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Received

July 30, 2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi:

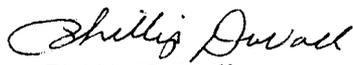
Thank you for the hard work that you and your fellow Commissioners are doing in the service of our country. I know that you are doing your best to assure the most cost effective defense organization while maintaining the ability to provide needed support to our troops. You have received numerous briefings and letters containing reasons for closing or retaining military bases. This is another letter of support for retaining the Red River Defense Complex.

The closing of this important Complex was carefully reviewed by the 1995 BRAC Commission and was rejected. As it has turned out, considering the support needed for our current conflict and the rising level of terrorism, this was the right decision. It has served our armed forces in an exemplary manner throughout its history and will continue to do so in the future.

The DOD recommendation for closure during the current BRAC was based on outdated workload information and fails to provide adequate surge capability for our national defense. The construction of new facilities at the proposed receiving installations which is needed to be able to handle the added workload does not make economic sense for the taxpayers and puts our armed forces at risk during the proposed transition period. Also, the enormous loss of skilled workers leaves a question of whether the receiving bases could immediately provide the high level of quality products currently being produced. Our troops deserve and need this high level of quality products.

Thank you again for doing the very important work required in this BRAC process. I am confident that you will make recommendations that assure our national defense is the best it can be while providing needed support for our troops in the future.

Sincerely,


Phillip DuVall

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Texarkana, Texas 75503