

DCB 5724 *Newton County Elementary School*

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BRAC Commission  
2521 South Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sirs:

I am very concerned about the realignment of the 186th ARW of Meridian, Mississippi.

This group of men and women has served with distinction since they were the 153rd Squadron during the Second World War. They have answered every call, whether it was state side or global. This is the home of air to air refueling, which began with the Key brothers.

I live in a small town about twenty-four miles from Meridian. I am principal of a consolidated elementary school of 900 kindergarten through fifth grade students. About one hundred of my student's parents will be affected. Not only will this be a major loss of income but also lives will be disrupted by relocation. Our economy will be adversely effected.

The entire surrounding area will suffer if the 186<sup>th</sup> ARW is realigned. Please allow this base to remain active and to continue to be an asset, not only to our area but also to our nation.

Sincerely,



Jeanette Thrash  
Principal  
Newton County Elementary