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I am writing this letter to strongly oppose the realignment of the 130<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing (AW) at Yeager Airport in Charleston, WV. This realignment would result in the loss of all eight C-130 aircraft to Pope AFB.

The 130 AW has been in existence since 1947 and has always stepped up to serve our country, state, and community when called upon. The unit was activated for the Korean conflict, Desert Shield/Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom, Noble Eagle, and continues to have its members deployed to 13 different countries to this very day.

It is incomprehensible that a unit of the caliber of the 130<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing would be in this position.

- ◆ Since 2001, the retention rate for the 130<sup>th</sup> has stayed steady between 96-98% while other units have suffered losses, some of them the very units scheduled to gain from BRAC.
- ◆ The current strength of the unit is 103.2%
- ◆ The 130<sup>th</sup> has had its men and women serving all over the world since the Global War on Terrorism began in 2001, during which time the unit has received numerous inspections by the Air Force and performed to excellent standards each time.
- ◆ The 130<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing not only performs its duties efficiently and with excellence, it does so economically. Four comparable units spent an average of \$2.2M for operations and maintenance; the 130 AW spent 1.78M while performing the same mission.

If indeed our military is seeking efficient use of resources, outstanding performance, and commitment to service, there can be no doubt that C-130 aircraft will stay at the 130<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing. I urge you to do everything within your power to Keep'em Flyin.'

Sincerely,

*Leighanna Dolin*