commission will submit the report to President Bush, the BRAC Commission will continue to evaluate and assess your input and concerns with the utmost seriousness and deliberation.

Be assured that the Commission will give careful consideration to your interests. I appreciate your continued support and assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Anthony J. Principi".

Anthony J. Principi

EC:7481

Chairman: Anthony J. Principi

Commissioners: The Honorable James H. Bilbray, The Honorable Philip E. Coyle III, Admiral Harold W. Gehman Jr., USN (Ret), The Honorable Jim Hansen, General James T. Hill, USA (Ret), General Lloyd Newton, USAF (Ret), The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner, Brigadier General Sue Ellen Turner, USAF (Ret)

Executive Director: Charles Battaglia

DCN: 7481



NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES

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August 15, 2005

BRAC Commission

AUG 16 2005

Received

Honorable Anthony J. Principi
Chairman
Base Closure and Realignment Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi:

On June 10, 2005, I wrote to the BRAC Commission to express our concerns over the recommendations of the Air Force to the 2005 BRAC. I highlighted two areas of concern, loss of skilled ANG Personnel and the superior safety record of Air National Guard flying units.

Last week the Air Force Safety Center provided this Association with revised data on the relative safety records of the Air Force and the Air National Guard. These data were of such marked variation from the data provided by the safety center in June that we wanted to share those revised numbers with the BRAC Commission.

In June 2005 the number of active duty AF class A flying mishaps per 100,000 flying hours reported to us for fighter aircraft (A-10, F-15 and F-16) was eight times greater than that of the ANG. The numbers provided on 9 August 2005 indicate the number to be 1.5 times greater. In the airlift category (C-130) the June data reported a rate 16 times greater in the active Air Force. The August data lists that ratio as 7 times greater.

The National Guard Association of the United States regrets any confusion this reporting error may have caused to you and your staff. Our conclusion remains the same. The experienced crews and maintainers in the Air National Guard contribute significantly to safer flying.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Stephen M. Koper".

Stephen M. Koper
Brigadier General (ret)
President

