DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION
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November 16, 2005

The Honorable Arlen Specter
Hart Senate Office Building, Room 711
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Specter:

Thank you for your letter of October 19, 2005 in which you seek clarification of the Commission's actions with respect to the number of C-130's to be located at the 911th Airlift Wing, Pittsburgh International Airport (IAP) Air Reserve Station (ARS).

Although the Commission remained silent in Recommendation #103 regarding the assignment of C-130 aircraft, the chart on page 178 of the Commission's Report clearly indicates the sense of the Commission that eight C-130 aircraft should remain assigned to the 911th Airlift Wing to best support the stated missions.

In addition, in its Findings on page 150, the Commission urged that "the Department of Defense take affirmative action to identify and permanently locate and operate an optimum number of C-130 aircraft as a detachment to the Pittsburgh IAP ARS enclave in order that it may support the mission of the Regional Joint Readiness Center as well as current Air Force Reserve Command missions." The Commission has made it quite clear in its recommendations that a Regional Joint Readiness Center should be established at the enclave and supported by the ARS.

Thank you for your expression of your appreciation for the work of the Commission.

Sincerely yours,

RUMU SARKAR
General Counsel

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