



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**ALABAMA STATE HOUSE**  
**MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36130**

DISTRICT NO. 77  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY

JOHN F. KNIGHT, JR.  
POST OFFICE BOX 6300  
MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA 36106  
OFFICE 334/229-4286  
HOME 334/834-7445  
LEGISLATIVE OFFICE 334/242-7660  
E-MAIL: John.Knight@Alhouse.gov

BRAC Commission

**AUG 29 2005**

Received

COMMITTEES:  
CHAIR, GOVERNMENT FINANCE  
AND APPROPRIATIONS  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
LEGISLATION  
CHILDREN FIRST TRUST FUND  
JOINT BUDGET  
STATE INSURANCE BOARD  
TAX STRUCTURE

August 19, 2005

The Honorable James H. Bilbray  
2005 Defense Base Closure & Realignment Commission  
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear BRAC Commission Member:

In the coming days, you will be faced with very difficult decisions related to the closure and realignment of a number of American base operations. I appeal to you today on behalf of the the Headquarters Operations and Sustainment Systems Group currently located at the Maxwell-Gunter Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama. I ask also for your favorable consideration of the Alabama Air National Guard's eight KC Refueling Wing located in Birmingham, Alabama.

The potential loss of the OSSG and more than 3,000 jobs has an estimated impact of \$750 million which will be devastating to the communities I represent and the State of Alabama as a whole. Moreover, the additional loss of the 77<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing in Birmingham would result in the loss of an additional 1,000 Alabama jobs, and the displacement of our Air National Guard members who proudly serve in that unit.

I cannot imagine how this nation could be better served by moving these highly productive and efficient installations to other states. The State of Alabama appreciates the enormity of the task you face, and we support your commitment to this nation and its citizens. However, we believe the closure of these units will not be in the best interest of the United States of America. I look forward to your favorable decision, and to the continued operation of the OSSG and the 117<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing in Alabama.

Sincerely,

John E. Knight, Jr.

JFKjr:knd

Cc: C. Mark Bowen, Adjutant General



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August 19, 2005

General Lloyd Warren Newton, USA (Ret.)  
2005 Defense Base Closure & Realignment Commission  
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear BRAC Commission Member:

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General James T. Hill, USA (Ret.)  
2005 Defense Base Closure & Realignment Commission  
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

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Sincerely,

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John F. Knight, Jr.

JFKjr:knd

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August 19, 2005

Brigadier General Sue Ellen Turner, USAF (Ret.)  
2005 Defense Base Closure & Realignment Commission  
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

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JFKjr:knd

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August 19, 2005

Mr. Philip Coyle  
2005 Defense Base Closure & Realignment Commission  
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

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John F. Knight, Jr.

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

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The Honorable James V. Hansen  
2005 Defense Base Closure & Realignment Commission  
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Mr. Samuel Knox Skinner  
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