



DCN 8122  
Executive Correspondence

AUG 22 2005

Received

**Department of Military Affairs**  
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RE: Commission Hearing - 20 Aug 05 Cecil Field / Osanna Naval Air Station	DATE FAXED: 22 Aug 05
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STATE OF FLORIDA  
Department of Military Affairs  
**Office of the Adjutant General**

St. Francis Barracks, P.O. Box 1008  
St. Augustine, Florida 32085-1008

August 22, 2005

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi  
Chairman  
BRAC Commission  
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Dear Chairman Principi:

This letter relates to the Commission hearing on August 20<sup>th</sup> regarding Oceana Naval Air Station, VA and Cecil Field, Jacksonville, FL. I was very surprised to learn of testimony suggesting air space around Cecil Field and access to the Atlantic-Offshore Warning Areas and other training sites was significantly restricted by commercial air traffic. As you know, the Florida Air National Guard's 125<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing is home based in Jacksonville less than 20 miles from Cecil Field. Florida Guard F-15 Eagles have flown the same corridors and access routes available to Cecil Field for more than a decade. Our experience is that Jacksonville represents a near ideal training location for military aviation. The city is close to many large training areas and enjoys few restrictions with easy access to instrumented ranges, live air-to-air and air-to-ground ranges, and numerous ground threat emitters.

The primary airspace utilized by the 125<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing is Warning Area (W) 157 and W158. W157, located 60 miles east of Jacksonville, provides up to 100 mile plus intercepts, live chaff and flares, live air to air gunnery, and supersonic flight from surface to 50,000 feet. The range is instrumented to provide both real time range monitoring and playback for mission debriefing. W158 is similar to W157, minus the instrumented range, and is located 60 miles southeast of Jacksonville. Together, these ranges encompass over 200 miles north to south and 110 miles east to west. Both airspaces support night operations, including "lights out" training with night vision goggles. The flow to and from these airspaces is simple and efficient.

In addition to the W157 and W158 complex, there are several other airspaces inside 200 miles available for use from northeast Florida. Air to Air training missions can be accomplished at Live Oak military operating area (MOA), Carrabelle MOA, W470, W151, and Moody MOA. Air to ground training is available at Palatka MOA, Avon Park MOA, and Townsend ranges (R3007 and R3005). These ranges provide maximum flexibility for fighter training. Also, Cecil Field has been used as a temporary fighter training station by various European countries because of its robust fighter training opportunities.

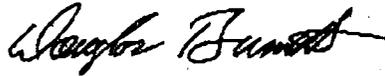
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In summary, Cecil Field offers outstanding access to a wide array of fighter ranges and is not encumbered by commercial aircraft requirements. Coordination with the FAA is absolutely superb. Simply put, the military air space available in northeast Florida is exceptional.

*"I certify that the information contained in this submission to the BRAC Commission is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief as required by Section 2905 of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990."*

Sincerely,



DOUGLAS BURNETT  
Major General  
The Florida National Guard  
The Adjutant General

Copy Furnished:  
Mr. Fetzer, Senior Analyst Navy Team