

August 2005

BRAC Commission

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

AUG 04 2005
received

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

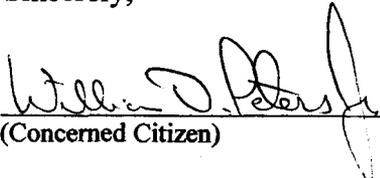
I am deeply troubled by the Defense Department's recommendation to realign Yeager Air National Guard base. This recommendation is a terrible mistake and I urge the BRAC Commission to reverse this decision and remove them from the list.

It is hard to understand why the Air Force has decided to take planes, missions and jobs away from so many Air Guard bases and put them on the more costly, larger bases. Of all the units to realign, why would they pick the base whose unit helped rescue Jessica Lynch in Iraq? The 130th Airlift Wing is the lead night vision C-130 unit in the Air National Guard. They are currently deployed in their twelfth rotation in the Global War on Terror.

Other questions concern Homeland Defense and how the Air Guard can respond to man-made or natural disasters when they occur after these massive cuts take place.

As the BRAC voting date of August 22 fast approaches, I urge the Commission in the strongest possible terms to remove Yeager Air National Guard Base from the Pentagon's recommended list of base realignments and to stop the continuing retreat of the military from our community.

Sincerely,



(Concerned Citizen)

1170 EMERALD ROAD
(Address)

CHARLESTON, WV 25314
(City, State, Zip)

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Base Realignment and Closure Commission
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Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I am so concerned by the Defense Department's recommendation to realign Yeager Air Guard base. This recommendation is not in the nation's best interest and the BRAC Commission should reverse this decision and remove them from the closure list.

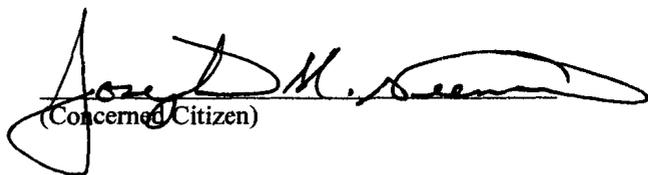
It is hard to understand why the Air Force has decided to take planes, missions and jobs away from so many Air Guard and Air Reserve bases and put them on the more costly Active Duty bases.

Also, it is important to note that the 130th Airlift Wing was the lead unit in General Schwarzkopf's famous "left hook" tactic during Desert Storm. This demonstrates that the Air Guard, especially the 130th Airlift Wing, is willing to "step-up" and take the lead initiative on important missions. Now, DOD wants to take all this away and is promising a "new and exciting" mission that is still not defined.

The impact of this decision will be devastating to the West Virginia Air National Guard and will make the Pentagon's efforts to recruit and retain military personnel even more difficult than it is now.

All West Virginians stand with the Air Guard community and are united in its support for this base, and its retention. Please, overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open and keep the C-130's in Charleston!

Sincerely,


(Concerned Citizen)

Rt 6 Box 50
(Address)

CHARLESTON, WV 25311
(City, State, Zip)