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PHIL GINGREY  
11TH DISTRICT, GEORGIA

RULES COMMITTEE  
POLICY COMMITTEE

119 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
(202) 225-2931 Phone  
(202) 225-2944 Fax



ORIGINAL

DISTRICT OFFICES

219 ROSWELL STREET  
MARIETTA, GA 30060  
(770) 429-1776

600 EAST 1ST STREET  
ROME, GA 30161  
(706) 290-1776

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CARROLLTON, GA 30117  
(770) 836-8130

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COLUMBUS, GA  
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Congress of the United States  
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Washington, DC 20515

May 26, 2005

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Admiral Harold W. Gehman, Jr., USN (Ret.)  
2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission  
2521 S. Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Admiral Gehman:

Thank you for taking the time to visit Naval Air Station Atlanta yesterday to see first hand the great things going on at the facility. I hope that you were able to get a taste of the mission and importance of the facility to the U.S. Navy and the Armed Forces as a whole.

As you saw yesterday, NAS Atlanta is a case study for the Department of Defense's emphasis on joint-use facilities with Dobbins ARB and Lockheed Martin completing this outstanding partnership. Additionally, should the closure recommendation be executed, both the Navy and Marine Corps would be hard pressed to find another location with the demographic strength for recruiting and retention.

Furthermore, given that we have not yet had sufficient time to thoroughly review the Department of Defense's COBRA analysis, I would appreciate having the opportunity to bring some key local officials to meet with you and your staff in the near future to discuss the data further.

Thank you again for taking the time to visit the installation and I look forward to working closely with you and the Commission to ensure the future strength of our Armed Forces.

Sincerely,

Phil Gingrey, MD  
Member of Congress