

KEN SALAZAR  
COLORADO

DCN: 3851

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WASHINGTON, DC:  
702 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-6852

COMMITTEES:  
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION, AND FORESTRY  
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

July 1, 2005

COLORADO:  
2300 15TH STREET  
SUITE 450  
DENVER, CO 80202  
(303) 455-7600

<http://www.salazar.senate.gov>

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi  
Chairman  
Defense Base Closure and  
Realignment Commission  
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202



Dear Mr. Chairman,

Thank you for providing me a copy of your letter, dated this morning, to Secretary Rumsfeld. Given that you are asking Secretary Rumsfeld to provide the Commission with additional information about the Defense Finance Accounting Service Buckley Annex, CO, I wanted to provide you with some information regarding that site.

As you may know, Buckley AFB is part of a constellation of important military bases in Colorado. Throughout the last century and into the current one, Colorado has maintained a rock-solid relationship with our nation's military. Colorado is proud to have played a critical role in training new members of the military, in being a steward of some of our nation's most deadly weapons, in supporting the Army throughout all the major conflicts of the last century, and in housing the world's preeminent intelligence and space based programs. Colorado has proven itself as a strong supporter of the military.

Part of that strong support has been helping the United States military facilities operate efficiently and cost-effectively. The Air Force owns the Buckley Annex. Moreover, no new military construction funds are required to accommodate the consolidation of this group to Buckley. And finally, the Buckley DFAS has proven itself as one of our nation's top performers in this mission and has demonstrated that it has the capacity to accommodate this consolidation.

I thank you in advance for your consideration of my letter, and I look forward to remaining in close contact on this issue.

Sincerely,

Ken Salazar  
United States Senator