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Monday, July 25, 2005

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

Dear Mr. Principi:

Let it first be said that the City of Columbus remains committed to the dedicated men and women of the Defense Supply Center Columbus (DSCC) and the outstanding work of its tenant, Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS), in supporting our nation's defense efforts.

In May, we were proud to hear that the Department of Defense recognized the current success and future potential of DSCC, a superior modern-day facility employing 6,160 Central Ohioans. However, we take pause in the recent re-examination by the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission of DFAS Columbus and the potential loss of 2,000 jobs at that office.

DSCC is a true joint installation, hosting several Defense agencies with complementary missions beneficial to DFAS. In fact, few other DFAS locations enjoy the operational benefits that DFAS Columbus does from being co-located with so many Department of Defense agencies. Further consolidation of DFAS operations in Columbus only strengthens this partnership and achieves one of the principal BRAC goals: creating more "jointness" through co-location of complementary operations.

This "jointness" is a theme shared by the leaders of the Central Ohio community. While this base may sit outside Columbus' city lines, the dedicated employees of DSCC and their families are active members of our communities, our schools, and our neighborhoods. We encourage you to build upon the success of DFAS Columbus, and we welcome those men and women who would join the Central Ohio community in the future.

Thank you,
The Members of Columbus City Council

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Mary Jo Hudson

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