

# PROTECTING **AMERICA'S NATIONAL ASSETS**

on the Strategic Texas Gulf Coast



Letters of Support

&

Resolutions



[SupportEllingtonField.com](http://SupportEllingtonField.com)



103-06A – AF-E – Executive Correspondence

Air Force – Ellington Air Force Base - TX

BRAC COMMISSION – FY 2005

COFF; DISPOSITION: Permanent



July 21, 2005

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi  
Chairman  
2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission  
2521 S. Clark St., Ste. 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi:

Please find enclosed a book of Letters of Support and Resolutions in reference to the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Ellington Field. We would like to have this book submitted on record to show the support of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, Texas Air National Guard.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Cook".

John Cook, Chairman  
Ellington Field Task Force  
Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership

# **Letters of Support**



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

RICK PERRY  
GOVERNOR

July 15, 2005

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi  
Chairman  
2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission  
2521 Jefferson Davis Highway  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Dear Chairman Principi:

This letter is to express my strong concern regarding the Department of Defense (DoD) proposal to retire the F-16C fighter aircraft located at Ellington Field in Houston, Texas. Currently assigned to the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, Texas Air National Guard, these aircraft represent the only true Air Force rapid reaction capability for protection of the critical infrastructure and key resources along the Texas Gulf Coast – a capability that must be preserved.

My position on the retention of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Ellington is underscored by the DoD's recently published (June 2005) *Strategy for Homeland Defense and Civil Support*. In particular, the following statement from page 11 of this document addresses the need to have strategic assets properly located to detect and eliminate terrorist forces at a safe distance from the homeland:

*The waters and airspace geographically contiguous to the United States are critical homeland defense battlespaces. In these approaches, U.S. Northern Command, the North American Aerospace Defense Command, and U.S. Pacific Command, working in concert with other combatant commands, the Intelligence Community, the U.S. Coast Guard, and other domestic and international partners, have the opportunity to detect, deter, and, if necessary, defeat threats en route – before they reach the United States. This requires maximum awareness of threats in the approaches as well as the air and maritime interception capabilities necessary to maintain U.S. freedom of action, secure the rights and obligations of the United States, and protect the nation at a safe distance.*

While I understand the need to gradually retire our aging fleet of fighter aircraft as we bring new aerospace technology into the inventory, the elimination of a fighter presence on the Texas Gulf Coast places Texas and its critical infrastructure at serious risk. In my opinion and that of other high level elected and military leaders who spoke out on this issue at the July 11, BRAC Regional Hearing in San Antonio, Texas, maintaining the presence of a full fighter wing at Ellington Field is critical. The fact that DoD has recommended the optional presence of a small alert detachment (two aircraft) at Ellington further validates our concern but falls far short of protecting the Gulf Coast from multiple, simultaneous strikes from the air.

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi

July 15, 2005

Page 2

As the fourth largest city in the country, Houston and its surrounding metropolis area possess the nation's largest concentrated array of infrastructure assets designated as critical to the nation's security by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. Specifically identified as critical assets are the Port of Houston, the Intra Coastal Canal, petrochemical and oil refinery industries, the Texas Medical Center, the South Texas Nuclear Power Plant, the University of Texas Medical Branch Bio-Containment Laboratory and several major sports venues. More than 15 percent of the world's crude oil is either refined or shipped through the Golden Triangle region of the Texas Gulf Coast, which contains more than 54 chemical and petroleum related refineries, including the largest jet fuel processor in the world. An attack on this region could result in catastrophic loss of life and have devastating effects on our nation's economy.

I respectfully request that you maintain F-16C Air Force assets at Ellington Field Texas. Although retirement of these aircraft would achieve cost savings, the stakes are simply too high. In today's threat environment, we must ensure the security of our nation's citizens and vulnerable critical infrastructure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Perry". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Rick Perry,  
Governor

RP:lsp

cc: The Honorable John Cornyn  
The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison  
The Honorable Tom DeLay  
The Honorable James H. Bilbray  
The Honorable Philip Coyle  
The Honorable James V. Hansen  
The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner  
Admiral Harold W. Gehman, Jr., USN, Ret.  
General James T. Hill, USA, Ret.  
General Lloyd W. Newton, USAF, Ret.  
Brigadier General Sue E. Turner, USAF, Ret.  
Ellington Field Task Force



**CITY OF HOUSTON**  
City Council

**Addie Wiseman**  
Council Member, District E

Committees:  
Chair, Council Governance  
Transportation, Infrastructure & Aviation  
Public Safety & Homeland Security  
Ethics

July 15, 2005

BRAC Commission  
2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission  
2521 Jefferson Davis Highway  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Distinguished Commission Members:

I appreciate the opportunity to write to you in support of retaining the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Ellington Field.

As a Houston City Council Member, I have the privilege of representing Ellington Field and the community that surrounds it. Americans in our local region and the rest of the country, depend upon the security that the 147<sup>th</sup> provides to locations of national importance and interest. These sites include the Port of Houston, NASA, petrochemical refining facilities, the Texas Medical Center and many other locations, too numerous to list in this brief letter.

On September 11, 2001, the 147<sup>th</sup> was called into action and ably assisted as first responders in defending the President of the United States of America and all that the Office of the President represents.

While I am proud to be the representative for the district in which Ellington Field is located, in all sincerity, I firmly attest that regardless of that fact, I would rise in support of the 147<sup>th</sup> for the fine service that it provides to our country. The 147<sup>th</sup> is proud to call Houston home, and Houston is proud of the protection that it provides to our community, industry and pride.

I urge you to reject the recommendation that the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing be realigned.

Best regards,

Addie Wiseman

July 19, 2005

BRAC Commission  
Convention Facilities-San Antonio:  
Henry B. Gonzales Convention Center  
200 E. Market Street  
San Antonio, Texas 78205

To the attention of the BRAC Commission:

I would like to extend this letter of support for the retention of military presence at Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Houston, Texas. Specifically, I strongly oppose retiring the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing's F-16s at Ellington Field Air National Guard Stations. Because of increased security concerns, I believe we have an obligation to continue the support and protection that Ellington Field provides for the Port of Houston and Greater Houston Area.

Houston is the fourth largest city in the country, with an enormous number of assets of regional and national significance to protect. I, therefore, feel it is vital to present the Commission with all the relevant data to consider in your deliberations.

Ellington Field Reserve Base and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing are a key presence in our region's national security efforts and provide the protection for various facilities designated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as areas of critical infrastructure, specifically, the Port of Houston, petrochemical and oil refinery facilities, the Texas Medical Center, South Texas Nuclear Power Plant, University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB) Bio-Containment Laboratory, and various major sports venues all benefit from the services Ellington Field and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing provide.

I strongly urge you reevaluate the BRAC recommendations for the retirement of the 147<sup>th</sup> and vote for a stronger homeland security force located within minutes of protecting our ship channel industries.

Sincerely,

/Janette Sexton

Janette Sexton  
***Candidate for State Representative***  
***District 144, 2006***  
1627 Maywood Lane  
Pasadena, Texas 77503-3548  
281.479.0934 (home)



July 15, 2005

Base Relocation and Closure Commission  
San Antonio, Texas

We, the Mayor and City Council of Kemah, Texas are in support of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing of the Texas Air National Guard remaining fully operational and based at Ellington Field. With Houston being the nation's fourth largest City, home to one of the world's largest petrochemical and refining complexes, stretching from Corpus Christi in the west to Beaumont in the east, Ellington's 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing is necessary for the national security of America's 4<sup>th</sup> largest City and the greater southeast Texas gulf coast area. Houston is also home to NASA's Johnson Space Center, the Texas Medical Center and many other vital national assets.

In closing we would just like to say that keeping the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Ellington Field is a critical part of Houston's Homeland Security and Economic Stability.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Greg Collins, Mayor

Pat Buchanan, City Councilwoman

Wayne Rast, City Councilman

Shawn Parker, City Councilman

Mary Anne Holcomb, City Councilwoman

Kelly Williams, City Councilwoman



12000 Lawndale  
Houston, TX 77017  
(713) 321-4111

P.O. Box 2451  
Houston, TX 77252-2451

July 6, 2005

2005 Defense Base Closure and  
Realignment Commission  
2521 S. Clark St., Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to urge you to keep the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Ellington Field in Houston to safeguard not only the Port of Houston and surrounding industrial assets, but our nation's security and economy.

Private industry along the Texas coast depends heavily on the ports to receive feedstock and to ship products. The Port of Houston ranks first in U.S. foreign waterborne commerce, second in U.S. total tonnage and is the sixth largest port in the world.

As manager of one of the largest heavy crude refineries in North America, I can tell you that a significant security event in our port would immediately impact one of the world's largest refining and petrochemical centers, which provides half of our country's chemical manufacturing production and 30 percent of the U.S. refining capacity. My refinery is 100 percent dependent on foreign crude to supply fuels products to Midwest and East Coast markets. Protecting the Port of Houston and the greater Houston area also will protect the economies, jobs and security of companies throughout the nation and around the globe.

Our nation's leaders are looking at how we might heighten the security of the petrochemical industry against terrorist attack. We in industry have done much to increase our security, but we depend upon the additional layers provided by our armed services. A key element of this defense is keeping the full wing of the 147<sup>th</sup> at Ellington Field to protect this area.

As a Lyondell employee and a board member of the East Harris County Manufacturers Association, I urge you to keep this vital security force in Houston. If I can be of further assistance in helping you in this effort, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'William F. Thompson'.

William F. Thompson  
Vice President and General Manager  
Lyondell-Citgo Refining LP

cc: Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison  
Sen. John Cornyn  
U.S. Rep. Tom DeLay  
Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Sylvia Garcia  
Houston Mayor Bill White



BILL WHITE  
MAYOR

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF HOUSTON  
TEXAS

July 8, 2005

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi  
Chairman  
2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission  
2521 Jefferson Davis Highway  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Dear Mr. Chairman,

This letter is to express my strong commitment to maintaining the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Ellington Field in Houston, Texas. I urge the 2005 BRAC Commission to reconsider its recommendation to retire the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing. The squadron should be maintained and the military presence at Ellington Field enhanced to protect the nation's vital interests located in and around the Houston region.

The City of Houston is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest municipality in the United States. The region is home to nearly 5 million residents, NASA's Johnson Space Center, the world's largest medical center (Texas Medical Center), and the Port of Houston which ranks first in international waterborne cargo tons.

With respect to homeland security, Houston has all of the potential targets listed by security agencies. The largest, and perhaps at greatest risk because of its national economic value, is the refining and petrochemical complex located along the Houston Ship Channel. Nearly one-fourth of the nation's petroleum is refined in the Houston region and most of the remaining supply is imported through the Port of Houston. Any disruption in this supply line would be felt throughout the U.S. economy. It cannot be neglected.

The City of Houston has been working with our federal elected officials to expand the military presence at Ellington Field. Ellington is already home to the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, the 149<sup>th</sup> Aviation Brigade Texas Army National Guard, the U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Houston and NASA's Aircraft Operations Division. Under a plan approved by the Department of Defense, additional reserve units will move to Ellington Field.

Letter to The Honorable Anthony J. Principi  
July 8, 2005  
Page 2

Ellington could serve as a model for joint military operations where efficiencies can be achieved through shared functions.

Additionally, the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing controls huge volumes of offshore airspace that it uses for training exercises. That airspace is a national resource and critical asset for future Air Force mission training. The loss of the Fighter Wing could put availability of that airspace for training purposes at risk.

I respectfully request that the Commission reconsider its recommendation to retire Ellington's 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing. Ellington Field must be thoroughly reviewed in light of its homeland security value to the nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill White". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "B".

Bill White  
Mayor

BRAC Commission  
Convention Facilities-San Antonio:  
Henry B Gonzales Convention Center  
200 E Market St  
San Antonio, TX 78205

BRAC Commission:

I would like to extend this letter of support for the retention of military presence at Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Houston, Texas.

I was born in Galveston, lived in the Bay Area Houston for the last 44 years. I have always understood the importance of the base at Ellington to the community. That need has never been higher.

Specifically, I strongly oppose the proposal to retire the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing's F-16s at Ellington Field Air National Guard Stations. With the increased security concerns, I believe we have an obligation to continue the support and protection that Ellington Field provides for the Port of Houston and the Greater Houston Area.

Ellington Field Reserve Base and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing are a key presence in our region's national security efforts and provide the protection for various facilities designated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as areas of critical infrastructure. Specifically, the Port of Houston, petrochemical and oil refinery industries, Texas Medical Center, South Texas Nuclear Power Plant, UTMB bio-containment Laboratory and various major sports venues all benefit from the services of Ellington Field and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing provide.

I strongly ask that you reevaluate the BRAC recommendations for the retirement of the 147<sup>th</sup> and vote for a stronger homeland security force located within minutes of protecting our ship channel industries and other key facilities. I can't image a higher need at this time.

Sincerely,

**Frank Perez**  
**President, Perez Technologies, Inc.**

<http://www.pereztech.com>

18333 Egret Bay Blvd, Ste. 270  
Houston, Texas 77058  
Land Line 281.335.3970  
Fax 281.335.3971  
Cell 832.606.5714  
E-mail [frank.perez@pereztech.com](mailto:frank.perez@pereztech.com)

July 14, 2005

BRAC Commission

Gentlemen:

This is to urge your support of keeping the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Ellington field.

Houston is the only target area for homeland security which contains all nine of the most vital things needing protection!!!

Thank you Sincerely,

N. E. Dudney, M.D.  
P.O. Box 816  
League City, Texas 77574

BRAC Commission  
2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission  
2521 Jefferson Davis Highway  
Arlington, VA 22202

To the attention of the BRAC Commission:

I would like to extend this letter of support for the retention of military presence at Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Houston, Texas. Specifically, we strongly oppose the proposal to retire the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing's F-16s at Ellington Field Air National Guard Stations. With the increased security concerns, I believe we have an obligation to continue the support and protection that Ellington Field provides for the Port of Houston and the Greater Houston Area.

As the fourth largest city in the country, with an enormous amount of assets of regional and national significance to protect, we feel that it is vital to have the opportunity to present the Commission with all the relevant data to consider in your deliberations.

Ellington Field Reserve Base and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing are a key presence in our region's national security efforts and provide the protection for various facilities designated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as areas of critical infrastructure. Specifically, the Port of Houston, petrochemical and oil refinery industries, Texas Medical Center, South Texas Nuclear Power Plant, UTMB bio-containment Laboratory and various major sports venues all benefit from the services of Ellington Field and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing provide.

We strongly ask that you reevaluate the BRAC recommendations for the retirement of the 147<sup>th</sup> and vote for a stronger homeland security force located within minutes of protecting our ship channel industries.

Sincerely,

James J. Sweeney  
4311 Stacy Lane  
Seabrook, TX 77586  
281-326-3171

July 11, 2005

BRAC Commission  
Convention Facilities-San Antonio  
200 E. Market St.  
San Antonio, TX 78205

To the attention of the BRAC Commission:

My family and our extended family of sixteen, all who live in the immediate area, are writing in support of the retention of a military presence at Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Houston, Texas. For our security and our nation's security, we need the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing's F-16s to remain at Ellington Field Air National Guard Stations. As many have said, "It is not a matter of IF, but WHEN" the terrorists will strike our country again.

We have all nine terrorist target types identified by the FBI and this makes the area where our families live (which includes five school age children), the single most terrorist target-rich metropolitan area in the United States. Houston is the fourth largest city and we have enormous amounts of assets of national significance to protect.

Our area is home to the Port of Houston petrochemical & oil refineries, the Texas Medical Center, the South Texas Nuclear Power Plant, the Johnson Space Center, UTMB's Bio-Containment Laboratory and major sports venues that need the protection of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing and the Ellington Field Reserve Base. A terrorist hit on our refineries and petrochemical plants would not only be devastating to us, but to our nation's economy. Not to mention the lives lost and affected, maybe even ours.

All of us have given you information and data to help you re-evaluate the BRAC recommendations for the retirement of the 147<sup>th</sup>. We now ask that you carefully consider it and vote for a stronger homeland security force that is located only minutes from us and the industries and city they protect.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this critical matter to our families, our neighbors and our country. We are depending on you.

Respectfully,

H. Dean & Ruby Cubley and family  
15827 Craighurst Dr.  
Houston, TX 77059  
[rcubley@swbell.net](mailto:rcubley@swbell.net)

ANADARKO INDUSTRIES, LLC

ONE ALLEN CENTER  
500 DALLAS, SUITE 2750  
HOUSTON, TX 77002

July 14, 2005

BRAC Commission  
2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission  
2521 Jefferson Davis Highway  
Arlington, VA 22202

Subject: Ellington Field

To the attention of the BRAC Commission:

Anadarko Industries LLC (AI) is an American Indian Tribal Owned small business with headquarters in Houston, Texas. We have several contracts with the NASA Johnson Space Center, and we are very concerned about the BRAC position that may affect the continuing operations of the Texas Air National Guard at Ellington Field.

All of the arguments have been extended to demonstrate the importance of the keeping the Air National Guard at this location. No other City in the country has so many national assets located so close to an operational Air Defense Base as we do here in Houston. Furthermore, it makes sense to integrate this air defense capability with an expanded federal Government presence by making Ellington Field the focal point for all Homeland Security activity in this area. Surely this will be taken into consideration when you and the other members of the BRAC make your final recommendations to the President.

We all appreciate the fact that you took the time to visit Ellington Field and to hold hearings in Austin. It gives us hope and encouragement that you will reconsider your previous position on Ellington Field and amend your recommendations.

Sincerely,



W.T. Short  
President/CEO  
Anadarko Industries, LLC

2200 Chrisman Trail  
Mansfield, Texas 76063  
July 12, 2005

BRAC Commission  
Convention Facilities-San Antonio:  
Henry B Gonzales Convention Center  
200 E Market St  
San Antonio, TX 78205

To the attention of the BRAC Commission:

I would like to extend this letter of support for the retention of military presence at Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Houston, Texas. Specifically, we strongly oppose the proposal to retire the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing's F-16s at Ellington Field Air National Guard Stations. With the increased security concerns, I believe we have an obligation to continue the support and protection that Ellington Field provides for the Port of Houston and the Greater Houston Area.

Ellington Field Reserve Base and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing are a key presence in our region's national security efforts and provide the protection for various facilities designated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as areas of critical infrastructure. Specifically, the Port of Houston, petrochemical and oil refinery industries, Texas Medical Center, South Texas Nuclear Power Plant, UTMB bio-containment Laboratory and various major sports venues all benefit from the services of Ellington Field and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing provide.

I ask that you reevaluate the BRAC recommendations for the retirement of the 147<sup>th</sup> and vote for a stronger homeland security force located within minutes of protecting the ship channel industries, as well as the Johnson Space Center.

On a personal note, my husband and I lived in the Clear Lake area of Houston from March 2000 until January 2005. We frequently had concerns about our safety in the area especially after September 11, 2001, but felt much safer knowing the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing was close by and could scramble quickly. Ellington Field is a real gem; it has rebounded from its own demise as a closed air force base with NASA and private aircraft, and even commercial airline service.

Following the devastating loss of the shuttle Columbia crew in 2003, President George W. Bush attended a memorial service at the Johnson Space Center honoring the crew, their families, and the countless support personnel affected by this tragedy. Air Force One landed at Ellington Field, and the president had only to travel a short distance to the space center from there, with the 147<sup>th</sup> standing by to protect him. As Houston is the fourth largest city in the nation, and the largest metropolitan area in Texas, what better resource

to protect the president upon his visits to Houston than Ellington Field and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing.

I truly hope you will reevaluate the decision to close down this fine group. In fact, Ellington Field would be a prime location for other reserve units as well; I hope you will take this matter into consideration.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Elizabeth Sunderman". The signature is written in black ink and features a long, sweeping horizontal stroke at the end.

Elizabeth K. Sunderman

Cc: Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison  
Sen. John Cornyn

BRAC Commission  
Convention Facilities-San Antonio:  
Henry B Gonzales Convention Center  
200 E Market St  
San Antonio, TX 78205

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As the fourth largest city in the country, with an enormous amount of assets of regional and national significance to protect, we feel that it is vital to have the opportunity to present the Commission with all the relevant data to consider in your deliberations.

Ellington Field Reserve Base and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing are a key presence in our region's national security efforts and provide the protection for various facilities designated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as areas of critical infrastructure. Specifically, the Port of Houston, petrochemical and oil refinery industries, Texas Medical Center, South Texas Nuclear Power Plant, UTMB bio-containment Laboratory and various major sports venues all benefit from the services of Ellington Field and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing provide.

We strongly ask that you reevaluate the BRAC recommendations for the retirement of the 147<sup>th</sup> and vote for a stronger homeland security force located within minutes of protecting our ship channel industries.

Sincerely,

*Bill Lindemann*

William H. Lindemann, Jr., Ed.D.  
Chancellor  
San Jacinto College District  
4624 Fairmont Parkway  
Pasadena, Texas 77504

# WALDRON + SCHNEIDER, L.L.P.

A T T O R N E Y S A T L A W

robbye r. waldron  
marc h. schneider  
randall b. ashby  
david w. anderson  
barbara m. rogers

david e. bensey  
kimberly a. bartley  
holly t. williamson  
deirde carey brown\*\*  
brandy a. tudor

UNIVERSITY PARK  
15150 MIDDLEBROOK DRIVE  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77058  
TEL: (281) 488-4438  
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EMAIL: RASHEBY@WS-  
LAW.COM  
URL: HTTP://WWW.WS-  
LAW.COM

OF COUNSEL:  
LISA J. NICHOLS  
JOHN J.

FELDT

July 6, 2005

BRAC Commission  
Convention Facilities-San Antonio:  
Henry B Gonzales Convention Center  
200 E Market St  
San Antonio, TX 78205

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Ellington Field Reserve Base and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing are a key presence in our region's national security efforts and provide the protection for various facilities designated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as areas of critical infrastructure. Specifically, the Port of Houston, petrochemical and oil refinery industries, Texas Medical Center, South Texas Nuclear Power Plant, UTMB bio-containment Laboratory and various major sports venues all benefit from the services of Ellington Field and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing provide.

\* ATTORNEY CERTIFIED BY THE TEXAS BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION IN BUSINESS  
BANKRUPTCY LAW

\*\*ATTORNEY ALSO LICENSED IN THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

We strongly ask that you reevaluate the BRAC recommendations for the retirement of the 147<sup>th</sup> and vote for a stronger homeland security force located within minutes of protecting our ship channel industries.

Sincerely,

Randall B. Ashby

\* ATTORNEY CERTIFIED BY THE TEXAS BOARD OF LEGAL SPECIALIZATION IN BUSINESS  
BANKRUPTCY LAW

\*\* ATTORNEY ALSO LICENSED IN THE STATE OF LOUISIANA



July 14, 2005

BRAC Commission  
Convention Facilities-San Antonio:  
Henry B Gonzales Convention Center  
200 E Market St  
San Antonio, TX 78205

To the attention of the BRAC Commission:

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We strongly ask that you reevaluate the BRAC recommendations for the retirement of the 147<sup>th</sup> and vote for a stronger homeland security force located within minutes of protecting our ship channel industries.

Sincerely,

James Duggar  
President  
Implemetrics Inc.

***Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve  
Patrick H. Shirling, Employer Outreach  
7702 Sunbonnet  
Houston, Texas 77064  
Phone 713-937-8257***

July 14, 2005

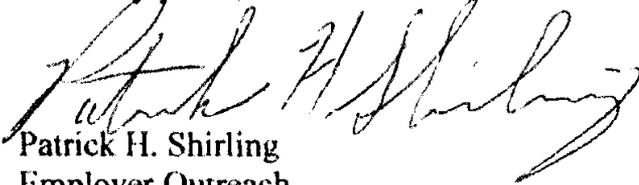
BRAC Commission

It is my opinion that Ellington Field is a important part of home land security. This is due to the lack of any local military presence close to the Houston area. The 147th Fighter wing is based at Ellington Field and is the only quick air response that could protect Houston City, NASA, Oil refinery's, our ship channel, and the Houston Medical Center.

I view Ellington Field and the 147th Fighter Wing as a deterrent to any enemy, foreign or domestic. This force could just by there existing cause anyone wishing harm to the Houston Area to rethink there evil plan.

It is my hope that the BRAC Commission reconsiders the closing of Ellington Field.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick H. Shirling". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Patrick" being the most prominent.

Patrick H. Shirling  
Employer Outreach  
Texas Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve

**Kristin Mcatee**

---

**From:** JAMISON, BEVERLY (JSC-MG) (USA) [beverly.jamison1@jsc.nasa.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 12, 2005 12:31 PM  
**To:** Kristin Mcatee  
**Subject:** To the attention of the BRAC Commission

From a personal perspective, I hear the planes of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wings everyday, in the morning and evening, and I feel much more secure knowing that they are there. It is well known that Houston has been identified in the past as a potential target for terrorist and has had several security alerts in the past. Based on information supplied in the past by our nations top security experts, it seems inconsistent to me to shut down any military protection we have for homeland security. Also, in addition to the Port of Houston, petrochemical and oil refinery industries, Texas Medical Center, South Texas Nuclear Power Plant, etc. you also have the Johnson Space Center (JSC), the heart of the Manned Space Flight program which provides valuable scientific and technical research, as well as stimulating public interest in aerospace exploration. With our Texas borders so vulnerable it seems to me that a message is being sent to terrorist that we can't afford to protect our borders which is a message that we really can't afford. Please add my name to the letter of appeal.

**Thanks,**

**Beverly Jamison**

*Space Shuttle Program  
MG/Management Integration Office  
Bldg. 1/RM 745  
phone: 281/483-0808  
fax: 281/483-9627*

<mailto:Beverly.jamison1@jsc.nasa.gov>

*When we long for life without difficulties, remind us that oaks grow strong in contrary winds and diamonds are made under pressure.*

- Peter Marshall

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12/2005

BRAC Commission  
Convention Facilities-San Antonio:  
Henry B Gonzales Convention Center  
200 E Market St  
San Antonio, TX 78205

To the attention of the BRAC Commission:

I would like to extend this letter of support for the retention of military presence at Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Houston, Texas. Specifically, we strongly oppose the proposal to retire the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing's F-16s at Ellington Field Air National Guard Stations. With the increased security concerns, I believe we have an obligation to continue the support and protection that Ellington Field provides for the Port of Houston and the Greater Houston Area.

As the fourth largest city in the country, with an enormous amount of assets of regional and national significance to protect, we feel that it is vital to have the opportunity to present the Commission with all the relevant data to consider in your deliberations.

Ellington Field Reserve Base and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing are a key presence in our region's national security efforts and provide the protection for various facilities designated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as areas of critical infrastructure. Specifically, the Port of Houston, petrochemical and oil refinery industries, Texas Medical Center, South Texas Nuclear Power Plant, UTMB bio-containment Laboratory and various major sports venues all benefit from the services of Ellington Field and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing provide.

We strongly ask that you reevaluate the BRAC recommendations for the retirement of the 147<sup>th</sup> and vote for a stronger homeland security force located within minutes of protecting our ship channel industries.

Sincerely,

Eddie King  
14322 Village Birch  
Houston, TX 77062

BRAC Commission  
Convention Facilities-San Antonio:  
Henry B Gonzales Convention Center  
200 E Market St  
San Antonio, TX 78205

To the attention of the BRAC Commission:

I would like to extend this letter of support for the retention of military presence at Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Houston, Texas. Specifically, I oppose the proposal to retire the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing's F-16s at Ellington Field Air National Guard Stations. With the increased security concerns, I believe we have an obligation to continue the support and protection that Ellington Field provides for the Port of Houston and the Greater Houston Area.

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I strongly ask that you reevaluate the BRAC recommendations for the retirement of the 147<sup>th</sup> and vote for a stronger homeland security force located within minutes of protecting our ship channel industries.

Sincerely,

Laura Arnold

Monday 11 July 2005

Remarks of a private citizen resident of the Clear Lake/Bay Area to the esteemed Commissioners of the Base Realignment and Closure Committee (BRAC).

Gentlemen, Thank you for your dedicated service to our nation in your endeavors to streamline, and update our national defense system with reasonable budgetary considerations. You have a formidable task indeed.

With all due respect to you and Department of Defense findings announced in May this year, we sincerely feel that the proposed phasing out of F-16 jets of the 147<sup>th</sup> Texas Air National Guard by 2007 would be disastrous to the security of our Texas Coast and the nation.

A savings of \$3.6 million for the DOD over a 20 year period, would be not a drop in the proverbial bucket compared to the possible billions lost, in addition to the lives sacrificed, if a terrorist act disrupted a region where 25 percent of all oil in the United States is refined and 40 percent of the nation's base petrochemical capacity is located.

This region includes:

- 1) NASA Mission Control at JSC.
- 2) The South Texas Nuclear Power Plant, power grid & pipelines.
- 3) Petrochemical complexes and tank farms.
- 4) Ports of Houston, Galveston and Corpus Christi, lakes, water authority and rivers, the Houston Ship Channel.
- 5) Texas Medical Center with it's cancer & other research facilities.
- 6) International airport.
- 7) Telecommunications – internet, computer manufacturing, fiber optics, and major switching stations.
- 8) Universities, tourist sports, boating & other entertainment venues.
- 9) Banking and financial institutions.
- 10) My family, children and grandchildren and the families of 4 million 400 thousand neighbors in the greater Houston area,

All of which have been identified as terrorist targets by both the FBI and the Department of Homeland Security.

At a time when the real threat to our homeland is probably greater than it has ever been, it makes no sense to reduce our first line of defense.

Again thank you for your service and we beg of you to recommend that the full contingent of F-16 jets of the 147<sup>th</sup> Texas Air National Guard be allowed to remain active and stationed at Ellington Field.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Howell Carroll  
958 Buoy Road  
Houston Texas 77062-5113



CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

KEVIN BRADY  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS  
8TH DISTRICT OF TEXAS

DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

COMMITTEE ON  
WAYS AND MEANS  
SOCIAL SECURITY  
TRADE  
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE  
HOUSE POLICY COMMITTEE

July 1, 2005

BRAC Commission  
2521 S. Clark St., Ste. 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to express my support for the continued operation of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing Air National Guard at Ellington Field, Texas, and to ask that the BRAC Commission reject the May 13, 2005, Department of Defense (DoD) recommendation to retire fifteen fighter aircraft at Ellington Field. The retirement of these aircraft from Ellington Field will compromise America's homeland security.

The events of September 11, 2001, demonstrate the necessity that our military forces be prepared to respond quickly to protect America's security interest. The increased threat of future attack on American soil reinforces the demand that the current BRAC round take into account the need to protect the city of Houston and the Texas Gulf Coast infrastructure. This region is the only region in the United States that contains all nine asset categories identified by the Department of Homeland Security and Federal Bureau of Investigation as potential terrorist targets. These assets include twenty-five percent of the nation's oil refineries, forty percent of the petrochemical plants, the Strategic Petroleum Reserve and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Johnson Space Center.

An attack on any of these critical national resources would prove to be a tremendous blow to both our economic vitality and national security. The 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing serves a vital role in protecting some of America's most critical national assets. The decision to retire these aircraft will leave America inadequately prepared to defend these critical assets from possible terrorist attack and pose a constant threat to our economic security.

Again, I encourage the BRAC Commission to reject the recommendation to retire aircraft of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing.

Sincerely,

Kevin Brady

**Kristin Mcatee**

---

**From:** Jim Stoa [stoa@houston.rr.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 08, 2005 2:18 PM  
**To:** ben jones; john.cook@CenterPointEnergy.com; Mark Evangelista; Shelley Sekula-Gibbs; Ms. Teri Goodman; Teri Goodman; Eugene Tulich; john.cook@CenterPointEnergy.com; Kristin Mcatee; Lamoine Scott; Jerry Turner; 'Robb Parr'; Shar Bingham; Cyndi Harrison  
**Subject:** FW: Ellington Field

r/),

m

Thanks for inviting me to the Ellington Field community briefing.

was an humbling experience to learn how much I did not know, and how much you, Johnny Martinec, and and other sk force members have done for our community. As a 40-year resident, and now with two children and five grandchildren in the bay area, my concern for homeland security is not abstract. I want a safe place for these young milies to live lives free from the shadow of terrorism.

Mayor Bill White made a the thought-provoking statement that the Houston ship channel, and all the petrochemical dustries along it, is the second most valuable piece of ground in the US. He politely deferred to lower Manhattan as e most valuable, being the center of the financial industry. But as I have thought about it since the meeting, I have alized that the ship channel industries are more critical, if not more valuable, than lower Manhattan.

n 9-11-01, lower Manhattan took the biggest blow imaginable. Whole companies, and offices full of computers and y people were lost as the World Trade towers fell to the ground. The stock markets appropriately closed, and the ayed shut for several days. When trading resumed, however, the planning and expense that had been invested in ickup systems at remote sites worked, and the vital financial industry resumed. Many of us experienced a late bill, a st check, or other nuisance-level problem, but the financial industry survived.

ow, let's consider what would happen if a giant Exxon-Mobile, Shell, or BP refinery took a hit comparable to 9-11, d by that I mean, destroyed beyond repair. There are no spare, backup refineries. The US would be short one refinery r maybe several in a coordinated 9-11 style terrorist attack.) Several percent of the US refining capacity would be st. Those of us who remember the oil crisis of the 1970s learned that with gasoline, a little shortage can lead to a amatic increase in price and hour-long waits at the gas pump. And that's just the retail side. Do you ever wonder what ose 18-wheelers on I-10 carry? Losing one of America's largest refineries would put us back in the 70s in a matter of ys. And do you think it is taking a long time to rebuild the World Trade towers? That would be nothing compared to ilding a new refinery from scratch. So my point is, protecting our refineries is potentially even more important to eping the economic engines of our nation running than protecting our financial industry, as vital as it is. The financial dustry has backup systems. The refineries have none.

ell, now that I've written it down, I see why Mayor White humbly called our plot of ground the second most luable. It just doesn't seem right to say that anything could be worse that the loss lower Manhattan experienced on 9-. But first or second, I cannot think of a single area where a terrorist organization could do more damage to the onomic engine of the free world than right here.

ow, back to my kids and their families. An exploding fireball at a refinery doesn't just take away jobs; it threatens the es of all of us who live in their midst. If I lose my life, I won't have much time to thnk about it. If my children and ir families are caught in the crossfire of an explosion, I'd never get over the loss. As Mayor White and Congressman :Lay said, the presence of the 147th and Ellington Field helps keep our refineries and chemical plants as "hard gets", Without them they would become "soft targets." It would be only a matter of time.

urry

8/2005

**Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515**

May 19, 2005

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

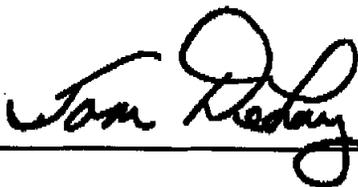
Dear Chairman Principi:

As the BRAC Commission moves forward with its consideration of locations around the country in which to hold regional hearings concerning the Department of Defense's BRAC recommendations, we strongly urge you to consider Houston, Texas for one of these hearings. As the fourth largest city in the country, with an enormous amount of assets of regional and national significance to protect, we feel that it is vital to have this opportunity to present the Commission with all the relevant data to consider in your deliberations.

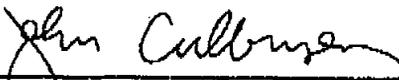
With the Gulf of Mexico on one side and a foreign border on the other, Texas, and especially a city as large as Houston, has unique national and homeland security responsibilities. There was an extensive amount of information that was requested via the DOD data calls for their deliberations. At this hearing, we hope to provide the Commission with additional, substantial data that was on the periphery or outside the scope of the data calls, yet extremely relevant to many of the local installations' military value and other BRAC criteria.

Understanding the time constraints to consider the extensive list of recommendations, we would ask that a Houston hearing be scheduled at the earliest possible time that the Commission's schedule permits. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

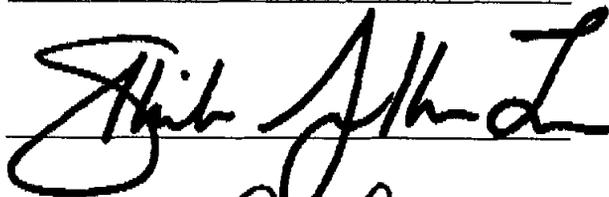
  
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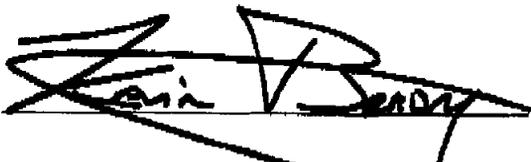
  
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**Congress of the United States**  
Washington, DC 20515

May 18, 2005

Mr. Anthony J. Principi  
Commission Chairman  
Base Realignment and Closure Commission  
2521 South Clark Street  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Dear Mr. Principi:

We are writing in regards to the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) recommendations submitted to you and the BRAC Commission by Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld. Specifically, we are strongly opposed to Secretary Rumsfeld's proposal to retire the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing's 15 F-16s at Ellington Field Air Guard Station, TX.

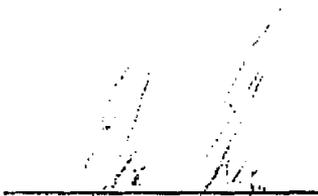
The 147<sup>th</sup> currently provides air security to nearly five million people in the Houston metropolitan area and the numerous national interests in that area. Houston is the fourth largest city in the nation, and is home to a petrochemical complex that accounts for nearly half of the nation's base petrochemical production capacity, the Houston shipping channel and the Port of Houston that handle more foreign tonnage than any other US port, NASA's Johnson Space Center, and the Texas Medical Center. It is imperative that air security is maintained to protect this area, as an attack on any of these assets would be disastrous for the region and the nation.

In addition to providing security for the Houston area, the 147<sup>th</sup> is capable of providing precision strikes, close air support, offensive counter air, defensive counter air, and suppression of enemy air defenses. In recent years, the 147<sup>th</sup> has supported Operation Noble Eagle and Operation Southern Watch, been on a State Department deployment to Israel, and supported counter drug operations in South America. The area around Ellington also provides the 147<sup>th</sup> with excellent training airspace, including over-water air-to-air training on the Gulf of Mexico allowing them to perform supersonic flights and lights out training from the surface to 50,000 feet.

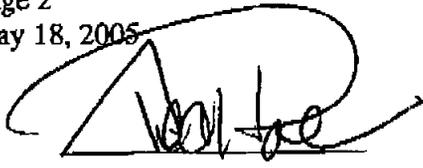
While we realize that Secretary Rumsfeld's recommendation will maintain the homeland defense Air Sovereignty Alert mission by assigning aircraft from elsewhere to operate from Ellington, we do not feel this provides a deterrent as strong as maintaining the 147<sup>th</sup> at Ellington with their own F-16s. Furthermore, the savings estimated in the DoD's BRAC report are minimal and do not justify moving the F-16s away from Ellington; while it is estimated that retiring the F-16s will save DoD \$3.6 million over 20 years, an attack on any of the possible targets listed above, especially the petrochemical facilities and Port of Houston, would cost our national economy billions of dollars.

We appreciate your consideration in this matter. Please do not hesitate to contact our offices if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,



Page 2  
May 18, 2005



Michael T. McLaughlin

John Cullum





To the attention of the BRAC Commission:

The Pasadena Chamber of Commerce represents 850 business members including some of the 55 petrochemical plants located within our city limits and industrial district. These industries, along with the 80 other such plants located in our immediate area, produce a major portion of the chemicals and fuel necessary for the economy of Texas and the United States. With the war on terrorism at an all time high and the risks of an attack on these industries it is of the utmost importance to homeland security that the 145<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing not only be allow to remain at Ellington Field but also be allotted new monies to update their fighter squadron.

With ships arriving daily from all over the world to the Port of Houston these fighters provide a level of security not available should they have to fly from a long distance. These men and women live here and are an integral part of our community. They understand the community and offer a link between local authorities and military agencies. To have someone stationed here for a few weeks and then rotated out will not offer the same military and civil value.

The directors and members of the Pasadena Chamber of Commerce strongly asked that you reevaluate the BRAC recommendations for removal of the 147<sup>th</sup> and vote for a stronger homeland security force located within minutes of protecting our ship channel industries.

Sincerely,

William B. McCoy  
President/CEO  
Pasadena Chamber of Commerce

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Statement by Congressman Gene Green  
BRAC Regional Hearing, San Antonio  
July 11, 2005

Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners, I would once again like to state my strong opposition to retiring the fleet of F-16s currently flown by the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing of the Texas Air National Guard stationed at Ellington Field. The 147<sup>th</sup> currently provides air security to nearly five million people in the Houston metropolitan area and the numerous national interests in that area.

Houston is the fourth largest city in the nation, and is home to a petrochemical complex that accounts for nearly half of the nation's base petrochemical production capacity, the Houston shipping channel and the Port of Houston that handle more foreign tonnage than any other US port, NASA's Johnson Space Center, and the Texas Medical Center. It is imperative that air security is maintained to protect this area, as an attack on any of these assets would be disastrous for the region and the nation.

One of the most vulnerable targets in the area, and possibly the country is the petrochemical complex; a tremendous complex that stretches the length of the Houston Ship Channel and continues along the coast through Beaumont, Texas. Currently the 147<sup>th</sup> could respond to a threat on the complex in minutes because of the close proximity. Rotating several planes to fly on alert out of Ellington, as the BRAC recommendations calls for, however, provides a much smaller deterrent than having a full squadron permanently stationed there. Meanwhile the closest full squadron would be here in San Antonio, and would take approximately 23 minutes longer to respond to a threat than the F-16s at Ellington can currently provide.

The Port of Houston is the second largest petrochemical complex in the world, and the largest in the Western Hemisphere, which produces over 35% of the nation's gasoline at a great many refineries. Numerous chemical plants also line the channel, producing a number of volatile compounds. According to the U.S. Coast Guard, 7,600 deep draft vessels arrive each year, and 60% of those ships carry sensitive oil/chemical cargos. Terrorists have clearly focuses on using airplanes as weapons against strategic and symbolic targets in the U.S.

Combine these valuable, but potentially dangerous assets with Houston's heavy air traffic (2 major commercial airports) and the fact that private planes traverse the airspace above this petrochemical complex, and the need for serious air defense capabilities in the Houston area becomes very clear. An airborne attack on the refinery complex could seriously disrupt the nation's energy supply, causing major nation-wide economic impacts. An attack on a chemical plant could result in a hazardous release with thousands of casualties.

In addition to providing security for the Houston area, the 147<sup>th</sup> is capable of providing precision strikes, close air support, offensive counter air, defensive counter air, and suppression of enemy air defenses. In recent years, the 147<sup>th</sup> has supported Operation Noble Eagle and Operation Southern Watch, been on a State Department deployment to Israel, and supported counter drug operations in South America. The area around Ellington also provides the 147<sup>th</sup> with excellent

training airspace, including over-water air-to-air training on the Gulf of Mexico allowing them to perform supersonic flights and lights out training from the surface to 50,000 feet.

While we realize that Secretary Rumsfeld's recommendation attempts to maintain the homeland defense Air Sovereignty Alert mission by assigning aircraft from elsewhere to operate from Ellington, we do not feel this provides a deterrent as strong as maintaining the 147<sup>th</sup> at Ellington with their own F-16s. Terrorists have proven their intent and capability to attack ground targets with multiple aircraft. Furthermore, the savings estimated in the DoD's BRAC report are minimal and do not justify moving the F-16s away from Ellington; while it is estimated that retiring the F-16s will save DoD \$3.6 million over 20 years, an attack on any of the possible targets listed above, especially the petrochemical facilities and Port of Houston, would cost our national economy billions of dollars.

Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners, I urge you to reconsider this recommendation and maintain the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Ellington Field with current capabilities.

**Kristin Mcatee**

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**From:** Joan Neuhaus [neuhausj@rice.edu]  
**Sent:** Thursday, July 07, 2005 8:08 AM  
**To:** Kristin Mcatee  
**Subject:** Policy Paper in Support of Ellington Field

**Importance:** High

**Attachments:** HHCRHSAC Policy Paper.doc



HHCRHSAC Policy  
Paper.doc (32 ...)

Kristin -

Yesterday I spoke with John, and we discussed the support of the Houston-Harris County Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council for Ellington field and the 147th. John asked that I forward you a copy of the policy paper reflecting the support of the Advisory council, so that it could be included in the record of the BRAC Commission. Attached is the document.

V/r,

Joan T. Neuhaus

Executive Director  
Houston-Harris County Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council

Homeland Security & Terrorism Programs  
James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy Rice University - MS 40 P. O. Box 1892  
Houston, TX 77251-1892

Tel. 713-348-4153  
Fax 713-348-3853  
Cell 713-818-9000  
neuhausj@rice.edu

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Version: 7.0.323 / Virus Database: 267.8.10/43 - Release Date: 7/6/2005

**Houston Ship Channel Strategic Significance  
Policy Paper**

*The Osama Bin Laden Warning We Need to Hear:*

*Islamic forces are “preparing for you things that would fill your heart with terror and target your economic lifeline.”*

*6 OCT 2002 The Day of the M/V Limburgh Bombing*

The Houston Ship Channel is one of the most strategically important economic assets in the United States, however federal agencies do not formally recognize this fact, nor are there any known coordinated, multi-layered defense plans of the area.

Strategic Importance and Vulnerability

The 52 mile Houston Ship Channel is the only shipping lane from the Gulf of Mexico located at Bolivar Peninsula and Galveston Island to the Houston Turning Basin, located within 3 miles of downtown Houston. Although the channel runs through a rather large body of water, Galveston Bay, the channel itself is only wide enough for two large vessels to pass. The facilities located in the Houston Combined Statistical Area (CSA) account for approximately 40% of the nation’s base petrochemical capacity, 14% of the crude refining capacity, and a significant amount of the nation’s jet fuel and gasoline capacity. If a large vessel were to sink in this strategic waterway, the channel would be closed for weeks or months.

Defense Resources Lacking

On an average day, the U.S. Coast Guard has very limited assets at its disposal to patrol the channel. The U.S. Coast Guard has only a handful of boats to serve the Houston Ship Channel and Freeport, and the State of Texas has no state maritime assets (aside from game wardens.) The only air intercept capability resides at Ellington Field, however these assets are slated for reduction under the current Base Realignment And Closure (BRAC) plans. The United States Coast Guard Captain of the Port has made valiant efforts to raise the visibility of the region among policy makers within the Coast Guard and among officials in Washington, but has not met with significant success in obtaining resources for the region.

Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) and ‘Vital’ Designation for the Channel

Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base is the only major operational Department of Defense facility in the Houston area. The units and squadrons located at the base are integral to the defense of the ship channel and the region. The 147<sup>th</sup> fighter squadron represents the only reasonable air-to-air intercept capability, and it is slated for reduction under the BRAC proposal recently announced. Although the ship channel is one of the most strategic economic assets in the nation, its strategic importance is not a consideration in the BRAC process. During the continental United States BRAC process, each of the Department of Defense services assess its own manpower and asset/hardware requirements, with little or no consideration of its defense role in the geographic region in which they are located.

## **HOUSTON – HARRIS COUNTY REGIONAL HOMELAND SECURITY ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Likewise, the Houston Ship Channel has not been designated as ‘vital to national interests’, possibly due to the mechanism by which such designations are made. Each Department of Defense service has the ability to designate a specific shore facility as vital to that service branch, but there is no mechanism to designate a waterway serving many facilities as ‘vital.’

### **Recommendation**

The Houston-Harris County Regional Homeland Security Advisory Council recommends:

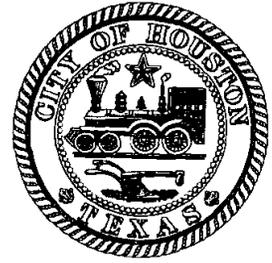
- The Houston Ship Channel be designated as ‘vital to national security.’
- The Base Realignment And Closure process in general take into account the defense of the region where a facility is located, and the United States BRAC review in particular maintain a full air-to-air intercept capability at Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base.
- The Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base be augmented for a more robust defense of the region, as would occur with the establishment of a Regional Homeland Security Base.
- A multi-layered defense plan for the Houston Ship Channel be developed in conjunction with the stakeholders of the Houston Ship Channel.

Edward P. Djerejian, Chair  
Dionel Aviles, Member  
Patrick Bellamy, Member  
Lee P. Brown, Member  
Lincoln Jones, Member  
Janice Lawler, Member  
Preston Moore, Member  
Dan Smith, Member  
Mayor Bill White, Ex-Officio Member  
Judge Robert Eckels, Ex-Officio Member  
Joan T. Neuhaus, Executive Director

# Mark Goldberg

Houston City Council Member District C

Vice Mayor Pro-tem



BRAC Commission  
Convention Facilities-San Antonio  
Henry B Gonzales Convention Center  
200 E Market St.  
San Antonio, TX 78205

July 6, 2005

Dear BRAC Commissioners:

As the fourth largest city in the country with a large amount of regional and national significance to protect, it is vital to retain military presence at the Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Houston, TX. With increased security concerns since September 11<sup>th</sup>, it is imperative that Ellington Field provide widespread protection for the Port of Houston and the Greater Houston Area.

Besides the Port of Houston, the petrochemical and oil refinery industry, Texas Medical Center, South Texas Nuclear Power Plant, UTMB Bio-containment Laboratory and major sports venues all benefit from the services that Ellington Field and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing provide.

On behalf of the City of Houston, I respectfully request that you reevaluate the BRAC recommendations for the retirement of the 147<sup>th</sup> and support the military presence that currently exists at Ellington.

Sincerely,

Mark Goldberg

**Kristin Mcatee**

---

**From:** Caro Maitland [caromaitl@yahoo.com]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 06, 2005 11:34 AM  
**To:** Kristin Mcatee  
**Subject:** Ellington Field

BRAC Commission  
Convention Facilities-San Antonio:  
Henry B Gonzales Convention Center  
200 E Market St  
San Antonio, TX 78205

To the attention of the BRAC Commission:

I would like to extend this letter of support for the retention of military presence at Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Houston, Texas. Specifically, we strongly oppose the proposal to retire the 147th Fighter Wings F-16s at Ellington Field Air National Guard Stations. With the increased security concerns, I believe we have an obligation to continue the support and protection that Ellington Field provides for the Port of Houston and the Greater Houston Area.

As the fourth largest city in the country, with an enormous amount of assets of regional and national significance to protect, we feel that it is vital to have the opportunity to present the Commission with all the relevant data to consider in your deliberations.

Ellington Field Reserve Base and the 147th Fighter Wing are a key presence in our regions national security efforts and provide the protection for various facilities designated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as areas of critical infrastructure.

Specifically, the Port of Houston, petrochemical and oil refinery industries, Texas Medical Center, South Texas Nuclear Power Plant, UTMB bio-containment Laboratory and various major sports venues all benefit from the services of Ellington Field and the 147th Fighter Wing provide.

We strongly ask that you reevaluate the BRAC recommendations for the retirement of the 147th and vote for a stronger homeland security force located within minutes of protecting our ship channel industries.

Sincerely,

Caro Maitland, owner  
MVP Aero Academy

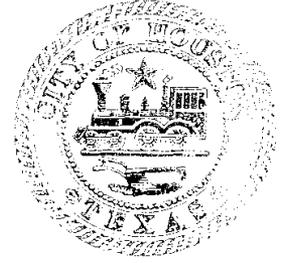
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Version: 7.0.323 / Virus Database: 267.8.9/42 - Release Date: 7/6/2005

# SHELLEY SEKULA-GIBBS, M.D.

HOUSTON CITY COUNCIL MEMBER AT LARGE, POSITION 3



BRAC Commission  
Convention Facilities-San Antonio:  
Henry B Gonzales Convention Center  
200 E Market St  
San Antonio, TX 78205

July 6, 2005

Dear BRAC Commissioners:

This letter is written in strong support of the retention of military presence at the Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Houston, Texas and in opposition of the proposal to retire the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing's F-16s at the Ellington Field Air National Guard stations. With increased security concerns since 9-11, it is imperative that Ellington Field provide widespread protection for the Port of Houston and the Greater Houston Area.

As the fourth largest city in the country with an enormous amount of assets of regional and national significance to protect, it is vital to have the opportunity to present the Commission with all the relevant data to consider in your deliberations.

Ellington Field Reserve Base and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing are a key presence in our region's national security efforts and provide the protection for various facilities designated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as areas of critical infrastructure. Specifically, the Port of Houston, petrochemical and oil refinery industries, Texas Medical Center, South Texas Nuclear Power Plant, UTMB Bio-containment Laboratory and various major sports venues all benefit from the services that Ellington Field and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing provide. Without the F-16s at Ellington, the nearest air assistance in the event of an attack would come from either Fort Worth or New Orleans, making immediate aid impossible.

On behalf of the City of Houston, I respectfully request that you reevaluate the BRAC recommendations for the retirement of the 147<sup>th</sup> and support the tremendous homeland security resource that currently exists at Ellington.

Sincerely,

*Shelley Sekula-Gibbs, M.D.*  
Shelley Sekula-Gibbs, MD  
Houston City Council Member  
At Large, Position 3  
Ellington Field Task Force Committee Member

**Kristin Mcatee**

---

**From:** Alaina4574@aol.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 05, 2005 9:15 PM  
**To:** Kristin Mcatee  
**Subject:** Please include my letter

To the attention of the BRAC Commission:

I would like to extend this letter of support for the retention of military presence at Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Houston, Texas. Specifically, we strongly oppose the proposal to retire the 147th Fighter Wing's F-16s at Ellington Field Air National Guard Stations. With the increased security concerns, I believe we have an obligation to continue the support and protection that Ellington Field provides for the Port of Houston and the Greater Houston Area.

As the fourth largest city in the country, with an enormous amount of assets of regional and national significance to protect, we feel that it is vital to have the opportunity to present the Commission with all the relevant data to consider in your deliberations.

Ellington Field Reserve Base and the 147th Fighter Wing are a key presence in our region's national security efforts and provide the protection for various facilities designated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as areas of critical infrastructure. Specifically, the Port of Houston, petrochemical and oil refinery industries, Texas Medical Center, South Texas Nuclear Power Plant, UTMB bio-containment laboratory and various major sports venues all benefit from the services of Ellington Field and the 147th Fighter Wing provide.

We strongly ask that you reevaluate the BRAC recommendations for the retirement of the 147th and vote for a stronger homeland security force tasked within minutes of protecting our ship channel industries.

Sincerely,

Alaina Mangum

A virus found in this incoming message.  
Checked by AVG Anti-Virus.  
Version: 7.0.323 / Virus Database: 267.8.9/42 - Release Date: 7/6/2005

 **Texas Medical Center**

Richard E. Wainerdi, P.E., Ph.D  
President, Chief Executive Officer  
and Chief Operating Officer

1133 John Freeman Blvd., Suite 406  
Jesse H. Jones Library Building  
Houston, Texas 77030-2894

(713) 791-8800  
(713) 791-8872 Fax

July 5, 2005

Dear Base Realignment and Closure Commissioners,

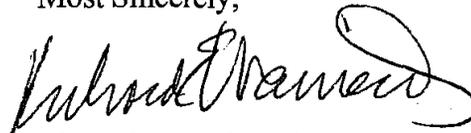
I am writing on behalf of the 43 institutions that comprise the Texas Medical Center. We are the largest employer in the southeast Texas region, employing over 65,000 people. Our 13 hospitals, including the Veterans Affairs's flagship the Michael E. DeBakey Veterans Affairs Medical Center, receive over 5 million patient visits per year. All of our activities taken together constitute an indirect economic impact of \$13.5 billion to the local economy.

We are very concerned about the potential loss of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Ellington Field. These 15 aircraft protect the nation's fourth largest city from threats against our vital facilities. Officials from the FBI and the Department of Homeland Security tell me that Houston is the only U.S. city with all nine assets considered potential terrorist targets. The Texas Medical Center is one of those assets.

If the recommendations of the BRAC Commission are enacted, we will only have two aircrafts to secure this area with the next closest support coming from some 30 minutes away. Our nation is at war. Many of the facilities in this area support the military effort and our civilian also has been made a target. It is imperative that we protect these critical facilities from attacks coming from land, sea and air.

Given the importance of the Texas Medical Center and the many other critical assets in this area, I ask that you withdraw your recommendation and allow the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, the group that escorted Air Force One to safety on 9/11, to continue providing the much needed defense of the Greater Houston Area.

Most Sincerely,

  
Richard E. Wainerdi

REW:DDA

**Pasadena Independent School District**  
A Texas Recognized District

July 6, 2005

Dear Members of the BRAC Commission,

This letter is written to very respectfully request that you help to ensure that the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing remains at Ellington Field, Houston, Texas. The fighter wing brings elements of safety and deterrence to the Gulf Coast area.

Approximately eighty major refineries and industrial plants reside in close proximity to the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing. As a superintendent of the Pasadena Independent School District, with 48,000+ students, it is quite reassuring to have the 147<sup>th</sup> stationed so close to our district and this major industrial area.

A continuation of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing being a part of our area certainly provides us with great reassurance in deterring or even preventing a terrorist attack.

Your serious consideration of this request is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Rick Schneider



Rick Schneider, Ph.D.  
Superintendent



# **EHCMA** Neighbors Who Care

**EAST HARRIS COUNTY MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION**

**People • Products • Safety • Support**

July 5, 2005

2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission  
2521 S. Clark St., Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to urge you to keep the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Ellington Field in Houston.

Private industry along the Texas coast depends heavily on the ports to receive feedstock and to ship products. The Port of Houston ranks first in U.S. foreign waterborne commerce, second in U.S. total tonnage and is the sixth largest port in the world.

A significant security event in our port would immediately impact one of the world's largest refining and petrochemical centers, which provides half of our country's chemical manufacturing production and 30 percent of the U.S. refining capacity. Protecting the Port of Houston and the greater Houston area also will protect the economies, jobs and security of companies throughout the nation and around the globe.

Our nation's leaders are looking at how we might heighten the security of the chemical industry against terrorist attack. We in industry have done much to increase our defenses, but depend upon the additional layers provided by the federal government. Now it is your turn. Keep a full wing of the 147<sup>th</sup> at Ellington Field to protect this area.

As Vice President & General Plant Manager, Bayer MaterialScience LLC; Chairman of the Board, Baytown Chamber of Commerce; Chairman of the Board, Cedar Bayou Navigation District and Member of the Board, Texas Chemical Council, I urge you to keep this vital security force in Houston.

Sincerely,

John M. Rocco  
Chairman of the Board, East Harris County Manufacturers' Association

cc: Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison  
Sen. John Cornyn  
U.S. Rep. Tom DeLay  
Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Sylvia Garcia  
Houston Mayor Bill White



**Joseph A. Bernard**  
General Manager, South Region

*Mailing address:*  
P.O. Drawer D  
Deer Park, TX 77536-1900

*Physical address:*  
1515 Miller Cut-Off Road  
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Fax: 713-209-1306  
[Joseph.Bernard@lyondell.com](mailto:Joseph.Bernard@lyondell.com)  
[www.lyondell.com](http://www.lyondell.com)

July 5, 2005

2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission  
2521 S. Clark St., Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to urge you to keep the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Ellington Field in Houston to safeguard not only the Port of Houston and surrounding industrial assets, but our nation's security and economy.

Private industry along the Texas coast depends heavily on the ports to receive feedstock and to ship products. The Port of Houston ranks first in U.S. foreign waterborne commerce, second in U.S. total tonnage and is the sixth largest port in the world.

As a manager over seven Texas plants, four in the greater Houston area, I can tell you that a significant security event in our port would immediately impact one of the world's largest refining and petrochemical centers, which provides half of our country's chemical manufacturing production and 30 percent of the U.S. refining capacity. Protecting the Port of Houston and the greater Houston area also will protect the economies, jobs and security of companies throughout the nation and around the globe.

Our nation's leaders are looking at how we might heighten the security of the chemical industry against terrorist attack. We in industry have done much to increase our defenses, but depend upon the additional layers provided by our armed services. A key element of this defense is keeping the full wing of the 147<sup>th</sup> at Ellington Field to protect this area.

As a Lyondell employee and a board member of both the East Harris County Manufacturers Association and the Economic Alliance Houston Port Region, I urge you to keep this vital security force in Houston. If I can be of further assistance in helping you in this effort, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Joseph A. Bernard

JAB/glc

cc: Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison  
Sen. John Cornyn  
U.S. Rep. Tom DeLay  
Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Sylvia Garcia  
Houston Mayor Bill White



**Marcus W. Gaddy**  
Plant Manager  
La Porte Complex

Physical address:  
1350 Miller Cut-Off Road  
La Porte, TX 77571

Mailing address:  
P.O. Drawer D  
Deer Park, TX 77536-1900

Phone: 713.338.5475  
Fax: 713.767.1089  
marcus.gaddy@equistar.com

www.lyondell.com

July 5, 2005

2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission  
2521 S. Clark St., Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to urge you to keep the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Ellington Field in Houston to safeguard not only the Port of Houston and surrounding industrial assets, but our nation's security and economy.

Private industry along the Texas coast depends heavily on the ports to receive feedstock and to ship products. The Port of Houston ranks first in U.S. foreign waterborne commerce, second in U.S. total tonnage and is the sixth largest port in the world.

As a plant manager in the greater Houston area, I can tell you that a significant security event in our port would immediately impact one of the world's largest refining and petrochemical centers, which provides half of our country's chemical manufacturing production and 30 percent of the U.S. refining capacity. Protecting the Port of Houston and the greater Houston area also will protect the economies, jobs and security of companies throughout the nation and around the globe.

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As a member of the East Harris County Manufacturers Association (EHCMA) and a Lyondell employee, I urge you to keep this vital security force in Houston. If I can be of further assistance in helping you in this effort, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Marcus W. Gaddy

MWG/glc

cc: Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison  
Sen. John Cornyn  
U.S. Rep. Tom DeLay  
Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Sylvia Garcia  
Houston Mayor Bill White



**Steve M. Wood**  
Plant Manager  
Bayport Choate Plant

10801 Choate Road  
Pasadena, TX 77507

Telephone: 281.291.1706  
Fax: 281.291.1744  
steve.wood@lyondell.com

July 5, 2005

2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission  
2521 S. Clark St., Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to urge you to keep the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Ellington Field in Houston to safeguard not only the Port of Houston and surrounding industrial assets, but our nation's security and economy.

Private industry along the Texas coast depends heavily on the ports to receive feedstock and to ship products. The Port of Houston ranks first in U.S. foreign waterborne commerce, second in U.S. total tonnage and is the sixth largest port in the world.

As a plant manager in the greater Houston area, I can tell you that a significant security event in our port would immediately impact one of the world's largest refining and petrochemical centers, which provides half of our country's chemical manufacturing production and 30 percent of the U.S. refining capacity. Protecting the Port of Houston and the greater Houston area also will protect the economies, jobs and security of companies throughout the nation and around the globe.

Our nation's leaders are looking at how we might heighten the security of the chemical industry against terrorist attack. We in industry have done much to increase our defenses, but depend upon the additional layers provided by our armed services. A key element of this defense is keeping the full wing of the 147<sup>th</sup> at Ellington Field to protect this area.

As a board member of the Texas Chemical Council, a member of the East Harris County Manufacturers Association and a Lyondell employee, I urge you to keep this vital security force in Houston. If I can be of further assistance in helping you in this effort, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Wood".

Steve M. Wood

SMW/glc

cc: Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison  
Sen. John Cornyn  
U.S. Rep. Tom DeLay  
Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Sylvia Garcia  
Houston Mayor Bill White



**Michael D. VanDerSnick**  
Plant Manager  
Bayport Underwood

5781 Underwood  
Pasadena, TX 77507

Phone: 281-474-0436  
Fax: 281-474-0456  
Michael.Vandersnick@equistar.com

July 5, 2005

2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission  
2521 S. Clark St., Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to urge you to keep the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Ellington Field in Houston to safeguard not only the Port of Houston and surrounding industrial assets, but our nation's security and economy.

Private industry along the Texas coast depends heavily on the ports to receive feedstock and to ship products. The Port of Houston ranks first in U.S. foreign waterborne commerce, second in U.S. total tonnage and is the sixth largest port in the world.

As a plant manager in the greater Houston area, I can tell you that a significant security event in our port would immediately impact one of the world's largest refining and petrochemical centers, which provides half of our country's chemical manufacturing production and 30 percent of the U.S. refining capacity. Protecting the Port of Houston and the greater Houston area also will protect the economies, jobs and security of companies throughout the nation and around the globe.

Our nation's leaders are looking at how we might heighten the security of the chemical industry against terrorist attack. We in industry have done much to increase our defenses, but depend upon the additional layers provided by our armed services. A key element of this defense is keeping the full wing of the 147<sup>th</sup> at Ellington Field to protect this area.

As a member of the East Harris County Manufacturers Association and a Lyondell employee, I urge you to keep this vital security force in Houston. If I can be of further assistance in helping you in this effort, please let me know.

Sincerely,

  
Michael D. VanDerSnick

MDV/glc

cc: Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison  
Sen. John Cornyn  
U.S. Rep. Tom DeLay  
Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Sylvia Garcia  
Houston Mayor Bill White



**Douglas R. Mathera**  
Plant Manager  
Chocolate Bayou Complex

12 Miles south of Alvin on FM 2817  
Alvin, TX 77512

Telephone: 713-844-7400  
Fax: 713.844.7305  
Douglas.Mathera@Lyondell.com

July 5, 2005

2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission  
2521 S. Clark St., Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to urge you to keep the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Ellington Field in Houston to safeguard not only the Port of Houston and surrounding industrial assets, but our nation's security and economy.

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As a board member of the Texas Chemical Council and a Lyondell employee, I urge you to keep this vital security force in Houston. If I can be of further assistance in helping you in this effort, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. R. Mathera".

Douglas R. Mathera

DRM/glc

cc: Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison  
Sen. John Cornyn  
U.S. Rep. Tom DeLay  
Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Sylvia Garcia  
Houston Mayor Bill White



**Lonnie L. Lindsey**  
General Manager, East Region

2502 Sheldon Road  
Channelview, TX 77530

Phone: 281-882-5150  
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Lonnie.Lindsey@Lyondell.com

www.lyondell.com

July 5, 2005

2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission  
2521 S. Clark St., Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to urge you to keep the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Ellington Field in Houston to safeguard not only the Port of Houston and surrounding industrial assets, but our nation's security and economy.

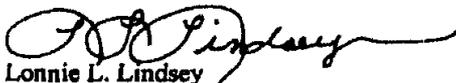
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As a Lyondell employee and a former board member of the East Harris County Manufacturers Association and North Channel Chamber of Commerce Association, I urge you to keep this vital security force in Houston. If I can be of further assistance in helping you in this effort, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Lonnie L. Lindsey

LLL/glc

cc: Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison  
Sen. John Cornyn  
U.S. Rep. Tom DeLay  
Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Sylvia Garcia  
Houston Mayor Bill White



Denny Wiseman  
Plant Manager  
Olefins

2502 Sheldon Road  
Channelview, Tx 77530

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Fax: 281.862.4099  
denny.wiseman@lyondell.com

July 5, 2005

2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission  
2521 S. Clark St., Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to urge you to keep the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Ellington Field in Houston to safeguard not only the Port of Houston and surrounding industrial assets, but our nation's security and economy.

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As a board member of the Texas Chemical Council, a member of the East Harris County Manufacturers Association and a Lyondell employee, I urge you to keep this vital security force in Houston. If I can be of further assistance in helping you in this effort, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Denny W. Wiseman

DWW/csk

cc: Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison  
Sen. John Cornyn  
U.S. Rep. Tom DeLay  
Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Sylvia Garcia  
Houston Mayor Bill White



David R. Seitz  
Plant Manager  
POSM/Utilities/Lab

2502 Sheldon Road  
Channelview, Tx 77530

Telephone: 281.882.4003  
Fax: 281.882.4089  
david.seitz@lyondell.com

July 5, 2005

2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission  
2521 S. Clark St., Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

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Sincerely,

David R. Seitz

DRS/csk

cc: Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison  
Sen. John Cornyn  
U.S. Rep. Tom DeLay  
Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Sylvia Garcia  
Houston Mayor Bill White



**Kim Foley**  
Plant Manager  
Hydrocarbon/Derivatives

2502 Sheldon Road  
Channelview, Tx 77530

Telephone: 281.862.4301  
Fax: 281.862.4099  
Kim.Foley@lyondell.com

July 5, 2005

2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission  
2521 S. Clark St., Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

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Sincerely,

Kim A. Foley

KAF/csk

cc: Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison  
Sen. John Cornyn  
U.S. Rep. Tom DeLay  
Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Sylvia Garcia  
Houston Mayor Bill White



**Gary Jones**  
Manager, US Manufacturing Quality and Training

One Houston Center  
1221 McKinney  
Suite 1600  
P.O. Box 2583  
Houston, TX 77262-2583  
Telephone: 713.682.7200  
Gary.Jones@Lyondell.com

July 5, 2005

2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission  
2521 S. Clark St., Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to urge you to keep the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Ellington Field in Houston to safeguard not only the Port of Houston and surrounding industrial assets, but our nation's security and economy.

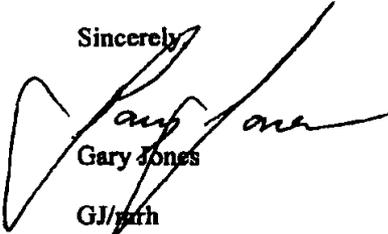
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Sincerely



Gary Jones

GJ/jfh

cc: Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison  
Sen. John Cornyn  
U.S. Rep. Tom DeLay  
Harris County Precinct 2 Commissioner Sylvia Garcia  
Houston Mayor Bill White

**Kristin Mcatee**

---

**From:** Mrs. Andrew Chantos [ajchantos@sbcglobal.net]  
**Sent:** Monday, July 04, 2005 11:38 AM  
**To:** Kristin Mcatee  
**Subject:** Letter supporting Ellington's 147th Fighter Wing

July 5, 2005

BRAC Commission  
Convention Facilities-San Antonio  
Henry B Gonzales Convention Center  
200 E Market St.  
San Antonio, Tx. 78205

To the attention of the BRAC Commission

I would like to extend this letter to support the retention of military presence at Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Houston, Texas. Specifically, we strongly oppose the proposal to retire the 147th Fighter Wings F-16s at Ellington Field Air National Guard Stations. With the increased security concerns, I believe we have an obligation to continue the support and protection that Ellington Field provides for this Port of Houston and the Greater Houston Area.

Ellington Field Reserve Base and the 147th Fighter Wing are a key presence in our regions national security efforts and provide the protection for various facilities designated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as areas of critical infrastructure. Specifically, the Medical Center, South Texas Nuclear Power Plant, UTMB bio-containment laboratory and various major sports venues all benefit from the services of Ellington Field and the 1467th Fighter Wing provide.

We strongly ask that you reevaluate the BRAC recommendations for the retirement of the 147th and vote for a stronger homeland security force located within minutes of protecting our ship channel industries.

Sincerely,

Trace Currie Chantos  
The Ninety-Nines, Inc. Chair Houston Chapter

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**Kristin Mcatee**

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**From:** Darla Racz [dracz1@hotmail.com]  
**Sent:** Saturday, July 02, 2005 3:51 PM  
**To:** Kristin Mcatee  
**Subject:** RE: Request for Letters of Support for Ellington's 147th Fighter Wing

Attention of the BRAC Commission:

Please let me explain why I am writing this letter. I've grown up in the gulf coast area and around petrochemical plants all of my life. I lived with drills during the Cuban Missile Crisis. In fact, I remember so often as a first grader, having to have drills in my elementary school to save our life. Our teacher would give an order, and we would line up to proceed to the back of the room behind a wall, where our bookshelves were located. Upon her order, we would be commanded to put our heads in our book lockers. I remember spending the night in the bank vault at our area bank in preparation of an attack. My family slept on cots, and we were fed very little food and water. It was traumatic, and I'll never forget it. It was a dangerous time for our wonderful country. Do we want to subject our children to the same fear if we don't protect ourselves? Do we want to put ourselves in that kind of fear again? Most importantly, do we want to put America in that kind of fear again? Wake up and make the right decision concerning Ellington! Thank you,  
Darla Racz

>From: "Kristin Mcatee" <mcatee@bayareahouston.com>  
>Subject: Request for Letters of Support for Ellington's 147th Fighter  
>Wing  
>Date: Wed, 29 Jun 2005 16:25:43 -0500  
>  
>With the Regional BRAC hearing less than 2 weeks away, we are asking  
>for letters of support. If you have not previously sent a letter of  
>support to BRAC Commission and would like for yours to be included with the  
>ones that are being presented to the BRAC Commission, please do so by  
>replying to this email or contacting Kristin McAtee at  
>mcatee@bayareahouston.com <mailto:mcatee@bayareahouston.com> no later  
>than Wednesday, July 6th.  
>Please address your letters to the attention of the BRAC Commission and  
>be sure to identify yourself and your organization. These letters will  
>be entered into record at the hearing in San Antonio on July 11th.  
>  
>  
>  
>  
>  
>Kristin McAtee  
>  
>Marketing Research Assistant  
>  
>Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership  
>  
>2525 Bay Area Blvd., Ste 640  
>  
>Houston, TX 77058  
>  
>(281) 486-5535  
>  
>(281) 486-5068  
>  
>mcatee@bayareahouston.com <mailto:mcatee@bayareahouston.com>  
>

> Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base ...  
>  
>Protecting America's Vital National Assets!  
>  
> <<http://www.supportellingtonfield.com/>>  
>  
><http://www.supportellingtonfield.com/>  
>  
>  
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**Born Wild**

Innovative Promotions  
15414 Lanswick Drive  
Houston, Texas 77062



Phone: 281-488-1880  
Fax: 281-488-1665  
E-mail: papwild@aol.com

July 1, 2005

BRAC Commission  
Convention Facilities-San Antonio:  
Henry B Gonzales Convention Center  
200 E Market St  
San Antonio, TX 78205

To the attention of the BRAC Commission:

I would like to extend this letter of support for the retention of military presence at Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Houston, Texas. Specifically, we strongly oppose the proposal to retire the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing's F-16s at Ellington Field Air National Guard Stations. With the increased security concerns, I believe we have an obligation to continue the support and protection that Ellington Field provides for the Port of Houston and the Greater Houston Area.

As the fourth largest city in the country, with an enormous amount of assets of regional and national significance to protect, we feel that it is vital to have the opportunity to present the Commission with all the relevant data to consider in your deliberations.

Ellington Field Reserve Base and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing are a key presence in our region's national security efforts and provide the protection for various facilities designated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as areas of critical infrastructure. Specifically, the Port of Houston, petrochemical and oil refinery industries, Texas Medical Center, South Texas Nuclear Power Plant, UTMB bio-containment Laboratory and various major sports venues all benefit from the services of Ellington Field and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing provide.

As a business owner, a community volunteer in Bay Area Houston, and as a member of the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership, I strongly ask that you reevaluate the BRAC recommendations for the retirement of the 147<sup>th</sup> and vote for a stronger homeland security force located within minutes of protecting our ship channel industries.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Patricia A. Patton'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Patricia A. Patton

**Patricia A. Patton**  
**15414 Lanswick Drive**  
**Houston, Texas 77062**

**P**

**Work Phone: 281 488-1880**  
**Home Phone: 281-486-4877**  
**Fax: 281-488-1665**  
**E-mail: papwild@aol.com**

July 1, 2005

BRAC Commission  
Convention Facilities-San Antonio:  
Henry B Gonzales Convention Center  
200 E Market St  
San Antonio, TX 78205

To the attention of the BRAC Commission:

I would like to extend this letter of support for the retention of military presence at Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Houston, Texas. Specifically, we strongly oppose the proposal to retire the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing's F-16s at Ellington Field Air National Guard Stations. With the increased security concerns, I believe we have an obligation to continue the support and protection that Ellington Field provides for the Port of Houston and the Greater Houston Area.

As the fourth largest city in the country, with an enormous amount of assets of regional and national significance to protect, we feel that it is vital to have the opportunity to present the Commission with all the relevant data to consider in your deliberations.

Ellington Field Reserve Base and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing are a key presence in our region's national security efforts and provide the protection for various facilities designated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as areas of critical infrastructure. Specifically, the Port of Houston, petrochemical and oil refinery industries, Texas Medical Center, South Texas Nuclear Power Plant, UTMB bio-containment Laboratory and various major sports venues all benefit from the services of Ellington Field and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing provide.

As a business owner, a community volunteer in Bay Area Houston, and as a member of the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership, I strongly ask that you reevaluate the BRAC recommendations for the retirement of the 147<sup>th</sup> and vote for a stronger homeland security force located within minutes of protecting our ship channel industries.

Sincerely,



Patricia A. Patton

*South Shore Harbour Resort & Conference Center*

Executive Office

July 1, 2005

Attn: BRAC Commission,

My name is Roy Green, General Manager of South Shore Harbour Resort & Conference Center which is located about twelve miles from Ellington Field.

I must say that I fully support the Ellington Field Task Force in their effort to preserve the full wings of the Texas Air National Guard. The economic vitality of the aviation industry, as well as other industries at Ellington Field is essential to the Bay Area Houston. Therefore, a full wing is necessary to protect a region which is vital to our Nation.

I trust that the members of the BRAC Commission will weight the importance of the hearing on July 11<sup>th</sup> and act in the best interest of our community.

Sincerely,



Roy Green



July 1, 2005  
GBTI-EXEC-GEB-L05-010

BRAC Commission  
Convention Facilities-San Antonio  
Henry B Gonzales Convention Center  
200 E Market St  
San Antonio, TX 78205

To the attention of the BRAC Commission:

I would like to extend this letter of support for the retention of military presence at Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Houston, Texas. Specifically, we strongly oppose the proposal to retire the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing's F-16s at Ellington Field Air National Guard Stations. With the increased security concerns, I believe we have an obligation to continue the support and protection that Ellington Field provides for the Port of Houston and the Greater Houston Area.

As the fourth largest city in the country, with an enormous amount of assets of regional and national significance to protect, we feel that it is vital to have the opportunity to present the Commission with all the relevant data to consider in your deliberations.

Ellington Field Reserve Base and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing are a key presence in our region's national security efforts and provide the protection for various facilities designated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as areas of critical infrastructure. Specifically, the Port of Houston, petrochemical and oil refinery industries, Texas Medical Center, South Texas Nuclear Power Plant, UTMB bio-containment Laboratory and various major sports venues all benefit from the services of Ellington Field and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing provide.

We strongly ask that you reevaluate the BRAC recommendations for the retirement of the 147<sup>th</sup> and vote for a stronger homeland security force located within minutes of protecting our ship channel industries.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Gale E. Burkett'.

Gale E. Burkett  
Chairman and CEO

**Kristin Mcatee**

---

**From:** Shari LeDonne Frisinger [Shari@CornerStoneStrategiesLLC.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 01, 2005 9:38 AM  
**To:** Kristin Mcatee  
**Subject:** Attention: BRAC Commission

**BRAC Commission**

**Convention Facilities-San Antonio:**

**Henry B Gonzales Convention Center**

**200 E Market St**

**San Antonio, TX 78205**

**To the attention of the BRAC Commission:**

would like to extend this letter of support for the retention of military presence at Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Houston,

Texas. Specifically, we strongly oppose the proposal to retire the

47th Fighter Wing's F-16s at Ellington Field Air National Guard Stations. With the increased security concerns, I believe we have an obligation to continue the support and protection that Ellington Field provides for the Port of Houston and the Greater Houston Area.

As the fourth largest city in the country, with an enormous amount of assets of regional and national significance to protect, we feel that it is vital to have the opportunity to present the Commission with all the relevant data to consider in your deliberations.

Ellington Field Reserve Base and the 147th Fighter Wing are a key presence in our region's national security efforts and provide the protection for various facilities designated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as areas of critical infrastructure. Specifically, the Port of Houston, petrochemical and oil refinery industries, Texas Medical Center, South Texas Nuclear Power Plant, UTMB bio-containment Laboratory and various major sports venues all benefit from the services of Ellington Field and the 147th Fighter Wing provide.

We strongly ask that you reevaluate the BRAC recommendations for the retirement of the 147th and vote for a longer homeland security force located within minutes of protecting our ship channel industries.

Sincerely,

Shari L Frisinger, President

Women in Aviation – Space City Chapter

7/1/2005

**Shari LeDonne Frisinger, MAS**  
**CornerStone Strategies, L.L.C.**  
**P O Box 1982, Friendswood TX 77549**  
**281.992.4136 / 281.992.0517**  
**www.CornerStoneStrategiesLLC.com**

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**Kristin Mcatee**

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**From:** Jerald Vascoe [jvascoe@coldwellbanker.com]  
**Sent:** Friday, July 01, 2005 8:23 AM  
**To:** Kristin Mcatee  
**Subject:** Letter of Support

TO: The BRAC Commission  
Fm: Jerald Vascoe  
Subj: Ellington's 147 Fighter Wing

Without a doubt, our government should diligently seek new ways to reduce future debts for the taxpayer.

However, at a time in our country when our freedoms are truly at risk on our homeland soil, we look to our government to provide protection, not an escalated format for citizenry protection.

Unfortunately, your position seems to oppose the primary responsibility any country's duty to protect its citizens. I know this can not truly be the position of the BRAC Committee, but a positive position of support for the 147th Fighter Wing would not have to be explained.

Further, Houston "fits" the terrorist's target of destruction on nearly all defined parameters. Houston is in the need of more than adequate air support - not less.

One question. Since Houston produces approximately 25% of the oil and gas processing in the country and approximately 40% of all the petrochemicals in the nation; what would be the affect to the country if Houston was successfully crippled by the terrorist?

Please, support the 147th Fighter Wing and Ellington Air Field.

Regards,  
Jerald Vascoe  
Coldwell Banker Commercial Chen & Assoc.  
525 Bay Area Blvd. Suite 660  
Houston, Texas 77058  
81-480-5151  
81-486-2066 fax  
<http://www.chenassociates.com>  
[jvascoe@coldwellbanker.com](mailto:jvascoe@coldwellbanker.com)

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CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

KEVIN BRADY  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS  
8TH DISTRICT OF TEXAS

DEPUTY MAJORITY WHIP

COMMITTEE ON  
WAYS AND MEANS  
SOCIAL SECURITY  
TRADE  
JOINT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE  
HOUSE POLICY COMMITTEE

July 1, 2005

BRAC Commission  
2521 S. Clark St., Ste. 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing to express my support for the continued operation of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing Air National Guard at Ellington Field, Texas, and to ask that the BRAC Commission reject the May 13, 2005, Department of Defense (DoD) recommendation to retire fifteen fighter aircraft at Ellington Field. The retirement of these aircraft from Ellington Field will compromise America's homeland security.

The events of September 11, 2001, demonstrate the necessity that our military forces be prepared to respond quickly to protect America's security interest. The increased threat of future attack on American soil reinforces the demand that the current BRAC round take into account the need to protect the city of Houston and the Texas Gulf Coast infrastructure. This region is the only region in the United States that contains all nine asset categories identified by the Department of Homeland Security and Federal Bureau of Investigation as potential terrorist targets. These assets include twenty-five percent of the nation's oil refineries, forty percent of the petrochemical plants, the Strategic Petroleum Reserve and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Johnson Space Center.

An attack on any of these critical national resources would prove to be a tremendous blow to both our economic vitality and national security. The 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing serves a vital role in protecting some of America's most critical national assets. The decision to retire these aircraft will leave America inadequately prepared to defend these critical assets from possible terrorist attack and pose a constant threat to our economic security.

Again, I encourage the BRAC Commission to reject the recommendation to retire aircraft of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing.

Sincerely,



Kevin Brady

BRAC Commission  
Convention Facilities-San Antonio:  
Henry B Gonzales Convention Center  
200 E Market St  
San Antonio, TX 78205

To the attention of the BRAC Commission:

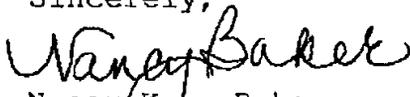
I would like to extend this letter of support for the retention of military presence at Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Houston, Texas. Specifically, we strongly oppose the proposal to retire the 147th Fighter Wing's F-16s at Ellington Field Air National Guard Stations. With the increased security concerns, I believe we have an obligation to continue the support and protection that Ellington Field provides for the Port of Houston and the Greater Houston Area.

As the fourth largest city in the country, with an enormous amount of assets of regional and national significance to protect, we feel that it is vital to have the opportunity to present the Commission with all the relevant data to consider in your deliberations.

Ellington Field Reserve Base and the 147th Fighter Wing are a key presence in our region's national security efforts and provide the protection for various facilities designated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as areas of critical infrastructure. Specifically, the Port of Houston, petrochemical and oil refinery industries, Texas Medical Center, South Texas Nuclear Power Plant, UTMB bio-containment Laboratory and various major sports venues all benefit from the services of Ellington Field and the 147th Fighter Wing provide.

We strongly ask that you reevaluate the BRAC recommendations for the retirement of the 147th and vote for a stronger homeland security force located within minutes of protecting our ship channel industries.

Sincerely,



Nancy Kate Baker  
Women in Aviation - Space City Chapter

**Kristin Mcatee**

---

**From:** James Guthrie [JGuthrie@ci.pasadena.tx.us]  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 30, 2005 10:17 AM  
**To:** Kristin Mcatee  
**Subject:** BRAC COMMISSION / 147TH FIGHTER WING

TO: BRAC COMMISSION, WASHINGTON DC

RE: 147th FIGHTER WING

As an elected official from the City of Pasadena, TX, and a member of Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership's Ellington Field Task Force, I wish to express my concerns regarding your commission's plan to retire the F-16's of the 147th Fighter Wing. I can't stress enough how important the refining industry and our ports are to the nation's economic vitality and security. One quarter of our nation's gasoline is refined and approximately one half of the petrochemicals used in America are produced in the greater Houston region. The Strategic Petroleum Reserve is in close proximity to our region and is protected by the 147th. The Port of Houston, Port of Galveston, Barbour's Cut Container Port and the new Bayport Container Terminal are life blood to our nation's international trade.

The FBI has established nine categories of targets for domestic terrorism and my understanding is we are the only region with targets in all nine of these categories. We have the largest medical center in the world and the Johnson Space Center both of which would be trophies for enemies of our country to attack and severely impact our nation's health care as well as the space program. I'm surprised the 147th was even considered for potential closing in view of the facts stated above. The presence of the 147th in Houston is our best deterrent to a broad scale terrorist attack.

It is my hope that your commission will reconsider retiring the 147th Fighter Wing and instead recommend replacement of their older F-16's with new, more effective planes to protect Southeast Texas.

Respectfully,

James A. Guthrie

Councilman James Guthrie  
Pasadena City Council District F  
Office: 713.475.7858  
Cell: 713.417.2878

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4204 NASA PARKWAY, HOUSTON, TEXAS 77050-0001  
Telephone: 281/488-7670 Fax: 281/488-8981 <http://www.clearlakearea.com>

30 June 2005

Attn: Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC)

RE: SUPPORT of 147<sup>th</sup> Texas Air National Guard and Ellington Field

Dear BRAC Commission:

The Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce wishes to officially register its views and concerns regarding the proposed closure of the 147<sup>th</sup> Texas Air National Guard operations at Ellington Field, Houston.

Our organization represents some 2,000 members and a business community encompassing nine municipalities located in Harris or Galveston counties of Texas. These municipalities are home to some 200,000 residents who currently enjoy a comparatively high quality of life.

The 147<sup>th</sup> Texas Air National Guard at Ellington Field is vital to the protection of our community. As an area identified by the FBI and the Department of Homeland Security as having nine terrorist targets, the 147<sup>th</sup> Texas Air National Guard is protection that our residents can ill afford to lose.

We respectfully request you allow the 147<sup>th</sup> Texas Air National Guard to remain at Ellington Field at full capacity.

Should you have any questions or require additional information regarding our Chamber's position, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Mark Humphrey,  
Chairman of the Board

**OFFICERS**

**MARK HUMPHREY**, Chairman of the Board  
President, Prosperity Bank  
**MARK RUSH**, Vice Chairman Administration  
Partner, DRDA P.C., CPA's  
**RANDY ASHBY**, Vice Chairman Finance  
Partner, Waldron & Schneider LLP  
**ANNETTE SNOW FALKS**, Vice Chairman Membership  
Customer Relations Mgr., Allen Samuels Chrysler Jeep  
**JANE SWEENEY**, Vice Chairman Research  
Owner, Minuteman Press  
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Triumph Hospital-Clear Lake  
**MICHAEL GIANGROSSO**, General Manager  
Hampton Inn - Seabrook  
**JEFF HUTSON**, Sales Director  
Clear Lake Infronti  
**SHARON KAY**, Area Manager/Owner  
Money Mailer-Townplanner  
**MARK KEESLER**, Owner  
One Stop Party Shop  
**TODD MCINTOSH**, Owner  
Space Center Tire & Auto  
**PHILLIPAMPOLINA**, Owner  
PRP Entertainment Company  
**KEITH POWELL**, Senior Service Consultant  
CenterPoint Energy  
**SHARON RICKEL**, Publisher  
The Citizen and the Exchange News  
**MIKE SCALF, SR.**, Marketing Director  
Arrant Grimes & Scalf Photography  
**BETH SPEIGHTS**, District Sales Manager  
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Awards of Distinction  
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Bay Area Media Services  
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Outback Steakhouse

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Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership  
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Bay Area Transportation Partnership  
**SANDRA MOSSMAN**, Superintendent  
Clear Creek Independent School District  
**NATALIE O'NEILL**, Chairman  
Clear Lake Area Council of Cities  
**WILLIAM STAPLES**, President  
University of Houston-Clear Lake

**EX-OFFICIO MEMBER**

**ESTELLA GILLETE**, Deputy Dir., External Relations  
NASA Johnson Space Center

**GENERAL COUNSEL**

**DICK GREGG, JR.**, President/Attorney  
Gregg & Gregg, P.C.

**STAFF**

**CLAUDETTE ALDERMAN**, President & CEO  
**SUNYA FITZ**, Director of Finance  
**MINDI FUNDERBURG**, Director of Communications  
**CINDY HARRELD**, Director of Special Projects  
**FAITH NORRIS**, Front Office  
**SHARI SWEENEY**, Director of Marketing

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Sylvia R. Garcia  
Commissioner

June 30, 2005

Base Realignment & Closure Commission  
200 East Market Street  
San Antonio, Texas 78205

Dear BRAC Commission:

It is my understanding that Ellington Field has made the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) list in which military bases across the country are recommended to be closed or realigned.

I am contacting the commission for support and consideration on any measures which will protect Ellington Field from the loss of assets or closure. It is of utmost importance to Harris County and the entire region that we upgrade Ellington Field's military assets and have it operating at full capacity.

The 147<sup>th</sup> Texas Air National Guard fighter wing, the 149<sup>th</sup> Texas Army National Guard Apache battalion and the U.S. Coast Guard are all instrumental in defending the State of Texas and our homeland.

Harris County and the U.S. economy will be made vulnerable with a reduced squadron. The military assets at Ellington currently serve as a major deterrent for homeland security threats. Here are the facts:

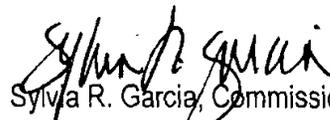
- The Port of Houston handles more foreign tonnage than any other Port in the world. The Ports of Galveston, Freeport and Beaumont add greater significance to the need for protection.
- Fifty percent of all petrochemical processed materials for use in U.S. manufacturing come from plants in Texas and the southern Gulf Coast. Twenty five percent of all oil refined for use in the U. S. comes from our immediate area.
- The FBI has identified Harris County as one of the only regions in the U.S. to possess all nine assets identified as vulnerable to terrorist activity. Expand that to include offshore rigs and our large surrounding counties.

The closing of Ellington Field would be a devastating impact. It would not only hinder the security of the Port of Houston, petrochemical venues and NASA, but the safety of residents in the fourth largest city of our nation would also be jeopardized.

It is important that we work together to support Ellington Field and I urge the BRAC Commission for their support of anything less than upgrades for Ellington Field during the BRAC process.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you have questions, please contact me or my staff at 713-755-6220.

Sincerely,

  
Sylvia R. Garcia, Commissioner  
Harris County Precinct Two

SRG/ghm

Downtown Office  
1001 Preston, Suite 950  
Houston, TX 77002  
Tel: 713.755.6220  
Fax: 713.755.8810

Baytown Annex  
701 W. Baker Road,  
Suite 104  
Baytown, TX 77521  
Tel: 281.427.7311  
Fax: 281.837.1290

Clear Lake Annex  
16603 Buccaneer Lane,  
Suite 100,  
Houston, TX 77062  
Tel: 281.488.4678  
Fax: 281.286.7450

East End Annex  
1001 S. Sgt. Macario  
Garcia Dr., Suite 102  
Houston, TX 77011  
Tel: 713.924.3975  
Fax: 713.924.3971

Jim Fonteno Annex  
4350 Wallisville Road  
Houston, TX 77049  
Tel: 713.455.8104  
Fax: 713.451.6714

Kyle Chapman  
Pasadena Annex  
7330 Spencer Hwy  
Pasadena, TX 77505  
Tel: 281.479.7770  
Fax: 281.479.3075



June 30, 2005

Base Relocation and Closure Commission  
San Antonio, Texas

I am in support of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing of the Texas Air National Guard remaining fully operational and based at Ellington Field. With Houston being the nation's fourth largest City, home to one of the world's largest petrochemical and refining complexes, stretching from Corpus Christi in the west to Beaumont in the east, Ellington's 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing is necessary for the national security of America's 4<sup>th</sup> largest City and the greater southeast Texas gulf coast area. Houston is also home to NASA's Johnson Space Center, the Texas Medical Center and many other vital national assets.

In closing I would just like to say that keeping the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Ellington Field is a critical part of Houston's Homeland Security and Economic Stability.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mary Anne Holcomb".

Mary Anne Holcomb  
City Councilwoman  
City of Kemah, Texas



June 30, 2005

BRAC Commission  
Convention Facilities-San Antonio  
Henry B Gonzales Convention Center  
200 E Market St  
San Antonio, TX 78205

To the attention of the BRAC Commission:

I would like to extend this letter of support for the retention of military presence at Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Houston, Texas. Specifically, we strongly oppose the proposal to retire the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing's F-16s at Ellington Field Air National Guard Stations. With the increased security concerns, I believe we have an obligation to continue the support and protection that Ellington Field provides for the Port of Houston and the Greater Houston Area.

As the fourth largest city in the country, with an enormous amount of assets of regional and national significance to protect, we feel that it is vital to have the opportunity to present the Commission with all the relevant data to consider in your deliberations.

Ellington Field Reserve Base and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing are a key presence in our region's national security efforts and provide the protection for various facilities designated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as areas of critical infrastructure. Specifically, the Port of Houston, petrochemical and oil refinery industries, Texas Medical Center, South Texas Nuclear Power Plant, UTMB bio-containment Laboratory and various major sports venues all benefit from the services of Ellington Field and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing provide.

We strongly ask that you reevaluate the BRAC recommendations for the retirement of the 147<sup>th</sup> and vote for a stronger homeland security force located within minutes of protecting our ship channel industries.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Mantell", is written over a faint, larger version of the same signature.

Mike Mantell  
President  
MDA Systems, Inc.



Attention: BRAC Commission

Dear Commissioners,

We respectfully request that your commission retain the full fighter wing 147<sup>th</sup> fighter squadron at Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base.

Our organization, the Economic Alliance Houston Port Region cultivates, monitors and markets a vibrant regional economy in collaboration with fourteen communities surrounding the 52-mile Houston Ship Channel, home to the world's most influential energy corridor and the nation's second largest trade port.

The Houston Ship Channel is the only shipping lane from the Gulf of Mexico, located at Bolivar Peninsula and Galveston Island, to the Houston Turning Basin. Approximately 27% of the nation's jet fuel and 40% of petrochemicals are made in the Houston Port region. Any disruption to this infrastructure would directly affect the national economy, security and defense.

The Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base is the major operational Department of Defense facility in the Houston area. The units and squadrons, including the 147<sup>th</sup> fighter squadron, located at the base are integral to the defense of the ship channel and our citizens. They represent the only air-to-air interception.

On behalf of our Board of Directors and our members, we add our support in retaining the Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in the Houston area. Due to its concentration of petrochemical industry assets, the Houston-Galveston Region should be considered one of the highest priorities.

Thank you for your consideration of this very important issue,

*Janice A. Lawler*

Janice A. Lawler  
President and CEO  
[jan@allianceportregion.com](mailto:jan@allianceportregion.com)

---

**3101 NASA Parkway, Suite C, Seabrook, Texas 77586**  
**Telephone 832.864.4020 Fax 832.864.4023**



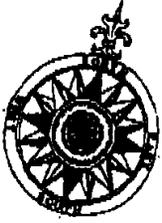
---

***3101 NASA Parkway, Suite C, Seabrook, Texas 77586***  
***Telephone 832.864.4020 Fax 832.864.4023***

Our Alliance represents over 900,000 citizens and include:

Community of Channelview  
City of Deer Park  
City of Galena Park  
City of Jacinto City  
City of Morgan's Point  
Community of South Belt Ellington  
City of Seabrook  
Community of Sheldon  
City of South Houston  
Community of North Shore  
City of La Porte  
City of Pasadena  
City of Pearland  
City of Shoreacres  
Deer Park Chamber of Commerce  
East End Chamber of Commerce  
Houston Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
La Porte – Bayshore Chamber of Commerce  
North Channel Area Chamber of Commerce  
Pasadena Chamber of Commerce  
Pasadena Hispanic Business Association  
Pearland Area Chamber of Commerce  
Seabrook Association  
South Belt Ellington Chamber of Commerce  
South Houston Chamber of Commerce

***3101 NASA Parkway, Suite C, Seabrook, Texas 77586***  
***Telephone 832.864.4020 Fax 832.864.4023***



# City of Nassau Bay

Phone: 281.333.4211 • Fax: 281.333.2301  
1800 NASA Road One • Nassau Bay • Texas 77058-3502

[www.nassaubay.com](http://www.nassaubay.com)

Philip A. Johnson  
Mayor

John D. Kennedy  
City Manager

January 27, 2004

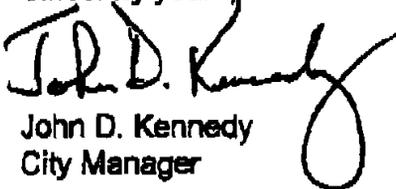
Dear Community Leader:

The Nassau Bay City Council recently passed the attached resolution in support of the retention and expansion of military units at Ellington Field. Our City's leadership is very concerned about homeland defense issues as well as local economic degradation should the military units at Ellington be moved.

We hope you will join us in similar endeavors of support for the continued use and expansion of Ellington Field.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in support of this military base which is so vital to our area.

Sincerely yours,



John D. Kennedy  
City Manager

Attachment



Office of the City Secretary  
Nassau Bay

2-23-04  
Date Received

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

RICK PERRY  
GOVERNOR

cc: Mayor  
Council  
Kennedy

February 19, 2004

The Honorable Philip A. Johnson  
Mayor  
City of Nassau Bay  
1800 NASA Road One  
Nassau Bay, Texas 77058-3502

Dear Mayor Johnson:

I thank the City of Nassau Bay for sharing its resolution regarding the retention of military units at Ellington Field. As a veteran of the United States Air Force, and as the son of a World War II veteran, I appreciate the service of the many honorable men and women who have served America throughout this great nation's history.

I share your concern for maintaining or increasing current military strength in Texas. I want Texas to emerge from the upcoming Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process with the least reduction possible and, preferably, with an increased level of military activities in Texas. To that end, I appointed the Texas Military Preparedness Commission (TMPC). The commission's purpose is to develop a proactive statewide strategy to assist defense-dependent communities in the prevention of future base closures and realignments, and to also assist these communities as they prepare for the next generation of the military's presence in Texas. I am committed to ensuring the state's leadership role in defense-related issues.

The TMPC, which is housed within my office, administers a \$250 million revolving loan program for projects that will assist communities in increasing their military value before the upcoming BRAC. For further information on the TMPC, you may visit [www.governor.state.tx.us/divisions/tmpc](http://www.governor.state.tx.us/divisions/tmpc). You can also reach TMPC's executive director, Mike Smith, Brig. Gen. (Ret), at 512/463-8880. Further, you may also consider contacting federal elected officials.

Please let me know whenever I may be of service in the future. Best wishes to the fine folks of the City of Nassau Bay.

Sincerely,

Rick Perry  
Governor

RP:mmp

# THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS

## CAPITOL OFFICE

P.O. BOX 12068  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711  
512/463-0111  
FAX: 512/475-3727  
MIKE.JACKSON@SENATE.STATE.TX.US  
DIAL 711 FOR RELAY CALLS



**MIKE JACKSON**

## DISTRICT OFFICES

1109 FAIRMONT PARKWAY  
PASADENA, TEXAS 77504  
713/948-0111  
FAX: 713/948-0004  
201 ENTERPRISE, SUITE #600-A  
LEAGUE CITY, TEXAS 77573  
281/334-0011  
FAX: 281/334-3043

February 19, 2004

**John D. Kennedy, City Manager**  
City of Nassau Bay  
1800 NASA Parkway  
Nassau Bay, Texas 77058

Dear Mr. Kennedy:

Thank you for sending me a copy of the City of Nassau Bay's Official Resolution No. R2004-1637 which recognizes the importance of the Texas Air National Guard 147th Fighter Wing and urges public officials to support efforts to retain the 147th at Ellington Field. I appreciate hearing from you regarding this important issue.

I am working closely with the Ellington Field Task Force, organized by Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership and operating under the capable leadership of John Martinec. The task force's mission is to "retain and grow military assets at Ellington Field with reference to the Base Realignment and Closure Process for 2005 (BRAC 2005). Since its inception, numerous local, state and federal officials, organizations and municipalities have pledged their support to keep Ellington Field and the 147th intact. This strategic military and valuable economic asset is vital in providing homeland security to the Port of Houston, the Johnson Space Center, the petrochemical industry and to the citizens of Texas and the greater Houston area.

Again, thank you for letting me know of your support!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Jackson".

**Mike Jackson**  
State Senator, District 11

MJ:ls

Office of the City Secretary  
Nassau Bay

2-20-04

Date Received

cc: Mayor ✓  
Council ✓  
Kennedy ✓





Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison  
1919 Smith Street, Suite 800  
Houston, TX 77002

Senator John Cornyn  
24 Greenway Plaza, Suite 1705  
Houston, TX 77046

Congressman Chris Bell  
25<sup>th</sup> Congressional District  
7707 Fannin, Suite 203  
Houston, TX 77054

Congressman Kevin Brady  
8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District  
200 River Pointe, Suite 304  
Conroe, TX 77304

Congressman John Carter  
31<sup>st</sup> Congressional District  
One Financial Centre  
1717 North IH-35  
Round Rock, TX 78664

Congressman John Culberson  
7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District  
10000 Memorial Drive #620  
Houston, TX 77024-3490

Congressman Gene Green  
29<sup>th</sup> N. Sam Houston Parkway E.  
Suite 29  
Houston, TX 77060

Congresswoman Sheila Jackson  
Lee  
18<sup>th</sup> Congressional District  
1919 Smith Street, Suite 1180  
Houston, TX 77002

Governor Rick Perry  
The State of Texas  
State Capitol, P. O. Box 1206  
Austin, TX 78711-2068

Lt. Governor David Dewhurst  
The State of Texas  
State Capitol, P. O. Box 1206  
Austin, TX 78711-2068

Commissioner Jerry Patterson  
General Land Officer  
The State of Texas  
P. O. Box 12873  
Austin, TX 78711-2873

Sen. Tommy Williams SD 4  
P. O. Box 8069  
The Woodlands, TX 77387-8069

Sen. Mario Gallegos SD 6  
P. O. Box 41  
2205 Clinton Drive  
Galena Parks, TX 77547

Sen. Jon Lindsay SD 7  
15531 Kuykendahl  
Houston, TX 77090

Sen. Mike Jackson SD 11  
1109 Fairmont Parkway  
Pasadena, TX 77504

Sen. Rodney Ellis SD 13  
440 Louisiana, Suite 575  
Houston, TX 77002

Sen. John Whitmire SD 15  
803 Yale Street  
Houston, TX 77007

Sen. Kyle Janek SD 17  
7777 SW Freeway, Suite 102  
Houston, TX 77074

Rep. Rob Eissler HD 15  
P. O. Box 1008  
Katy, TX 77492

Rep. Reuben Hope HD 16  
2040 Loop 336 West, Suite 116  
Conroe, TX 77304

Rep. Larry Taylor HD 24  
174 Calder Road, Suite 116  
League City, TX 77573

Rep. Charlie Howard HD 26  
13401 Southwest Freeway  
Sugar Land, TX 77478

Rep. Dora Olivo HD 27  
P. O. Box 2130  
Missouri City, TX 77459

Rep. Glenn Hegar HD 28  
P. O. Box 1008  
Katy, TX 77492

Rep. Peggy Hamric HD 126  
7915 FM 1960 West #325  
Houston, TX 77070

Rep. Joe Crabb HD 127  
1110 Kingwood Drive #200  
Kingwood, TX 77339

Rep. John Davis HD 129  
1350 NASA Parkway #212  
Houston, TX 77058

Rep. Corbin Van Arsdale HD130  
12777 Jones Road Suite 175  
Houston, TX 77070

Rep. Ron Wilson HD131  
Westbury Square Professional  
Bldg.  
5322 W. Bellfort, Suite 104  
Houston, TX 77035

Rep. Bill Callegari HD130  
1550 Foxlake Drive, Suite 114  
Houston, TX 77084

Rep. Scott Hochberg HD137  
7011 Harwin, Suite 230  
Houston, TX 77036

Rep. Joe Nixon HD 133  
P. O. Box 2910  
Austin, TX 78768

Rep. Martha Wong HD134  
3015 Richmond Ave., Suite 190  
Houston, TX 77098

Rep. Gary Elkins HD135  
9601 Jones Road  
Houston, TX 77065

Rep. Beverly Wooley HD136  
2200 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 625  
Houston, TX 77056

Rep. Dwayne Bohac HD138  
2600 Gessner Road, Suite 212  
Houston, TX 77080

Rep. Sylvester Turner HD 139  
6915 Antoine Street, Suite E  
Houston, TX 77091

Rep. Kevin Bailey HD140  
507 Sam Houston Parkway #310  
Houston, TX 77060

Rep. Senfronia Thompson HD141  
10527 Homestead Road  
Houston, TX 77016

Rep. Harold Dutton HD142  
8799 N. Loop East, Suite 305  
Houston, TX 77029

Rep. Hoe Moreno HD 143  
1026 Mercury Drive  
Jacinto City, TX 77029

Rep. Robert Talton HD144  
3622 Fairmont Parkway, Suite B  
Pasadena, TX 77504

Rep. Rick Noriega HD145  
2900 Woodridge, Suite 305  
Houston, TX 77087

Rep. Al Edwards HD146  
4913 1/2 Griggs Road  
Houston, TX 77021

Rep. Garnet Coleman HD147  
5445 Almeda, Suite 403  
Houston, TX 77004

Rep. Jessica Farrar HD148  
P. O. Box 30099  
Houston, TX 77249

Rep. Talmadge Heflin HD149  
7474 South Kirkwood, Suite 205  
Houston, TX 77072

Rep. Debbie Riddle HD150  
3648 FM 1960 West, Suite 106  
Houston, TX 77068

The Honorable Robert A. Eckels  
Harris County Judge  
1001 Preston, Suite 911  
Houston, TX 77002

The Honorable El Franco Lee  
Harris Co. Commissioner, Pct. 1  
1001 Preston, Suite 950  
Houston, TX 77002

The Honorable Sylvia Garcia  
Harris Co. Commissioner, Pct. 2  
1001 Preston, Suite 950  
Houston, TX 77002

The Honorable Steve Radack  
Harris Co. Commissioner, Pct. 3  
1001 Preston, 9<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Houston, TX 77002

The Honorable Jerry Eversole  
Harris Co. Commissioner, Pct. 4  
1001 Preston, Suite 924  
Houston, TX 77002

The Honorable Jim D. Yarbrough  
Galveston Co. Judge  
722 Moody, Suite 200  
Galveston, TX 77550

The Honorable Eddie Barr  
Galveston Co. Commissioner, P-1  
601 Tremont, Suite 101  
Galveston, TX 77550-1986

The Honorable Eddie Janek  
Galveston Co. Commissioner, P-2  
P. O. Drawer B  
Santa Fe, TX 77510

The Honorable Stephen D. Holmes  
Galveston Co. Commissioner, P-3  
2516 Texas Avenue, Room 121  
Texas City, TX 77590

The Honorable Ken Clark  
Galveston Co. Commissioner, P-4  
174 Calder Road  
League City, TX 77573

# TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CAPITOL OFFICE: ROOM E2.610  
P.O. BOX 2910  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78768-2910  
(512) 463-0734  
(512) 479-6955 FAX



DISTRICT OFFICE  
1350 NASA RD. 1, SUITE 212  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77058  
(281) 333-1350  
FAX: (281) 335-9101

**JOHN E. DAVIS**

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

DISTRICT 129

March 29, 2004

**Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership**  
**Ellington Field Task Force**  
Attn: John Martinec  
2525 Bay Area Boulevard, Suite 640  
Houston, Texas 77058

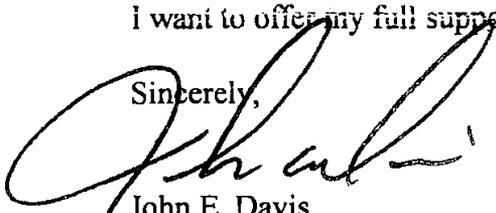
Dear Mr. Martinec:

I want to commend you on the excellent job you have done in organizing local elected officials along with various organizations to join in support of keeping Ellington Field open. I know the task force mission is to "retain and grow military assets at Ellington Field" with reference to the Base Realignment and Closure Process of 2005, and I support that fully. The various task force members have continually been supported in sharing their concerns and suggestions along with a wealth of data provided from various reputable sources.

With Houston's ever growing petrochemical industry along with the added threats of homeland security, I find it prudent for Ellington to remain open and also to grow its military assets. Ellington supports the entire Gulf Coast region and its location allows for quick access to many large coast cities, many of which are home to Ports. This quick response was noticed when the airforce out of Ellington secured Airforce One with President George W. Bush on board on 9/11.

I want to offer my full support to your continued efforts to keep Ellington open and growing.

Sincerely,

  
John E. Davis  
State Representative  
District 129



COMMITTEES: APPROPRIATIONS · STATE AFFAIRS; CHAIRMAN, BUDGET & OVERSIGHT

EMAIL: JOHN.DAVIS@HOUSE.STATE.TX.US

HTTP://WWW.HOUSE.STATE.TX.US

# Robert E. Talton

CAPITOL OFFICE:  
P.O. Box 2910  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78768-2910  
(512) 463-0460



DISTRICT OFFICE:  
P.O. Box 5661  
PASADENA, TEXAS 77508  
(281) 487-8818

District 144  
House of Representatives

March 25, 2004

Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership  
Ellington Field Task Force  
Attn: John Martinec  
2525 Bay Area Boulevard, Suite 640  
Houston, Texas 77058

Dear Mr. Martinec:

By this letter, I strongly support the Ellington Task Force effort to retain and grow military assets at Ellington Field in my legislative district.

The metropolitan area surrounding Ellington Field includes almost 5 million residents of our great state. In addition, the area encompasses a large industrial complex on the Houston Ship Channel which accounts for nearly half of the nation's base petrochemical production capacity. These human and commercial assets must be aggressively protected.

Thank you very much for your lead in helping to assure that our community retains the Ellington Field resource so necessary for the protection, security and growth of the southern Gulf Coast region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert E. Talton".

Robert E. Talton  
State Representative



# TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Capitol, Extension E1.204  
P.O. Box 2910  
Austin, Texas 78768-2910  
TEL: 800.345.2630  
FAX: 512-469-0149  
RepEiland@aol.com  
www.craigeiland.com



Galveston Office:  
2423 Market Street, Suite 1  
Galveston, Texas 77550  
Texas City Office:  
8419 E.F. Lowry Expressway  
Texas City, Texas 77591  
Tel: 409.763.3260  
Fax: 409.763.8154

## CRAIG EILAND

March 25, 2004

Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership  
Eillington Field Task Force  
Attn: John Martinec  
2525 Bay Area Boulevard, Ste. 640  
Houston, Texas 77058

Dear Mr. Martinec,

I would like to extend this letter of my support for the retention of military presence at Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base in Houston, Texas. With the increased security concerns since the attacks on our nation in 2001 I believe we have an obligation to continue the support and protection Ellington Field provides to the Port of Houston and Greater Houston Area.

Eillington Field Reserve Base and the 147th Fighter Wing are a key presence in our region's national security efforts and provide the protection for various facilities designated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation as areas of critical infrastructure. Specifically, the Port of Houston, petrochemical and oil refinery industries, Texas medical Center, South Texas Nuclear Power Plant, UTMB bio-containment Laboratory and various major sports venues all benefit from the services Eillington Field and the 147th Fighter Wing provide.

I ask that you consider the security of the citizens, infrastructure, and industry that Ellington Joint Reserve Base and the 147th protect and serve before any actions are made to remove or relocate this base and its employees and soldiers. If you have any questions regarding this recommendation please do not hesitate to contact me at any time.

Thank you,

  
State Representative Craig Eiland



Galveston, Anahuac, Baytown, Cove, Jamaica Beach,  
Mont Belvieu, Beach City, Bolivar Peninsula, Winnie, Stowell  
Texas City, San Leon, Bacliff  
District 23  
COMMITTEES: Insurance (Chair of Budget Oversight), Appropriations



TEXAS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
BEVERLY WOOLLEY  
COMMITTEE ON CALENDARS - CHAIRMAN  
CIVIL PRACTICES AND WAYS & MEANS

March 24, 2004

Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership  
Ellington Field Task Force  
Attention: John Martinec  
2525 Bay Area Boulevard, Suite 640  
Houston, Texas 77058

It is with pleasure that I lend my support for the retention and growth of military assets at Ellington Field in reference to the Base Realignment and Closure Process for 2005.

While Ellington Field is not in my legislative district, as a houstonian and former Nassau Bay City Council Member, I certainly understand the economic and community benefits Ellington Field provides to the greater Houston area. Ellington Field serves as a home for the 147th Fighter Wing of the Texas National Guard as well as a Texas Army National Guard unit and a Coast Guard unit. It is an asset in providing homeland security to the Port of Houston, Johnson Space Center, petrochemical industry, and to the citizens of Texas and the Houston area. Closing the base would have adverse effects in terms of regional security, strategic planning and industrial security.

I urge the Base Realignment and Closure Commission to keep Ellington Field operational. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Beverly Woolley".

Beverly Woolley  
State Representative, District 136

CAPITOL OFFICE:  
P.O. BOX 12068  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711  
(512) 463-0117  
(800) 445-2635  
FAX: (512) 463-0639  
kyle.janek@senate.state.tx.us

The Senate of  
the State of Texas



Kyle Janek

DISTRICT OFFICES:  
7777 SOUTHWEST FRWY, STE. 102  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77074  
(713) 272-8929  
FAX: (713) 272-8956  
  
P.O. BOX 888  
LAKE JACKSON, TEXAS 77566  
(979) 297-5261  
FAX: (979) 297-7996

March 25, 2004

Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership  
ELLINGTON FIELD TASK FORCE  
Attn: John Martinec  
2525 Bay Area Boulevard, Suite 640  
Houston, Texas 77058

Dear Mr. Martinec:

It is my understanding that the Texas Air National Guard 147th Fighter Wing may be a target of the Base Realignment and Closure Process for 2005. I am writing this letter in support of the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership Ellington Field Task Force's mission "to retain and grow military assets at Ellington Field."

Ellington Field and the 147th are essential to the security of an area that is home to such entities as the Johnson Space Center, the petrochemical industry, and various ports along the Gulf Coast, including the Port of Houston. These entities are driving economic forces in the region, and have been identified as potential targets of terrorism.

Having a strong homeland security presence at Ellington Field lessens the vulnerability of the millions of people who live in the area. I urge the Base Realignment and Closure Commission to retain the 147th at Ellington Field, not just for the economic viability of the region, but for the sake of the regions' families.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kyle Janek".

Kyle Janek

KJ:ss



The Senate of  
The State of Texas

JON LINDSAY

District 7

Committees

Nominations, *Chair*  
Health and Human Services  
Infrastructure Development  
and Security  
Natural Resources

May 6, 2004

Major General Wayne D. Marty  
Adjutant General  
ATTN: AGTX/A  
P.O. Box 5218  
Austin, Texas 78763-5218

**COPY**

Dear Major General Marty:

It is my understanding that the U.S. Department of Defense (DoD) is in the midst of another round of Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) to be completed in 2005. During this round of BRAC, one of the factors that will be considered is a base's ability to host multiple missions and different military units.

Currently, Ellington Field is the host to the Texas Air National Guard's 147th Fighter Wing, the Army National Guard's 149th Aviation Battalion and the United States Coast Guard Air Station Houston. However, it is not designated as a joint reserve base and I feel that such a designation might be looked upon favorably by the BRAC Commission, increasing Ellington's ability to survive BRAC 2005.

Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to encourage you to officially designate Ellington Field as a joint reserve base. Maintaining this base is critical to the Houston area and its ability to protect the Port of Houston, the Johnson Space Center and the multiple petrochemical plants in the area.

I thank you for your time and again, I encourage you to designate Ellington Field as "Ellington Field Joint Reserve Base." Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact my office at 512/463-0107.

Sincerely,

JON LINDSAY  
State Senator

JSL/km

cc: The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison  
The Honorable John Cornyn  
Greater Houston Partnership  
Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership

**Continental  
Airlines**

Nene Foxhall  
Vice President  
State and Civic Affairs

3/03  
MOM  
FL  
AL  
MM

Continental Airlines, Inc.  
1500 Smith Street, HOSECO  
Houston, TX 77002

Tel 713 324 5140  
Fax 713 324 6529



February 19, 2004

The Honorable Sylvia Garcia  
Harris County Commissioner  
1001 Preston  
Houston, TX 77002

Dear Commissioner Garcia:

Thank you again for taking time to talk with me earlier this week about Continental's decision to stop regularly scheduled passenger service between Ellington Field and Bush Intercontinental Airport. As we discussed, this decision was based primarily on cost considerations prompted by the growing need to invest a significant amount of money in facilities at Ellington Field.

Please be assured that Ellington Field will continue to be important as a diversion airport for Continental's operations in the Houston area. The runway length allows for any aircraft in Continental's fleet to land and takeoff at Ellington safely when weather or other circumstances force a diversion airport to be used.

Continental Airlines supports the continued presence of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing of the Air National Guard at Ellington Field and the continued operation of Ellington Field as the third airport within the Houston Airport System. Please let me know if I can provide further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Nene Foxhall".

Nene Foxhall  
Vice President  
State & Civic Affairs

cc: Houston City Council Member Wiseman  
Houston City Council Member Sekula-Gibbs  
Jim Reinhartsen, Bay Area Houston ✓



STATE OF TEXAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
TEXAS MILITARY PREPAREDNESS COMMISSION

RICK PERRY  
GOVERNOR

March 24, 2004

The Honorable Bill White  
City of Houston  
P.O. Box 1562  
Houston, Texas 77251

Dear Mayor White:

As indicated previously by Governor Rick Perry, members of his staff and the Texas Military Preparedness Commission (TMPC) will be visiting each of Texas' 18 major military installations and their defense communities during February and March 2004. A visit to Ellington Field has been scheduled for March 30<sup>th</sup>. The enclosed itinerary reflects specific details of the trip that have been coordinated with installation and local community planners.

You are invited to participate in any or all events reflected on the schedule of events. We particularly hope that you will join us at a local community leaders meeting for an informal discussion of substantive ways the state and community can partner to help Ellington Field reduce operating costs and to improve the quality of life for its military members and their families.

Mr. John Martinec, of the Ellington Field Task Force, is instrumental in keeping the TMPC advised of the latest developments at Ellington Field and its partnership with the City of Houston. The Task Force works diligently to foster its partnership with the City and State, providing an in depth view into the challenges and issues that the military faces today in its role of national defense.

Representatives from the TMPC will include Vice Chairman Ralph Gauer, Executive Director Mike Smith and Mr. Logan Spence, Policy Director, Agriculture and General Government, Office of the Governor.

Thank you for your personal contributions in helping Ellington Field be the best it can be as we continue through the ongoing Base Realignment and Review (BRAC) '05 review process.

Sincerely,

Michael B. Smith, Brig. Gen. (ret.) USAF  
Executive Director

Post-It <sup>®</sup> Fax Note	7871	Date	3/24/04	# of pages	4
To	John Martinec	From	M Smith		
Co./Dept.		Co.	TMPC		
Phone #		Phone #			
Fax #	281 480 0604	Fax #			

**GENE GREEN**

28TH DISTRICT, TEXAS

- 2335 HAYBURN  
WASHINGTON, DC 20516  
(202) 225-1888
  - 266 N. SAM HOUSTON PKWY EAST  
SUITE 29  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77060  
(281) 999-5879
  - 11811 I 10 EAST  
SUITE 430  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77029  
(713) 330-0761
- WWW.HOUSE.GOV/GREEN

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
 Washington, DC 20515-4329

**COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE**

- SUBCOMMITTEE ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND THE INTERNET
- SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH
- SUBCOMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
- SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, TRADE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

**COMMITTEE ON STANDARDS OF OFFICIAL CONDUCT**

**DEMOCRATIC SENIOR WHIP**

February 4, 2004

**FEB 11 2004**

Ms. Addie Wiseman  
 City Council Member District E  
 City of Houston  
 900 Bagby Street  
 Houston, Texas 77002-2527

Dear Ms. Wiseman: *Addie*

Thank you for contacting our office to express your concerns regarding fighter jets being moved away from Ellington Field. I appreciate your taking the time to share your views on this important issue.

The 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing of the Texas Air National Guard and several other smaller units of the Texas Army National Guard at Ellington Field are coming under scrutiny, and may be forced to relocate as part of the Base Realignment and Closure plan, which the Department of Defense plans to complete by 2005. During four previous base realignments in the past 15 years, Texas has lost 10 major military installations.

Keeping the remaining units at Ellington Field and keeping them at their current level of readiness is extremely important. Aside from providing the Houston area with air defense, these units infuse at least \$50 million into our economy. This is a major source of income to the area that will be lost if these units are forced to relocate. Let me assure you that I am as concerned as you are about this issue and I will fight to see that these Texas National Guard units remain at Ellington Field.

Earlier this year I visited Ellington Field and met with several of the officers stationed there. We discussed the importance of keeping the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Ellington in order to protect the many local and national assets in the Houston area. To help ensure that Ellington remains open, I recently authored a letter to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, which was signed by 15 members of the Texas delegation. The letter addressed concerns about the current BRAC criteria and the vulnerabilities that would be created by closing Ellington Field. Enclosed is a copy of the letter. Let me assure you I will continue to work closely with the individuals at Ellington and the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing over the next year to see that they are not affected by the 2005 round of BRAC.



Page 2  
February 4, 2004

Thank you again for taking the time to share your thoughts with me. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance.

*God to  
them from  
you!*

GG:vj

Sincerely,

  
Gene Green  
Member of Congress

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

January 28, 2004

The Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld  
Secretary of Defense  
U.S. Department of Defense  
1000 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Rumsfeld:

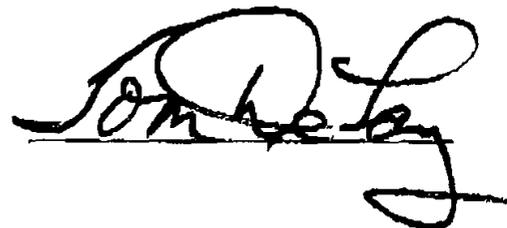
We are writing to express our concerns regarding the draft criteria for the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) round. Before the final criteria for BRAC are released next month, we ask that you consider making several changes to better reflect the role the military plays in homeland defense.

First, we ask that domestic bases be given priority over foreign bases in this round of BRAC. As you know, the protection of the citizens in this country and our interests here at home is paramount. To ensure this, we must look at the role each military installation plays in doing this, whether it is on U.S. soil or not.

Additionally, we believe the criteria must better reflect the role the military has been forced to take in protecting our homeland since the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. For example, Ellington Field in Houston, Texas, which could close under the current criteria, would move the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing of the Air National Guard to either San Antonio or Corpus Christi. In doing so, the response time to respond to an attack at the Port of Houston, the largest port in the U.S. for foreign tonnage, or the Houston petrochemical complex, which accounts for nearly half of the nation's base petrochemical production capacity, would increase from seven minutes to thirty minutes. Closing this base would certainly jeopardize security for NASA's Johnson Space Center, a vital national interest which uses runways at Ellington Field, and nearly five million people who reside in the nation's fourth largest city. This is just one example of a vulnerability the current BRAC criteria could create.

We appreciate your consideration in this matter. If we can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact our offices.

Sincerely,



Page 2  
January 28, 2004

Rubin Hinojosa

Mark Lampton

Matt Furr

Clay Edwards

Bob Bentes

Max Folin

Chris Bell

John Boyer

Ron Paul

Frank Brady

John Callahan

Joe Barton

Thick Johnson

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

*Please Pass to Marie McDemott*

The State of Texas  
House of Representatives



P.O. Box 2910  
Austin, Texas 78768-2910  
(512) 463-0732  
(512) 463-5896 Fax  
E-mail: rick.noriega.house@state.tx.us

RICK NORIEGA  
DISTRICT 145  
January 9, 2004

District:  
2900 Woodridge, Suite 505  
Houston, Texas 77057  
(713) 649-6503  
(713) 649-6454 Fax

The Honorable Frank Corte, Jr.  
Texas House of Representatives  
Chair, Defense Affairs and State & Federal Relations  
P.O. Box 2910  
Austin, Texas 78768

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The information recently provided to committee members regarding interim charges is most welcome. Of particular interest to me are the Base Realignment and Closure Commission charges.

One of the facilities that the BRAC will be evaluating is the 147th Fighter Wing of the Texas Air National Guard, which calls Ellington Field, a major military and aviation facility in Houston, its home. The entire Houston metroplex region has a vested interest in the continuation of this historic unit at Ellington Field. To that end, the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership has structured a very aggressive plan to preserve it.

I respectfully request, therefore, that the City of Houston be included as a site for the Committee's public hearings on BRAC issues. The Ellington Field military assets currently provide an economic impact to our community in excess of \$400 million dollars, and we cannot afford to lose them. In addition, Ellington Field's military commands are a critical and essential component of the homeland security for the Port of Houston, NASA, and the Houston Medical Center.

Your phone call to discuss the issue further would be welcome, or the committee staff may contact Linda Christofilis in my capitol office. I look forward to working with you and my colleagues during the interim.

For Texas,

  
Rick Noriega





**COMMITTEE ON DEFENSE AFFAIRS AND STATE-FEDERAL RELATIONS**

MEMBERS  
 Leo Berman - CBO  
 Dianne White Delisi  
 John Mabry Jr.  
 Tommy Merritt  
 Paul Moreno  
 Rick Noriega  
 Gene Scannari

**FRANK J. CORTE JR.**  
 CHAIRMAN

SCOTT CAMPBELL  
 Vice-Chairman  
 DONOVAN BURTON  
 Chief Committee Clerk

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Representative Rick Noriega  
**FROM:** Chairman Frank J. Corte Jr.  
**SUBJECT:** Interim Subcommittees  
**DATE:** January 5, 2004

As you know, the Defense Affairs and State-Federal Relations Committee received our Interim Charges from the Speakers office recently. I have been considering how our Committee can best study these four important issues over the last couple of weeks and have decided to appoint the following subcommittees for the charges:

1. Examine ways that Texas and other states assist local communities that are affected by military base closures. Include opportunities for Texas to benefit from Base Realignment and Closure Commission.
2. Monitor the agencies and programs under the committee's jurisdiction, including the implementation of the Texas Military Preparedness Commission and other legislation by the 78<sup>th</sup> Legislature.

These two charges cover pre-BRAC and post-BRAC issues. Since BRAC 2005 is such an important issue to all members on the Defense Affairs Committee, I have decided to appoint a Subcommittee of the whole committee combining both BRAC charges. Due to the uniqueness of each community and the effect that a base closure could have on a particular community, I would also like to hold Committee hearings across the State in defense communities.

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2910 • Austin, Texas 78768-2910  
 Office Location: E2.16C • (512) 463-1393 • FAX (512) 463-5896

I propose the following subcommittee hearing sites and site chairman:

<u>Hearing Site</u>	<u>Chairman</u>
San Angelo	Scott Campbell
Kileen	Dianne Delisi
Corpus Christi	Gene Seaman
El Paso	Paul Moreno
San Antonio	Frank Corte

3. Evaluate the uses and security of the ports in the state, including optimizing their role in the deployment of military troops and what measures the state can take to minimize security risks from potential terrorist attack.

**Gene Seaman - Chair, Dianne White Delisi, Rick Noriega**

4. Monitor the development of a Homeland Security Strategy as set forth in HB 9, 78<sup>th</sup> Legislature, under the Office of the Governor and identify ways to bring homeland security missions to Texas.

**Leo Berman - Chair, Scott Campbell, Paul Moreno**

The Chairman of each particular subcommittee will decide when and where to have meetings for their subcommittee. Donovan Burton in the Committee will help you in any regard. He will travel to all meetings to help with the procedural issues and will also help research the issues and prepare testimony for the hearings. He will be your extended staff member in regards to any hearings that you would like to hold. Donovan will also be responsible for helping each Subcommittee prepare a final report at the end, which will make up the full committee report to the 79<sup>th</sup> Legislature.

As for the Subcommittee of the whole, please begin thinking about, and planning for a hearing in your area. I will be communicating with each of you and will determine the dates of particular hearings as the ideas become finalized. I will make sure that each office has plenty of notice to attend the hearings.

Thank you for your continued hard work and friendship on the Committee. I look forward to a productive Interim. Please let me know if I can be of any assistance to you in this, or any other matter in the future.

## **Rep. Noriega Appointed to BRAC Subcommittee**

**State Representative Rick Noriega D-Houston** today was appointed to a Texas House Subcommittee set to study ways of addressing issues relating to BRAC 2005 during the interim. The Chairman of the Defense Affairs and State-Federal Relations Committee, **Rep. Frank J. Corte Jr. R-San Antonio**, announced the appointment of the Subcommittee today. The 2005 round of Base Realignment and Closure will have an enormous effect on Texas, which could include closures of certain bases across the State and also could serve to gain new military missions in Texas. "INSERT MEMBER QUOTE HERE"

The Subcommittee will have three major areas of focus 1) To make sure that the State and local governments are doing all they can to ensure that our current bases have all they need to function effectively to try to avoid closure 2) To identify ways that we can attract new military missions into Texas, both before BRAC 2005 and after and 3) To examine ways to assist local communities to redevelop any bases that are closed in the 2005 BRAC round. The Subcommittee will travel to several military communities across the State to hear from members of that particular community, including El Paso, Corpus Christi, Killeen, San Antonio and San Angelo.

The Defense Affairs Committee has worked tirelessly since its inception in early 2003 to transform its relationship with military bases across the State in an effort to address issues such as base infrastructure improvements, educational needs for military dependants, encroachment of developments near bases, and rising costs. "With vast expanses of land and air space and the unique terrain of the Gulf region, Texas is perfectly suited to play a major role in the transformation of the U.S. military that is envisioned by Secretary Rumsfeld and I see this round of BRAC as a huge opportunity for the State," remarked Chairman Corte of the BRAC round.

As many as 25% of military bases nationwide could be closed through this BRAC round, including several bases in Texas. While the Federal Government does provide some financial help redeveloping closed bases, much of the redevelopment burden falls on local and State governments. "Because of the effect these bases have on their communities, if the Legislature fails to plan for base closure, it plans to fail the citizens of the affected communities. We will work to find creative ways to address base closure in Texas," continued Chairman Corte about base closures.

Information about the Committee, including its membership and jurisdiction can be seen on the Committee's Website at [www.house.state.tx.us/committees/305.htm](http://www.house.state.tx.us/committees/305.htm). Further details about the BRAC process can be found at [www.defenselink.mil/brac/](http://www.defenselink.mil/brac/). The Subcommittee will meet over the next several months and will provide input to the full Committee later in the summer. The full Committee will then issue a report addressed to the entire 79<sup>th</sup> Legislature that will spell out any changes that they have identified for the State to address.



DEC 29 RECO

ROBERT ECKELS  
COUNTY JUDGE

December 22, 2003

Addie Wiseman  
P.O. Box 1562  
Houston, Texas 77251-1562

Dear Council Member Wiseman:

Thank you for your work on the Ellington Field Task Force and for all that you are doing in support of Ellington Field and the Air National Guard (ANG) 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing. I am also a supporter.

Ellington Field provides a great benefit to our region in the way of economic development, cargo transports and much more. The ANG 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing is a vital asset to our Homeland Security efforts for the gulf coast region, and I believe it is paramount that it remains here.

I also agree that we need to join our efforts to protect our assets in this region. From my office, Mike Rozell and Doug Adkinson are working together with the Task Force and giving them my full support.

Addie, you are doing a great job for the constituents in District E, and I look forward to meeting with you to further discuss this matter at your earliest convenience. Please call my office at 713-755-4000 and coordinate through Mike or Doug.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Robert Eckels", written over a large, loopy oval scribble.

Robert Eckels  
County Judge

RAE/mr



DEC 29 RECD

6915 ANTOINE, SUITE E  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77091  
713-663-6363

State of Texas  
House of Representatives

SYLVESTER TURNER  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE

P.O. BOX 2910  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78768-2910  
512-463-0554

December 23, 2003

The Honorable Addie Wiseman  
Council Member  
P.O. Box 1562  
Houston, Texas 77251

Dear Council Member Wiseman,

Thank you for your letter regarding the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission's coming evaluation of the Texas Air National Guard's 147th Fighter Wing at Ellington Field.

With heightened security concerns, the need for this region to have defensive assets, such as the 147th is greater than ever. The need to protect people of Houston, The Johnson Space Center, the Port of Houston and the countless industries in this region would make the relocation of the 147th Fighter Wing devastating.

I believe that your efforts, and those of the Ellington Field Task Force are absolutely critical to ensure the security of our region. I am proud to support the ANG 147th Fighter Wing, and Ellington Field. Please let me know how I can help.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sylvester Turner".

Sylvester Turner



P.O. BOX 2910  
AUSTIN, TX 78768-2910

CAPITOL GROUND GN.10  
(512) 463-0620  
FAX (512) 322-0641

**JESSICA FARRAR**  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
DISTRICT 148

P.O. BOX 30099  
HOUSTON, TX 77249-0099

6515 IRVINGTON BLVD.  
HOUSTON, TX 77022  
(713) 691-6912  
FAX (713) 691-3363

**Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership  
Ellington Field Task Force  
Attn: John Martinec  
2525 Bay Area Boulevard, Suite 640  
Houston, TX 77058**

Dear Mr. Martinec,

I am writing in support of the Ellington Field Task Force and to express my concern regarding the draft criteria for the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure round (BRAC). Before the final criteria for BRAC are released next month, I ask that you consider making several changes to better reflect the role of the military in homeland defense.

First, I ask that domestic bases be given priority over foreign bases in this round of BRAC. The protection of the citizens in this country and our interests here at home is paramount. To ensure this, we must look at the role each military installation plays in doing this, whether it is on U.S. soil or not.

Also, I believe that the criteria must better reflect the role the military has been forced to take in protecting our homeland since the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. For example, Ellington Field in Houston, Texas, which could close under the current criteria, would move the 147th Fighter Wing of the Air National Guard to either San Antonio or Corpus Christi. In doing so, the response time to respond to an attack at the Port of Houston, the largest port in the U.S. for foreign tonnage, or the Houston petrochemical complex, which accounts for nearly half of the nation's base petrochemical production capacity, would increase from seven minutes to thirty minutes. Closing this base would certainly jeopardize security for NASA's Johnson Space Center, a vital national interest which uses Ellington Field runways, and nearly five million people who reside in the nation's fourth largest city. This is just one example of a vulnerability the current BRAC criteria could create.

I appreciate your consideration in this matter. If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jessica Farrar".

State Representative Jessica Farrar

Jessica.Farrar@house.state.tx.us





Education  
Training  
Technical Services

**To:** Congressman Tom Delay  
House of Representatives  
242 Cannon HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

**Date:** November 19, 2003

**Subj:** 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing & Ellington Field

Dear Congressman Delay,

As your constituent, and a strong supporter of your candidacy over the years, I am now writing to request your support to save the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing of the Texas Air National Guard from removal or downgrading by the upcoming Base Realignment And Closure Commission (BRAC).

The importance of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing to Houston, the 4<sup>th</sup> largest city in the nation can't be overstated. First and foremost it provides the only sustained quick response protection for the Port of Houston, and the gulf coast petroleum and petrochemical facilities. It also protects the nation's investment in space flight at NASA's Johnson Space Center.

Tragically, the alert aircraft in the New York City area arrived too late to save the Twin Towers, and almost 3,000 people lost their lives. The same is true for the Pentagon, despite its close proximity to Andrews and Langley Air Force Bases. We cannot let this happen here. To defend the gulf coast we need the full complement of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing's F-16 aircraft.

Approximately 1,075 people - 400 full-time men and women from this area staff the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, but given federal commitments, another 700 are present at Ellington on a semi regular Basis. According to reliable financial estimates, the unit's overall input to the local economy is more than \$300 million. The removal of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing or a reduction in it's complement of aircraft at Ellington Field would represent a significant economic loss to an area already hard hit by lost petroleum industry jobs and NASA budget cuts.

Your visible public and private support of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing is of major importance to the welfare of the more than 650,000 people of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District of Texas. As your constituent and strong supporter, I am asking for that support. If I can be of any assistance concerning this issue please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Michael I. Hirsch, Ph.D.  
President-Director  
[www.systraninc.com](http://www.systraninc.com)

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

November 20, 2003

The Honorable Rick Perry  
Governor of Texas  
Texas State Capitol  
P.O. Box 12428  
Austin, TX 78711

Dear Governor Perry:

We are writing to urge your strong support in ensuring that the Air National Guard 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing and other key military assets remain at Ellington Field.

As you know, Ellington Field has a long and proud history in Texas. For decades, the facility has hosted important military functions and assets that have proven critical to our nation's security. Economic benefits have also been substantial to the region and state, providing hundreds of millions of dollars in jobs and local business. Further, the threat of terrorism and America's new focus on homeland security underscores the importance of Ellington Field in providing protection to the entire southeast Texas area.

Unfortunately, Ellington Field could become eligible for closure as early as next year. The Department of Defense may announce the President's Base Realignment and Closure list as early as next year. It is imperative that Texas become united in its efforts to educate the public and decision makers about the importance of Ellington Field. Your support and leadership in this effort is critical.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue. We look forward to discussing how we can work together during the months ahead.

Sincerely,



Nick Lampson  
Member of Congress



Chris Bell  
Member of Congress

# Resolutions

# RESOLUTION

*of*

PORT OF HOUSTON AUTHORITY COMMISSION

*in support of*

## **Texas Air National Guard 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing Ellington Field**

### **KEEPING THE 147<sup>TH</sup> FIGHTER WING OF THE TEXAS AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASED AT ELLINGTON FIELD**

WHEREAS, the federal government is considering the addition of military units to a new round of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) list; and

WHEREAS, the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing of the Texas Air National Guard based at Ellington Field is being considered for inclusion on the list; and

WHEREAS, the retention of all military units at Ellington Field, including, but not limited to, the Texas Air National Guard's 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, the U.S. Army National Guard's 149<sup>th</sup> Aviation Battalion, and the United States Coast Guard Air Station Houston are crucial to this necessary protection; and

WHEREAS, current response time to clear the skies over the Harris County area is seven minutes, loss of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing would result in an increase to thirty minutes to clear area skies; and

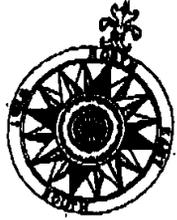
WHEREAS, the loss of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, Army National Guard Aviation Battalion and Coast Guard Air Station is estimated at \$130 million; and

WHEREAS, security is one of the top priorities of the Port of Houston Authority; and

WHEREAS, Houston is home to the largest petrochemical complex in the United States, the NASA Johnson Space Center, several airports, the sixth largest port in the world, the world's largest medical center, and other vital infrastructure and facilities; and

WHEREAS, in the late 1960s and early 1970s, the future president George W. Bush served as a reservist assigned to the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing; and

WHEREAS, 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing escorted Air Force One as it transported President George W. Bush across the country on September 11, 2001; and



# City of Nassau Bay

Phone: 281.333.4211 • Fax: 281.333.2301  
1800 NASA Parkway • Nassau Bay • Texas 77068-3502

[www.nassaubay.com](http://www.nassaubay.com)

Donald C. Matter  
Mayor

John D. Kennedy  
City Manager

July 6, 2005

BRAC Commission  
San Antonio, Texas

Gentlemen:

In January 2004, the City Council of Nassau Bay unanimously passed Resolution No. R2004-1637 (copy attached) in support of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing remaining at Ellington Field.

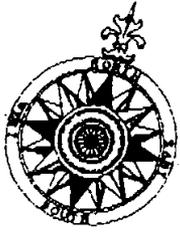
Our City's support of the retention and expansion of military units at Ellington remains strong. Homeland defense issues, as well as the economic impact our area would suffer should Ellington be moved, are of continued concern to the City Council as we look to the overall welfare of our residents.

We ask your favorable support of this vital military base and thank you in advance for your consideration.

Kindest regards,

Donald C. Matter  
Mayor

Attachment



# City of Nassau Bay

Phone: 281.333.4211 • Fax: 281.333.2301  
1800 NASA Road One • Nassau Bay • Texas 77058-3502

[www.nassaubay.co](http://www.nassaubay.co)

Philip A. Johnson  
Mayor

John D. Kennedy  
City Manager

January 27, 2004

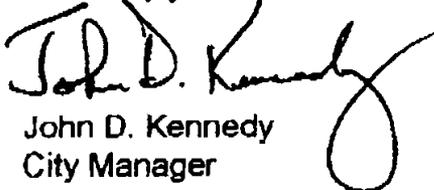
Dear Community Leader:

The Nassau Bay City Council recently passed the attached resolution in support of the retention and expansion of military units at Ellington Field. Our City's leadership is very concerned about homeland defense issues as well as local economic degradation should the military units at Ellington be moved.

We hope you will join us in similar endeavors of support for the continued use and expansion of Ellington Field.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation in support of this military base which is so vital to our area.

Sincerely yours,

  
John D. Kennedy  
City Manager

Attachment

**RESOLUTION NO. R2004-1637**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NASSAU BAY, TEXAS, IN SUPPORT OF THE RETENTION AND EXPANSION OF MILITARY UNITS AT ELLINGTON FIELD.**

WHEREAS, Congress has mandated that the U. S. Department of Defense conduct the Base Realignment Closure Act mandates (BRAC) in 2005 to realize significant savings by eliminating excess infrastructure and reshaping the military, which places retention of the military units at Ellington Field at risk; and

WHEREAS, Houston is the fourth largest city in the U.S. and the Houston area is home to the Port of Houston, NASA Johnson Space Center, hundreds of oil refineries and chemical plants, the Texas Medical Center, and the UTMB Biodefense Laboratory in Galveston, all of which are potential targets of terrorism and need protection; and

WHEREAS, the retention of all military units at Ellington Field, including, but not limited to, the Texas Air National Guard's 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, the U.S. Army National Guard's 149<sup>th</sup> Aviation Battallion, and the United States Coast Guard Air Station Houston are crucial to the protection of the above named assets; and

WHEREAS, Ellington Field is currently underutilized and could be the home of many other small military organizations spread throughout the Houston area and could be consolidated into a Joint Reserve Base; and

WHEREAS, the combined annual expenditures of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, Army National Guard Aviation Battallion and Coast Guard Air Station are estimated at \$130 million, and using the United States General Accounting Office multiplier of 2.36 (the ratio of total to direct benefits), the overall economic impact would be approximately \$300 million.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NASSAU BAY, STATE OF TEXAS:

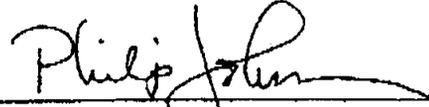
THAT, the City Council of the City of Nassau Bay hereby supports the retention of Ellington Field's existing military units at their current level of readiness, the identification and use of appropriate resources to facilitate the relocation of potential joint users, and further supports the vision and mission of Ellington Field.

AND IT IS SO ORDERED.

RESOLUTION NO. R2004-1637

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 12<sup>th</sup> day of January 2004.

CITY OF NASSAU BAY, TEXAS



Philip A. Johnsen  
Mayor



Pat Jones, TRMC  
City Secretary

**Letter to Community Leaders**  
**January 27, 2004**  
**Page #2**

**cc: Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership**  
**Association of Bayport Companies**  
**Congressman Nick Lampson**  
**Congressman Tom DeLay**  
**Mr. Ben Jones**  
**Mayor Bill White, City of Houston**  
**Mayor Donna Rogers, City of Webster**  
**Mayor Robin Riley, City of Seabrook**  
**Mayor Jeff Harrison, City of League City**  
**Mayor Natalie O'Neill, City of Taylor Lake Village**  
**Mayor Brad Emel, City of El Lago**  
**Mayor Kimball W. Brizendine, City of Friendswood**  
**Mayor Tom Reid, City of Pearland**  
**Mayor Robert Cheek, City of Santa Fe**  
**Mayor Veta Winick, City of Dickinson**  
**Mayor John Manlove, City of Pasadena**  
**Mayor Wayne Riddle, City of Deer Park**  
**Mayor Larry Crow, City of La Marque**  
**Mayor Carlos Garza, City of Texas City**  
**Mayor Pete C. Alfaro, City of Baytown**  
**General Jefferson Howell, NASA/JSC**



## Keep the Vision and Mission of Ellington Field Resolution

**WHEREAS**, Congress has mandated that the U.S. Department of Defense conduct the Base Realignment and Closure Act mandates (BRAC) in 2005, to realize significant savings by eliminating excess infrastructure and reshaping the military, which places retention of the military units at Ellington Field at risk; and

**WHEREAS**, Houston is the fourth largest city in the U.S. and the Houston area is home to the Port of Houston, NASA Johnson Space Center, hundreds of oil refineries and chemical plants, the Texas Medical Center and the UTMB Biodefense Laboratory in Galveston, all of which are potential targets of terrorism and need protection; and

**WHEREAS**, the retention of all military units at Ellington Field, including, but not limited to, the Texas Air National Guard's 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, the U.S. Army National Guard's 149<sup>th</sup> Aviation Battalion and the United States Coast Guard Air Station Houston, are crucial to the protection of the above named assets; and

**WHEREAS**, the combined annual expenditures of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, Army National Guard Aviation Battalion and Coast Guard Air Station is estimated at \$130 million, and using the United States General Accounting Office multiplier of 2.36 (the ratio of total to direct benefits), the overall economic impact would be approximately \$300 million; now, therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce hereby supports the retention of Ellington Field's existing military units at their current level of readiness, the identification and use of appropriate resources to facilitate the relocation of potential joint users, and further supports the vision and mission of Ellington Field.

It is hereby **ORDERED** that this Resolution be spread upon the minutes of the Commissioners Court this 16th day of December, 2003.

Cindy Kennedy  
Chairman of the Board  
Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce

Claudette Alderman  
President & CEO  
Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce



## Board of Directors Resolution in Support for the Ellington Field Task Force Mission

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**Resolution to the Board of Directors**

**December 15, 2003**

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### **Resolution in Support for the Ellington Field Task Force Mission to Retain and Grow military assets at Ellington Field, with reference to BRAC 2005**

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The Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership supports the efforts to retain the Texas Air National Guard's 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing for the protection of Bay Area Houston and the surrounding Greater Houston Area. The Partnership also supports the establishment of a Joint Reserve Base at Ellington Field to consolidate many of the active duty, reserve, National Guard and civil agency facilities at historic Ellington Field in keeping with the principles of the Department of Defense's Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process. The Partnership supports maximum use of the funds for military communities available through the approved Proposition 20. Specifically, the Partnership supports the following initiatives:

1. To form an Ellington Field Task Force to provide justification to the Department of Defense and others to preserve the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing and to realign the base as a Joint Reserve Base; and
2. To fully utilize funds available in the approved Texas Constitutional Amendment (Proposition 20) to enhance the base and relocation of units to Ellington, as well as bringing military, defense, homeland security and veteran related entities to the base, which will be complementary to overall nature of Ellington Joint Reserve Base; and
3. To liaise with the political entities at the federal, state and local levels, to obtain support for the Ellington Joint Reserve Base and the Ellington Field Task Force; and
4. To engage Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership membership and surrounding Greater Houston entities in an Ellington Field Task Force for the purpose of strategic protection of the area's economic stability, homeland security, and quality of life for Bay Area Houston.

We believe it is appropriate to fully utilize the business and political entities in Bay Area Houston and the surrounding Greater Houston Area to ensure that the Area and its nationally significant industries are protected from terrorist and other threats.

William A. Staples, Chairman

C. J. (Jim) Reinhardt, President

John L. Martinez, Chairman  
Ellington Field Task Force



# THE COUNTY OF GALVESTON

On this the 9<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2004, the **Commissioners' Court of Galveston County, Texas** convened in a regularly scheduled meeting with the following members thereof present:

**James D. Yarbrough, County Judge;**  
**Eddie Barr, Commissioner, Precinct No. 1;**  
**Eddie Janek, Commissioner, Precinct No. 2;**  
**Stephen D. Holmes, Commissioner, Precinct No. 3;**  
**Kenneth Clark, Commissioner, Precinct No. 4; and**  
**Mary Ann Daigle, County Clerk**

when the following proceedings, among others, were had, to-wit:

**Whereas, the Texas Air National Guard's 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Ellington Field** plays a vital role in homeland security, and its removal would leave the Gulf Coast region vulnerable to terrorist attack; and

**Whereas, the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990** authorizes the Secretary of Defense to close and realign military installations, such as the **147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing**; and

**Whereas, realignment criteria is scheduled for adoption by the Department of Defense in March 2004, and the United States Department of Defense's Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) will develop recommendations for closure and realignment of military installations by early 2005; and**

**Whereas, the Gulf Coast is a region of national importance, boasting numerous refining petrochemical industries, busy ports, the Johnson Space Center, and over five million residents, thus making it a prime target for terrorists; and**

**Whereas, the Commissioners' Court of Galveston County unites with the Ellington Field Task Force in assuring Governor Rick Perry and Adjutant General Wayne D. Marty of the importance of retaining the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing at Ellington Field, due to its military and operational value.**



# RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING THE REGIONAL IMPORTANCE OF THE TEXAS AIR NATIONAL GUARD 147<sup>TH</sup> FIGHTER WING AND URGING STATE AND FEDERAL OFFICIALS TO SUPPORT EFFORTS TO RETAIN THE 147<sup>TH</sup> AT ELLINGTON FIELD.

WHEREAS, the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing is an invaluable homeland security asset to the region, and its realignment would have adverse economic consequences to the region, and make this region more vulnerable to external threats; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Defense's Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) will develop recommendations for closure and realignment of military installations by early 2005; and

WHEREAS, realignment of the Texas Air National Guard's 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, located at Ellington Field; may be considered during the BRAC process; and

WHEREAS, the U. S. Army National Guard's 149<sup>th</sup> Aviation Battalion and the U. S. Coast Guard Air Station Houston are also located at Ellington with the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, enhancing regional security, and joint location of these units and NASA at Ellington Field increases operational efficiency; and

WHEREAS, the Houston-Galveston region is home to over 5 million people and the region's refining, petrochemical industries, ports, South Texas Nuclear Project, Johnson Space Center and medical center are important national assets and potential terrorist targets; and

WHEREAS, local officials and the Ellington Field Task Force are working to assure that retaining the 147<sup>th</sup> will meet BRAC criteria for military value and economic efficiency.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Houston-Galveston Area Council that retaining the Texas Air National Guard 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing is important to the region, and state and federal officials are strongly urged to support efforts to retain the 147<sup>th</sup> at Ellington Field.

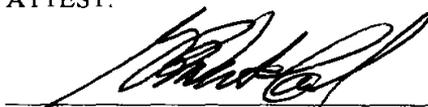
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Governor and Adjutant General of Texas be urged to make all appropriate efforts to retain the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing as a vital regional homeland security resource at Ellington Field.

UNANIMOUSLY PASSED AND APPROVED, this 20<sup>th</sup> day of January 2004 by the BOARD OF DIRECTORS of the HOUSTON-GALVESTON AREA COUNCIL

APPROVED:

  
The Honorable Andy Meyers  
Commissioner, Fort Bend County  
H-GAC CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

  
The Honorable Greg B. Westmoreland  
Judge, Matagorda County  
H-GAC VICE CHAIR



**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE EFFORTS OF THE ELLINGTON FIELD TASK FORCE TO EMPHASIZE THE STRATEGIC AND TACTICAL MISSION OF THE 147th FIGHTER WING AS IT RELATES TO HOMELAND SECURITY AND PREVENT THE INCLUSION OF THE 147th FIGHTER WING OF THE TEXAS AIR NATIONAL GUARD AT ELLINGTON FIELD ON THE BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE ACT LIST OF MILITARY UNITS TO BE RELOCATED OR CLOSED; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE**

\*\*\*\*\*

**WHEREAS**, Congress has mandated the U. S. Department of Defense to comply with the Base Realignment and Closure Act ("BRAC") in 2005, in order to realize significant savings by eliminating excess infrastructure and reshaping the military, which places retention of the military units at Ellington Field at risk; and

**WHEREAS**, the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing of the Texas Air National Guard based at Ellington Field is being considered for inclusion on the list of military units to be relocated; and

**WHEREAS**, the Ellington Field Task Force is working to emphasize the strategic and tactical mission capability of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing as it relates to homeland security; and

**WHEREAS**, the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing escorted Air Force One as it transported President George W. Bush across the country on September 11, 2001; and

**WHEREAS**, the retention of all military units at Ellington Field, including, but not limited to, the Texas Air National Guard's 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, the U. S. Army National Guard's 149<sup>th</sup> Aviation Battalion, and the United States Coast Guard Air Station Houston, is crucial for the protection of the citizens of the City of Houston and the surrounding areas;

and

**WHEREAS**, Houston is home to the largest petrochemical complex in the United States, the NASA Johnson Space Center, several airports, the Port of Houston, the Texas Medical Center, and other vital infrastructure and facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, current response time to clear the skies over the Houston/Harris County area in the event of a threat would increase with the loss of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing; and

**WHEREAS**, the regional economic impact of losing the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, Army National Guard Aviation Battalion and Coast Guard Air Station is estimated at \$375 million per year; and

**WHEREAS**, the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership and other supporters have formed the Ellington Field Task Force to support keeping the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing based at Ellington Field; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOUSTON, TEXAS:**

**Section 1.** That the Mayor and City Council support the efforts of the Ellington Field Task Force to emphasize the strategic and tactical mission capability of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing as it relates to homeland security and prevent the inclusion of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing of the Texas Air National Guard at Ellington Field on the BRAC list of military units to be relocated or closed.

**Section 2.** That if any provision, section, subsection, sentence, clause, or phrase of this Resolution, or the application of same to any person or set of circumstances is for any reason held to be unconstitutional, void, or invalid, the validity of the remaining portions of this Resolution or their application to other persons or sets of circumstances

shall not be affected thereby, it being the intent of the City Council in adopting this Resolution that no portion thereof or provision or regulation contained herein shall become inoperative or fail by reason of any unconstitutionality, voidness or invalidity of any other portion hereof, and all provisions of this Resolution are declared to be severable for that purpose.

**Section 3.** That this Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage and approval by the Mayor; however, in the event that the Mayor fails to sign this Resolution within five days after its passage and adoption, it shall take effect in accordance with Article VI, Section 6, Houston City Charter.

**PASSED and ADOPTED** this 21st day of January, 2004.

**APPROVED** this 21st day of January, 2004.

Bill White  
Mayor of the City of Houston

Pursuant to Article VI, Section 6, Houston City Charter, the effective date of the foregoing Resolution is \_\_\_\_\_, 200\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Secretary

Prepared by: Don Chestnut  
RDC:ps Senior Assistant City Attorney  
01/16/04  
L.D. File No. 0210300001001

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AYE	NO	<i>Reso. 2004-1</i>
✓		MAYOR WHITE
••••	••••	COUNCIL MEMBERS
✓		LAWRENCE
✓		GALLOWAY
✓		GOLDBERG
✓		EDWARDS
✓		WISEMAN
✓		KHAN
✓		HOLM
✓		GARCIA
✓		ALVARADO
✓		ELLIS
✓		QUAN
✓		SEKULA-GIBBS
✓		GREEN
✓		BERRY
CAPTION	ADOPTED	



# Bay Area Transportation Partnership

1350 NASA Parkway, #1116 · Houston, Texas 77058 · 281-333-1813 · Fax 281-333-1504

www.batp.org

President:  
Connie G. Elston

## Executive Committee

Chairman – Bob Robinson, Gulf Coast Limestone, Inc.  
Chairman Elect - John Massey, BYL International, Inc.  
Treasurer - John Kennedy, City of Nassau Bay  
Secretary - David Murphy, CenterPoint Energy  
Membership - Charles A. Jacobson

Past Chairman - John L. Martinec, AeroSys Associates  
Administration - Gerald B. Allen  
Billy Cooke, Klotz Associates, Inc.  
Jerry Newell, Turner Collie & Braden, Inc.  
Marcy Fryday

## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the United States Congress has mandated that the U.S. Department of Defense conduct the Base Realignment and Closure Act (BRAC) in 2005 to realize significant savings by eliminating excess infrastructure and reshaping the military, which places retention of the military units at Ellington Field at risk; and

WHEREAS, Homeland Security is a vital issue for the Southeast Texas Gulf Coast Region in which the Bay Area Transportation Partnership resides, and that is home to Houston, Texas as the fourth largest city in the nation, the Port of Houston as the sixth largest port in the world, the largest petrochemical complex in the United States, the NASA Johnson Space Center, several airports, the world's largest medical center, the South Texas Nuclear Power Plant, the University of Texas Medical Branch Bio-containment Laboratory, the Ports of Galveston, Texas City, Freeport, Palacios, Beaumont, Port Arthur, Sabine Pass, and Orange, and other vital infrastructure and facilities; and

WHEREAS, required air superiority response time to clear the skies over the Southeast Texas Gulf Coast from terrorists that threaten these regional assets can only be accomplished by a 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing that operates in full force from Ellington Field; and

WHEREAS, the retention of all military units at Ellington Field, including, but not limited to, the Texas Air National Guard's 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, the Texas Army National Guard's 149<sup>th</sup> Aviation Battalion, and the United States Coast Guard Air Station Houston are crucial to this necessary air superiority protection; and

WHEREAS, the loss of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, Army National Guard Aviation Battalion and Coast Guard Air Station is estimated at \$275 million annual economic impact; and

WHEREAS, 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing escorted Air Force One as it transported President George W. Bush across the country on September 11, 2001; and

WHEREAS, the Bay Area Transportation Partnership joins in alliance with the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership and other stakeholder supporters from Greater Houston and the Southeast Texas Gulf Coast region in execution of the Ellington Field Task Force with a mission to retain and grow the joint reserve base presence at Ellington Field;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Bay Area Transportation Partnership hereby supports the efforts of the Ellington Field Task Force to retain and enhance the full support by the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing of the Texas Air National Guard at Ellington Field.

This resolution is hereby approved by the Bay Area Transportation Partnership Board of Directors and signed by Bay Area Transportation Partnership officials on the date of **January 22, 2004**.

Bob Robinson  
Chairman, Bay Area Transportation Partnership

Connie Elston  
President, Bay Area Transportation Partnership

COPY

**RESOLUTION NO. R 2004-03**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF FRIENDSWOOD, TEXAS,  
IN SUPPORT OF THE RETENTION AND EXPANSION OF  
MILITARY UNITS AT ELLINGTON FIELD.**

\* \* \* \* \*

**WHEREAS**, Congress has mandated that the U.S. Department of Defense conduct the Base Realignment Closure Act mandates (BRAC) in 2005 to realize significant savings by eliminating excess infrastructure and reshaping the military, which places retention of the military units at Ellington Field at risk; and

**WHEREAS**, Houston is the fourth largest city in the U.S. and the Houston area is home to the Port of Houston, NASA Johnson Space Center, hundreds of oil refineries and chemical plants, the Texas Medical Center, and the UTMB Biodefense Laboratory in Galveston, all of which are potential targets of terrorism and need protection: and

**WHEREAS**, the retention of all military units at Ellington Field, including, but not limited to, the Texas Air National Guard's 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, the U.S. Army National Guard's 149<sup>th</sup> Aviation Battalion, and the United States Coast Guard Air Station Houston are crucial to the protection of the above named assets; and

**WHEREAS**, Ellington Field is currently underutilized and could be the home of many other small military organizations spread throughout the Houston area and could be consolidated into a Joint Reserve Base; and

**WHEREAS**, the combined annual expenditures of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, Army National Guard Aviation Battalion and Coast Guard Air Station are estimated at \$130 million, and using the United States General Accounting Office multiplier of 2.36 (the ratio of total to direct benefits), the overall economic impact would be approximately \$300 million.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY OF FRIENDSWOOD, TEXAS:**

## **RESOLUTION No. 2004-03**

**WHEREAS**, the United States Congress has mandated that the U.S. Department of Defense conduct the Base Realignment and Closure Act (BRAC) in 2005 to realize significant savings by eliminating excess infrastructure and reshaping the military, which places retention of the military units at Ellington Field at risk; and

**WHEREAS**, Homeland Security is a vital issue for the Southeast Texas Gulf Coast Region in which the City of El Lago resides, and that is home to Houston, Texas as the fourth largest city in the nation, the Port of Houston as the sixth largest port in the world, the largest petrochemical complex in the United States, oil refineries, the NASA Johnson Space Center, several airports, the world's largest medical center, the South Texas Nuclear Power Plant, the University of Texas Medical Branch Biocontainment Laboratory, the Ports of Galveston, Texas City, Freeport, Palacios, Beaumont, Port Arthur, Sabine Pass, and Orange, and other vital infrastructure and facilities; and

**WHEREAS**, required air superiority response time to clear the skies over the Southeast Texas Gulf Coast from terrorists that threaten these regional assets can only be accomplished by a 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing that operates in full force from Ellington Field; and

**WHEREAS**, the retention of all military Units at Ellington Field, including, but not limited to, the Texas Air National Guard's 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, the Texas Army National Guard's 149<sup>th</sup> Aviation Battalion, the United States Coast Guard Air Station Houston and Civil Air Patrol are crucial to this necessary air superiority protection; and

**WHEREAS**, loss of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, Army National Guard Aviation Battalion and Coast Guard Air Station is estimated at \$275 million annual economic impact; and

**WHEREAS**, 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing escorted Air Force One as it transported President George W. Bush across the country on September 11, 2001; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of El Lago joins in alliance with the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership and other stakeholder supporters from Greater Houston and the Southeast Texas Gulf Coast region in execution of the Ellington Field Task Force with a mission to retain and enhance the joint reserve base presence at Ellington Field;

**WHEREAS**, Ellington Field has a long, illustrious history in service to America's defense, having served as the largest aviation training facility in the United States during World War I; and

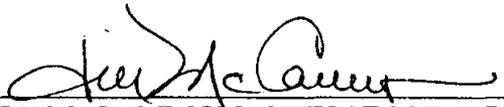
**WHEREAS**, the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership and other stakeholder supporters from the Greater Houston-Galveston area and the Southeast Texas Gulf Coast region have formed the Ellington Field Task Force with a mission to retain and grow the joint military base presence at Ellington Field;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City of El Lago hereby supports the efforts of the Ellington Field Task Force to prevent the inclusion of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing of the Texas Air National Guard at Ellington Field on the BRAC list.



BRAD EMEL, MAYOR

ATTEST:



JILL McCAMMON, CITY SECRETARY

**RESOLUTION 04-692**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TAYLOR LAKE VILLAGE, TEXAS, IN SUPPORT OF THE RETENTION AND EXPANSION OF MILITARY UNITS AT ELLINGTON FIELD.**

\* \* \* \* \*

**WHEREAS**, Congress has mandated that the U.S. Department of Defense conduct the Base Realignment Closure Act mandates (BRAC) in 2005 to realize significant savings by eliminating excess infrastructure and reshaping the military, which places retention of the military units at Ellington Field at risk; and

**WHEREAS**, Houston is the fourth largest city in the U.S. and the Houston area is home to the Port of Houston, NASA Johnson Space Center, hundreds of oil refineries and chemical plants, the Texas Medical Center, and the UTMB Biodefense Laboratory in Galveston, all of which are potential targets of terrorism and need protection; and

**WHEREAS**, the retention of all military units at Ellington Field, including, but not limited to, the Texas Air National Guard's 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, the U.S. Army National Guard's 149<sup>th</sup> Aviation Battalion, and the United States Coast Guard Air Station Houston are crucial to the protection of the above named assets; and

**WHEREAS**, Ellington Field is currently underutilized and could be the home of many other small military organizations spread throughout the Houston area and could be consolidated into a Joint Reserve Base; and

**WHEREAS**, the combined annual expenditures of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, Army National Guard Aviation Battalion and Coast Guard Air Station are estimated at \$130 million, and using the United States General Accounting Office multiplier of 2.36 (the ratio of total to direct benefits), the overall economic impact would be approximately \$300 million.

# CITY OF LA PORTE

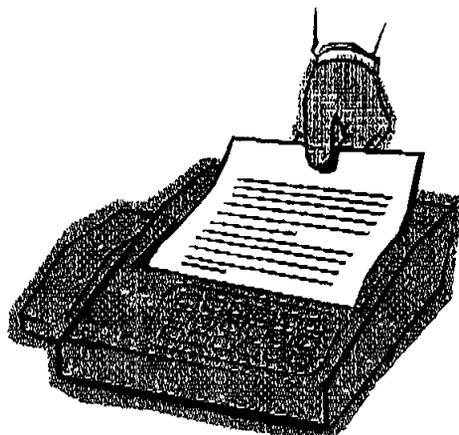
604 West Fairmont Parkway  
La Porte, Texas 77571  
Phone: 281-471-5020 ext. 236  
Fax: 281-842-1259



# FACSIMILE

To:	Jim Reinhartsen	From:	Crystal Scott
Company:	Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership	Company:	City of La Porte
Phone:		Date:	February 11, 2004
Fax:	281-486-5068	Phone:	(281) 471-5020 x234
Re:	City of La Porte - Resolution	Pages:	3

Urgent     For Review     Please Reply     Please Recycle



**RESOLUTION NO. 2004- 05**

**A RESOLUTION OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZING THE REGIONAL IMPORTANCE OF THE TEXAS AIR NATIONAL GUARD 147<sup>TH</sup> FIGHTER WING AND URGING STATE AND FEDERAL OFFICIALS TO SUPPORT EFFORTS TO RETAIN THE 147<sup>TH</sup> AT ELLINGTON FIELD; FINDING COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE HEREOF.**

**WHEREAS**, the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing is an invaluable homeland security asset to the region, and its realignment would have adverse economic consequences to the region, and make this region more vulnerable to external threats; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Department of Defense's Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC) will develop recommendations for closure and realignment of military installations by early 2005; and

**WHEREAS**, realignment of the Texas Air National Guard's 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, located at Ellington Field; may be considered during the BRAC process; and

**WHEREAS**, the U.S. Army National Guard's 149<sup>th</sup> Aviation Battalion and the U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Houston are also located at Ellington with the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, enhancing regional security, and joint location of these units and NASA at Ellington Field increases operational efficiency; and

**WHEREAS**, the Houston-Galveston region is home to over 5 million people and the region's refining, petrochemical industries, ports, Johnson Space Center and medical center are important national assets and potential terrorist targets; and

**WHEREAS**, local officials and the Ellington Field Task Force are working to assure that retaining the 147<sup>th</sup> will meet BRAC criteria for military value and economic efficiency.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY  
THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA PORTE, TEXAS, THAT:**

**Section 1.** The City of La Porte recognizes that retaining the Texas Air National Guard 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing is important to the region, and state and federal officials are strongly urged to support efforts to retain the 147<sup>th</sup> at Ellington Field and be it further,

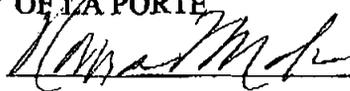
**Section 2.** Resolved that the Governor and Adjutant General of Texas be urged to make all appropriate efforts to retain the 14<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing as a vital regional homeland security resource at Ellington Field.

**Section 4.** The City Council officially finds, determines, recites and declares that a sufficient written notice of the date, hour, place and subject of this meeting of the City Council is posted at a place convenient to the public at the City Hall of the City for the time required by law preceding this meeting, as required by the Chapter 551, Tx. Gov't Code; and that this meeting has been open to the public as required by law at all times during which this resolution and the subject matter thereof has been discussed, considered and formally acted upon. The City Council further ratifies, approves and confirms such written notice and the contents and posting thereof.

**Section 5.** This Resolution shall be effective upon its passage and approval.

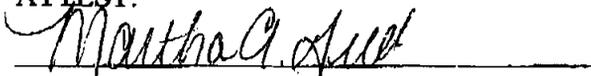
Passed by the City Council this 9<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2004.

CITY OF LA PORTE



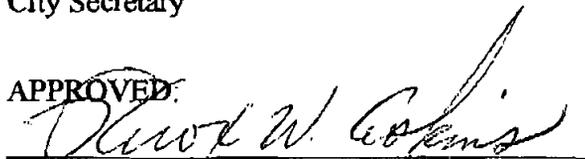
Norman L. Malone  
Mayor

ATTEST:



Martha A. Gillett  
City Secretary

APPROVED:



Knox W. Askins  
City Attorney

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**CITY OF SEABROOK  
RESOLUTION NO. 2004-06  
IN SUPPORT OF THE ELLINGTON FIELD TASK FORCE**

**WHEREAS,** THE United States Congress has mandated that the U.S. Department of Defense conduct the Base Realignment and Closure Act (BRAC) in 2005 to realize significant savings by eliminating excess infrastructure and reshaping the military, which places retention of the military units at Ellington Field at risk; and

**WHEREAS,** Homeland Security is a vital issue for the Southeast Texas Gulf Coast Region in which the City of Seabrook resides, and that is home to Houston as the fourth largest city in the nation, the Port of Houston as the sixth largest port in the world, the largest petrochemical complex in the United States, oil refineries, the NASA Johnson Space Center, several airports, the world's largest medical center, the South Texas Nuclear Power Plant, the University of Texas Medical Branch Bio-containment Laboratory, the Ports of Galveston, Texas City, Freeport, Palacios, Beaumont, Port Arthur, Sabine Pass, and Orange, and other vital infrastructure and facilities; and

**WHEREAS,** required air superiority response time to clear the skies over the Southeast Texas Gulf Coast from terrorists that threaten these regional assets can only be accomplished by a 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing that operates in full force form Ellington Field; and

**WHEREAS,** the retention of all military units at Ellington Field, including, but not limited to, the Texas Air National Guard's 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, The Texas Army National Guard's 149<sup>th</sup> Aviation Battalion, The United States Coast Guard Air Station Houston and Civil Air Patrol are crucial to this necessary air superiority protection; and

**WHEREAS,** loss of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, Army National Guard Aviation Battalion and Coast Guard Air Station is estimated at \$275 million annual economic impact; and

**WHEREAS,** 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing escorted Air Force One as it transported President George W. Bush across the country on September 11, 2001; and

**WHEREAS,** The City Council of the City of Seabrook joins in alliance with the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership and other stakeholder supporters from Greater Houston and the Southeast Texas Gulf Coast region in execution of the Ellington Field Task Force with a mission to retain and enhance the joint reserve base presence at Ellington Field; and

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# City of Webster

101 Pennsylvania Ave. • Webster, Texas 77598 • Phone: (281) 332-1826 • Fax: (281) 332-5834  
[www.cityofwebster.com](http://www.cityofwebster.com)

February 25, 2004

Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership  
2525 Bay Area Boulevard, Suite 640  
Houston, TX 77058

The Webster City Council joins in the endeavor of support for the continued use and expansion of Ellington Field. Please find attached a copy of Resolution No. 04-02 in support of the retention and expansion of military units at Ellington Field as unanimously approved by the City Council of the City of Webster, Texas at their regular meeting of February 17, 2004. If we can be of further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Pauline Small, TRMC  
City Secretary

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**RESOLUTION NO. 04-02**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEBSTER, TEXAS, IN SUPPORT OF THE RETENTION AND EXPANSION OF MILITARY UNITS AT ELLINGTON FIELD.**

WHEREAS, Congress has mandated that the U. S. Department of Defense conduct the Base Realignment Closure Act mandates (BRAC) in 2005 to realize significant savings by eliminating excess infrastructure and reshaping the military, which places retention of the military units at Ellington Field at risk; and

WHEREAS, Houston is the fourth largest city in the U. S. and the Houston area is home to the Port of Houston, NASA Johnson Space Center, hundreds of oil refineries and chemical plants, the Texas Medical Center, and the UTMB Biodefense Laboratory in Galveston, all of which are potential targets of terrorism and need protection; and

WHEREAS, the retention of all military units at Ellington Field, including, but not limited to, the Texas Air National Guard's 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, the U. S. Army National Guard's 149<sup>th</sup> Aviation Battalion, and the United States Coast Guard Air Station Houston, is crucial to the protection of the above named assets; and

WHEREAS, Ellington Field is currently underutilized and could be the home of many other small military organizations spread throughout the Houston area and could be consolidated into a Joint Reserve Base; and

WHEREAS, the combined annual expenditures of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, Army National Guard Aviation Battalion and Cost Guard Air Station are estimated at \$130 million, and using the United States General Accounting Office multiplier of 2.36 (the ratio of total to direct benefits), the overall economic impact would be approximately \$300 million.

WHEREAS, the Bay Area Houston Economic Partnership and other stakeholder supporters from the Greater Houston-Galveston area and the Southeast Texas Gulf Coast region have formed the Ellington Field Task Force with a mission to retain and grow the joint military base presence at Ellington Field;

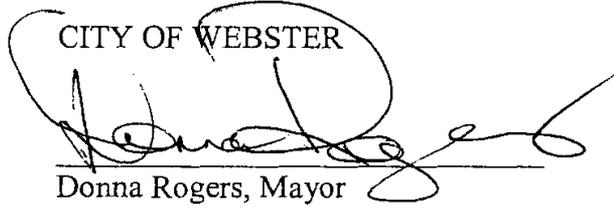
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WEBSTER, TEXAS:

THAT, the City Council of the City of Webster hereby supports the retention of Ellington Field's existing military units at their current level of readiness, the

Resolution No. 04- 02

identification and use of appropriate resources to facilitate the relocation of potential joint users, and further supports the vision and mission of Ellington Field.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 17<sup>th</sup> day of February 2004.

CITY OF WEBSTER  
  
Donna Rogers, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Pauline Small, City Secretary



# Resolution

**WHEREAS**, Congress has mandated that the U.S. Department of Defense conduct the Base Realignment and Closure Act (BRAC 2005) in 2005 to realize significant savings by eliminating excess infrastructure and reshaping the military, which places retention of the military units at Ellington Field at risk; and

**WHEREAS**, Harris County is home to the Port of Houston, NASA'S Johnson Space Center, oil refineries, chemical plants, and the Texas Medical Center, all of which are potential targets of terrorism and need protection; and

**WHEREAS**, the retention of all military units at Ellington Field, including, but not limited to, the Texas Air National Guard's 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, the U.S. Army National Guard's 149<sup>th</sup> Aviation Battalion, and the United States Coast Guard Air Station Houston are crucial to this necessary protection; and

**WHEREAS**, current response time to clear the skies over the Harris County area is seven minutes, loss of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing would result in an increase to thirty minutes to clear area skies; and

**WHEREAS**, the loss of the 147<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing, Army National Guard Aviation Battalion and Coast Guard Air Station is estimated at \$130 million: now, therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED** that Harris County Commissioners Court hereby supports the retention of Ellington Field's existing military units at their current level of readiness, the identification and use of appropriate resources to facilitate the relocation of potential joint users, and the vision and mission of Ellington Field.

It is hereby **ORDERED** that this Resolution be spread upon the minutes of Commissioners Court this 16th day of December, 2003.

  
ROBERT ECKELS, County Judge

  
EL FRANCO LEE, Commissioner  
Precinct One

  
SYLVIA R. GARCIA, Commissioner  
Precinct Two

  
STEVE RADACK, Commissioner  
Precinct Three

  
JERRY EVERSOLE, Commissioner  
Precinct Four

ATTEST:

  
Patricia Jackson

