



STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

RUTH ANN MINNER
GOVERNOR

May 25, 2005

The Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld
Secretary of Defense
The Pentagon
Washington, DC 20301

Dear Secretary Rumsfeld:

The Department of Defense recommendations for the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process included a recommendation to realign the New Castle County Air Guard Station in Delaware.

I am writing to officially advise you that, as Governor of the State of Delaware, I do not consent to the realignment of the Delaware Air National Guard C-130 fleet, Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron, Aerial Port Flight, or Fire Fighters. Movement of these personnel and missions will adversely affect regional and statewide homeland security efforts and the economy of my State.

The recommended realignment was not coordinated with me, my Adjutant General, or our National Guard leadership. Additionally, we were not briefed about this recommended action before it was announced publicly. I am hopeful that the BRAC Commission will proceed with a transparent process that includes Governors to produce an outcome that balances needs of the states, the long-standing tradition of the National Guard, and the needs of our national defense.

Sincerely,


Ruth Ann Minner
Governor

Cc: The Honorable Anthony J. Principi