



M. JODI REL
GOVERNOR

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS
HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT
06106

June 14, 2005



Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld
United States Secretary of Defense
The Pentagon
1155 Defense Pentagon
Arlington, VA 20301

Dear Secretary Rumsfeld:

I write to provide formal notification of my objection to the Department of Defense Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) recommendation to "realign" the 103rd Fighter Wing, Connecticut Air National Guard, located at the Bradley International Airport, East Granby, Connecticut.

Under this recommendation, the federal government "realigns" A-10 fighter aircraft assigned to the 103rd Fighter Wing, leaving Connecticut without a flying mission, without any Air National Guard aircraft and without a Flying Wing. I do not consent to this recommended realignment, which relocates or withdraws aircraft from the 103rd Fighter Wing, a unit of the Air National Guard of the United States, from the State of Connecticut.

The Department of Defense did not coordinate this recommendation with the State of Connecticut. No federal official contacted my office or my Adjutant General to discuss any federal proposals concerning Air National Guard units or assets located in Connecticut. This lack of consultation compromises the integrity of the process used to develop the BRAC recommendations, disregarding the role of the Governor in relation to Connecticut's Air National Guard units. Hence, the recommendations regarding Air National Guard units are objectionable.

I do not consent to the relocation or withdrawal of the 103rd Fighter Wing, proposed as "realignment" in the Department of Defense BRAC recommendation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "M. Jodi Reil".
M. Jodi Reil
Governor

Copy Furnished:
BRAC Commission
Conn. Congressional Delegation