

*"A Historic Past"*

**Mayor**  
Cordelia W. Bennett  
**Vice Mayor**  
James A. Parker  
**Councilmembers**  
Rebecca Keifer  
Paul L. Parets  
Ronald R. Graham II  
Edward H. Davis



**THE CITY OF DELAWARE CITY**

407 Clinton Street – P.O. Box 4159

Delaware City, Delaware 19706

Phone: 302-834-4573 Fax: 302-832-5545

*"A Bright Future"*

**City Manager**  
Paul H. Morrill, Jr.  
**Chief of Police**  
Daniel A. Tjaden  
**City Solicitor**  
Daniel R. Losco  
**City Treasurer**  
Kathleen M. Walls  
**City Secretary**  
Leah Beets

BRAC Commission

July 20, 2005

JUL 20 2005

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

Received

RE: Support of the Delaware Air National Guard

To the Honorable Principi:

As Mayor of the City of Delaware City, I strongly urge the federal B.R.A.C. to reconsider its recommendation for the closure and/or realignment of the Delaware National Guard Base at the New Castle County Airport. The realignment would result in a direct economic loss of over \$28.7 million annually for civilian, fulltime military, and Guard military positions. It would also be a financial detriment to the surrounding businesses. The transfer of Base firefighters would create serious voids in fire service and safety in the area.

The realignment and/or closure of the Delaware Air National Guard would have a negative economic and social impact on the public welfare, safety, and standard of living for the citizens and workforce of New Castle County. Once again, I strongly recommend that you reconsider your recommendation for the closure and/or realignment of the Delaware National Guard Base.

Sincerely,

Cordelia W. Bennett  
Mayor, City of Delaware City

CWB/kc



DELAWARE STATE  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

---

Marvin N. Schoenhals, Chairman  
James A. Wolfe, President & CEO

July 18, 2005

BRAC Commissioners  
BRAC Commission  
2521 South Clark Street  
Arlington, VA 22202

BRAC Commission

JUL 25 2005

Received

Dear BRAC Commissioners:

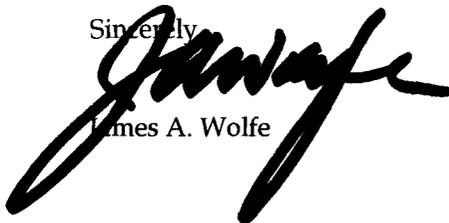
On behalf of Delaware's business community, I am writing in support of the Delaware Air National Guard. The Air National Guard plays a vital role in Delaware's economy and we believe that it is crucial that it remain located here in Delaware.

Not only will Delaware lose its eight C-130H aircraft if the wing is transferred, but the direct and ancillary jobs that go along with them. The 685 jobs that would be lost represent a total payroll loss to the state's economy of more than \$22 million.

In addition, the New Castle Airport, home of the 166<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing, would be adversely - and perhaps permanently -- affected. The airport is home to three fixed-base operators, Aero-Taxi, AVCenter, Wilmington and Dassault Falcon Jet. Existing corporate aviation clients include a number of Fortune 500 companies, such as Campbell's Soup, DuPont, MBNA, and W.L. Gore. The loss of the Air National Guard firefighters could lead to the loss of FAA ratings, which would have a negative impact on the airport's operations. This is an economic risk that Delaware cannot afford to take.

The Delaware Air National Guard has a long and proud history of supporting and defending the United States both at home and overseas. We urge you to keep it here in Delaware where it belongs.

Sincerely,



James A. Wolfe

cc U.S. Sen. Joseph R. Biden, Jr., U.S. Sen. Thomas R. Carper, U.S. Rep. Michael N. Castle



BRAC Commission

JUL 25 2005

Received

STATE OF DELAWARE  
STATE FIRE PREVENTION COMMISSION  
DELAWARE FIRE SERVICE CENTER

(302) 739 - 3160  
FAX (302) 739 - 4436

1463 CHESTNUT GROVE ROAD  
DOVER, DELAWARE 19904

July 19, 2005

BRAC Commission  
ATTN: Anthony Principi, Chairman  
2521 Clark South Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The State Fire Prevention Commission is deeply troubled by the Defense Department's recommendation to realign the 166 Airlift Wing, New Castle County Airport, New Castle, Delaware Air National Guard base. The Delaware Air National Guard is an integral part of the U.S. Air Force being part of daily operations in Afghanistan, Iraq and in the Iraq war theater. The recommendation to close this base is a terrible mistake and the Fire Prevention Commission urges the BRAC Commission to reverse this decision and remove them from the list.

The beauty of the system has been that Air Guard units in various regions of the country captured the military experience available in that region. A radical move of the aircraft such as is threatened, and the loss of the talent of the men and women in this area is a **horrible waste of money and talent**. The Delaware Fire Prevention Commission urges you to support the survival of the Delaware Air National Guard on behalf of the citizens of our state.

Sincerely,

*Kenneth H. McMahon*

Kenneth H. McMahon  
Chairman

KHM/sl