

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**Richard J. O'Connell, Acting
County Manager and Clerk of the Board**

www.claycountygov.com



CLAY COUNTY

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August 17, 2005

BRAC Commission

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Received

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi, Chairman
2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Va. 22202

Dear Chairman Principi:

As a former Navy Veteran stationed at NAS Cecil Field during the Viet Nam War, I know first hand of the benefits Cecil Field offered to the mission of the United States Navy. I was proud to be stationed there when the base was designated a Master Jet Base by the Department of Defense.

Today, I serve as Chairman of the Clay County Commission. Clay County with a population of over 160,000 people has part of Cecil Field located within the County. Clay County is well known to Navy families all over the world with our high quality public schools and friendly atmosphere and low cost of living. Clay County stands ready to assist the Navy and our Country in any effort needed should the opportunity arise for the reopening of NAS Cecil Field.

I personally know of no other base that would offer so much year round to the flight operations and training of our Naval Aviators and support personnel than Cecil Field.

Please be assured that Clay County fully supports the efforts of Governor Bush and Mayor Payton in the reopening of NAS for the benefit of America's defense.

Sincerely,

George A. Bush
Chairman

cc: Honorable Jeb Bush, Governor, State of Florida
Honorable John Peyton, Mayor, City of Jacksonville
Clay County Commissioners

**Christy Fitzgerald - District 1 ● Patrick D. McGovern - District 2 ● George A. Bush - District 3
Glenn R. Lassiter - District 4 ● Harold Rutledge - District 5**