

DCN 6987

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi, Chairman
2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
2521 S. Clark St., Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

BRAC Commission

AUG 08 2005

Received

Dear Chairman Principi:

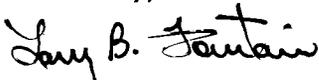
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I am also concerned about the effects of proposed base closures, both active and reserve component, on my access to health care, commissary, and MWR benefits. DoD did not consider retiree and reserve component populations surrounding military bases in their evaluation and selection of sites for closure. These closures will have a significant impact on my ability to use those benefits that I have earned.

The men and women of our National Guard are playing an increasingly integral role in military operations both domestically and around the world. There is a crisis in recruiting and the potential for one in retention. Closing these facilities would not only force National Guard members to drive farther to drill, it will also, in many cases, take away the missions they have been trained to do and enjoy doing. This will cause yet another drop in morale that the services cannot tolerate at this time.

Please consider these issues carefully as you finalize your recommendations for base closure. I ask that you remove the Air National Guard facilities from the list and make changes to reduce the impact of potential loss of installation-based benefits for National Guard members and retirees. If you have any questions, please contact me or my representative at the Enlisted Association of the National Guard of the United States, 1-800-234-3264.

Sincerely,



Larry B. Fountain, MSgt, MSANG
6586 County Road 350
Meridian, MS 39301-7795

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BOBBY J. LOFTIN, SSGT, MS ANG
12940 Hwy 494
Collinsville MS 39325

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Sincerely,



Roger E. Shirley, CMSgt, MS ANG
411 Adams St
Chunky, MS 39323

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Anthony D. Hubbard, TSgt, MS ANG
808 16th St.
Meridian, MS 39301

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CMSgt Martin T. Stamper
In-flight Refueling Program Manager
186th ARW

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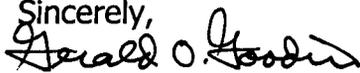
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Gerald O. Goodin, CMSgt, MS ANG
6630 Liberty Church Rd.
Newton, MS. 39345-4003

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SANDRA P. GRESSETT, MSGT, MS ANG
1756 Truelight Rd
Chunky MS 39323

ROGER L. SCHWARTZ

August 2, 2005

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CSM (ret), OHARNG

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Master Sergeant Terry Edwards
506 ECES/CEF
APO, AE 09359

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Thomas H. Irvin, CMSgt, ANG (Ret)
Tennessee Air National Guard
104 Buffalo Run
Goodlettsville, TN 37072
E-Mail: homerirvin@comcast.net