

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

AUG 11 2005

Received

Dear Chairman Principi:

I am writing to urge you to reject the Air Force plans to ground a third of the Air National Guard (ANG) under the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process. The recommendations made by the Air Force affecting ANG bases are outside the scope of the BRAC process. As hearings held by the Commission and by the House Armed Services Committee (HASC) have proved, these recommendations substantially deviate from published BRAC selection criteria.

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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,

Florence M. Wright
Florence M. Wright
1495 Burton Rd
Little Rock, MS
39337

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

BRAC Commission

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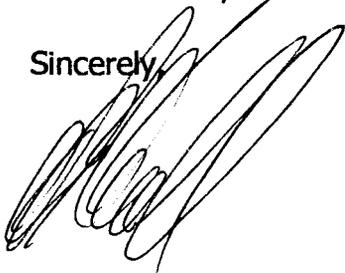
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Sincerely,



DALE B CORNWELL

MSGT 186ARW

MSG/CCF

601-484-9589

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Sincerely,



TSG Pamela K. Davis, MS ANG
2185 Church Street
Chunky, MS 39323
601-655-8645

BRAC Commission

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Sincerely,


Yvonne M. Lewis, MSgt, MSANG
5896 Lockwood Dr.
Meridian, MS 39305

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Sincerely,

Billy R. Barnett

BILLY R. BARNETT
2210 43RD Street
MERIDIAN, MS 39305
(601)484-9837

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Arlington, VA 22202

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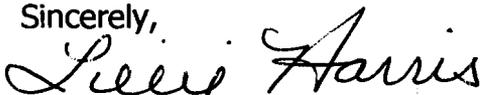
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Sincerely,



MSgt Lillie Harris/186th ARW
290 Greenie Morrow Rd.
Lawrence, MS 39336

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Sincerely,

Steven R. Lewis MSgt.

BRAC Commission

AUG 10 2005

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Sincerely,



Ronald I. Geary, SMS
2 Concord Place
Gulfport, MS 39507

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 10 2005

Received

Dear Chariman Principi:

I am writing you as a spouse of a retired CMS in the Air National Guard, CMS (Ret) Charles D. Geary, Jr. My husband retired with 41 years service to our country (14 of these years was on active duty with the United States Air Force).

I am also writing to urge you to reject the Air Force plans to ground a third of the Air National Guard (ANG) under the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process. The recommendations made by the Air Force affecting ANG bases are outside the scope of the BRAC process. As hearings held by the Commission and by the House Armed Services Committee (HASC) have proved, these recommendations substantially deviate from published BRAC selection criteria.

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Sincerely,



Mildred E. Geary
P.O. Box 368
New Augusta, MS 39462

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2521 S. Clark St., Suite 600
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Charles D. Geary, Jr., CMS (Ret)
P. O. Box 368
New Augusta, MS 39462-0368

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi, Chairman
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2521 S. Clark St., Suite 600
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AUG 12 2005

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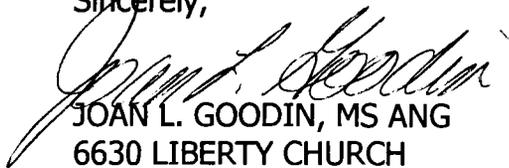
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JOAN L. GOODIN, MS ANG
6630 LIBERTY CHURCH
NEWTON, MS 39345

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TSGT Tamra J. Smith
5220 Branning Price Rd
Meridian, MS 39301

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Tabatha Faye Ware E4/SRA
6644 Hwy 493
Meridian MS 39305
USA ~~AG~~

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Sincerely,

Mary A. Williams
6001 Oak Ct
Black Hawk, SD 57718

MISSISSIPPI NATIONAL GUARD NON COMMISSIONED OFFICERS ASSOCIATION AUXILIARY

BRAC Commission

AUG 12 2005

Received

**Shirley A. Ritter
1228 Hatley Road
Amory, MS. 38821-4613
Cell phone # 1-662-640-1138**

August 8, 2005

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

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**Shirley A. Ritter, Treasurer
MS NG NCOA Auxiliary**

Sar: wdr



BRAC Commission

AUG 12 2005

Received

ROBERT F. REINHARDT, JR.
425 Devon Drive
Homewood, Alabama 35209-4404

9 Aug 2005

General (ret) James T. Hill
Member
2005 BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Gen. Hill:

The enclosed article captures my thoughts on DoD's intention to "realign" the 117th ARW and is included for your review. It addresses only the 117th's role in this year's BRAC proposal. As I reflect on the whole Air National Guard proposal, closing down or "realigning" 28 units, I am compelled to write and ask that you return the whole Guard initiative to DoD for a thorough review and action at a later date. I am confident after that review all 28 units will remain.

The Air National Guard is no longer a reserve force. The Air Force can't fight a war without calling on the Guard prior to the first shot being fired. That was true in the first Gulf War and in every subsequent war. The Air Force has not added any force structure to replace closed down units. Therefore, this action will severely hamper our nation's ability to wage and win wars. For this reason, prudence dictates a more thorough review to ensure our ability to defend this country is not compromised.

The global war on terror and the Iraq and Afghanistan wars are stretching our forces. What will we do if these Guard units aren't available when Korea or Iran or the China/Taiwan issue requires a show of force? I urge you and your Commission members to overturn DoD's proposal for the Air National Guard to insure our President has these forces at his disposal when the need arises.

Sincerely,



Robert F. Reinhardt, Jr.
Col. (retired) AL ANG

Enclosure

7 Aug 05

The Honorable Anthony Principi
Chairman, Defense Base Realignment
& Closure Commission

DBAC Commission

2521 S. Clark St, Suite 600
Arlington, Va. 22202

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Dear Sir:

We are writing to urge you to give close attention to the strong factual case before you in support of saving the 110th Fighter Wing and the Battle Creek ANG Base.

The Battle Creek Base has more flying hours than any A-10 unit in the National Guard. It has the best Fully Mission Capable Rate of all A-10 units and the best retention rate. It also has the highest percentage rating of A-10 facilities rated Code One in the ANG. We urge you to spare the 110th for sound military reasons, and reject the political manipulation that has put the 110th on the chopping block.

Respectfully submitted,

John + Mary Logan
17368 10 Mill Rd
Battle Creek, MI 49014

Frank W. Ward
Colonel, USAFR (Ret.)
257 Lakeshore Drive
Battle Creek Michigan 49015
<frankward2@aol.com>

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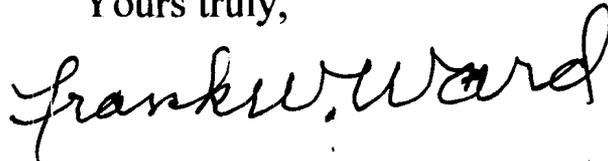
BRAC Commissioners
2521 Clark Street Suite 600
Arlington VA 22202

Gentlemen:

Having been in the Reserve from age 21 to 60 (1933 to 1972) and having been active in the Retiree Activities Office since – until age 90 -- I can tell you with authority that Reserve and Guard training is where these people live with their families and have their livelihood. Few will travel over 20 or 30 miles for training. A monetary allowance for “communiting” is not allowed.

Guard and Reserve training **MUST BE WHERE PEOPLE LIVE .**

Yours truly,



Frank W. Ward

BRAC Commission

AUG 11 2005

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August 8, 2005

Robert J. Bush
239 E. Minges Rd.
Battle Creek, MI 49015

BRAC Commissioners
Atten: The Honorable Samuel Skinner
2521 Clark St., Suite #600
Arlington, VA 22202

The Honorable Samuel Skinner,

"How Soon We Forget." I was 14 years old when, on December 7th, 1941, I watched the Japanese planes fly over Schofield Barracks. I could see the bombs drop on Wheeler Air Field. One question I remember asking myself was "Where are our planes?" Of course, they were all lined up at Wheeler Field and destroyed on the first pass by the Japanese bombers. So, today I watch the plans to move the 110th Fighter Wing from the Battle Creek Air National Guard Base and I ask, again, "Where Are Our Planes?"

Thank you for honoring us with your recent visit to Kellogg Field.

Robert J. Bush
A Pearl Harbor Survivor

