

08/19/05 13:52 FAX

DCN 7808

RICK SANTORUM  
PENNSYLVANIA

REPUBLICAN CONFERENCE  
CHAIRMAN

WASHINGTON, DC  
511 DEWEEN SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-6324

COMMITTEES:  
FINANCE

BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS  
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION AND FORESTRY  
RULES AND ADMINISTRATION  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON AGING

# United States Senate

<http://santorum.senate.gov>

U.S. SENATOR RICK SANTORUM

BRAC Commission

## FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

AUG 19 2005

Received

DATE: 8/19/05

TIME: 2:45 p.m.

TO: BRAC Commission

FAX #: 703-699-2735

FROM: Courtney Kaplan

RE: Letters to the BRAC Commissioners from  
Senator Rick Santorum, Senator Arlen Specter  
and Governor Ed Rendell

PAGES (INCLUDING COVER SHEET): 19

- ALLENTOWN 3802 FEDERAL OFFICE BUILDING 504 WEST HAMILTON STREET ALLENTOWN, PA 18105 (610) 770-0142
- ALTOONA REGENCY SQUARE SUITE 202 ROUTE 220 NORTH ALTOONA, PA 16601 (814) 946-7023
- COUDERSPORT 81 MARVIN HILL ROAD COUDERSPORT, PA 16915 (814) 274-9773
- ERIE 1705 WEST 26TH STREET ERIE, PA 16508 (814) 454-7114
- HARRISBURG 555 WALNUT STREET FIRST FLOOR HARRISBURG, PA 17101 (717) 231-7540
- PHILADELPHIA WIDEN? BUILDING ONE SOUTH PINE SQUARE SUITE 960 PHILADELPHIA, PA 19107 (215) 864-6900
- PITTSBURGH 100 WEST STATION SQUARE DRIVE LANDMARKS BUILDING SUITE 250 PITTSBURGH, PA 15219 (412) 562-0533
- SCRANTON 527 LINDEN STREET SCRANTON, PA 18502 (570) 344-8799

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

BRAC Commission

August 19, 2005

AUG 19 2005

Received

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi  
Chairman  
2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission  
2521 South Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Dear Secretary Principi:

As the 2005 round of base realignment and closure (BRAC) process will soon conclude, and you and your fellow Commissioners will soon begin your final deliberations on the Department of Defense's (DoD) BRAC recommendations, we would like to take this opportunity to, once again, highlight areas where DoD substantially deviated from the BRAC criteria in their recommendations.

The Pittsburgh International Airport Air Reserve Station (ARS), host to the 911<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing, was recommended for closure by DoD, citing land constraints as the primary justification for its recommendation. However, as was witnessed by General Lloyd Newton during his site visit to Pittsburgh on June 21, 2005, land currently owned and leased by the 911<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing can host 13 C-130 aircraft. Further, under the current Memorandum of Agreement between the Air Force and the Pittsburgh International Airport, the 911<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing can host 7 additional C-130 aircraft, for a total of 20 C-130 aircraft.

Because it refused to acknowledge this available land, the Department of Defense's evaluation of the Pittsburgh International Airport ARS and subsequent Mission Capability Index (MCI) score is greatly undervalued. Had DoD rightly accounted for the total available land at Pittsburgh, the true MCI score for Pittsburgh International Airport ARS would be significantly higher, thus improving the installation's ranking among similar bases.

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In addition to the jointness of NASJRB Willow Grove, this installation's strategic location with respect to homeland defense and homeland security prove that this installation is vital to our national security.

One of the tenants of NASJRB Willow Grove, the 111<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing of the Pennsylvania Air National Guard, has been recommended for deactivation by the Department of Defense. This unit of the Air National Guard is the only National Guard unit in the nation that has been recommended for deactivation. Even more troubling, neither the Governor nor Pennsylvania's

Adjutant General ever consented to the deactivation of this Air National Guard unit, which we believe is a violation of Title 32, United States Code.

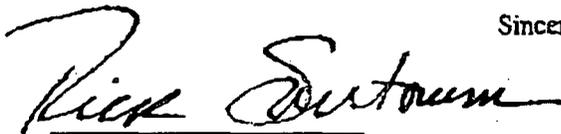
Not only do we believe that the deactivation of the 111<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing is a violation of the law, but deactivating these personnel would also cause the loss of manpower, training, and expertise that is valued by our Commonwealth and essential to our nation's security.

Though Pennsylvania stands to lose many positions in both the western and southeastern regions of the state if the Commission accepts DoD's recommendations, Pennsylvania will gain many valued positions at two Army depots. The Department of Defense's recommendation to close the Red River Army Depot in Texas and transfer missions to the Letterkenny Army Depot (LEAD) and the Tobyhanna Army Depot (TOAD) is one that we whole-heartedly support.

There is currently excess depot capacity within the Department of Defense. In fact, even with the closure of the Red River Army Depot, DoD will retain more than sufficient capacity after the 2005 BRAC recommendations are enacted. Closing the Red River Army Depot will allow the Department of Defense to reduce excess capacity and consolidate missions at LEAD and TOAD - installations of higher military value.

We thank you for your willingness to serve in this capacity and make the difficult but necessary decisions to improve and streamline our nation's defense infrastructure. We appreciate the hard work and dedication that you and your fellow BRAC Commissioners have provided to this process.

Sincerely,

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United States Senate

Arlen Specter  
United States Senate



Edward G. Rendell  
Governor  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 19, 2005

BRAC Commission

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

AUG 19 2005

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Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

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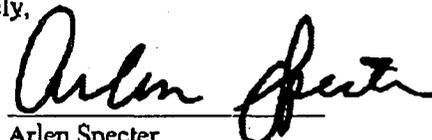
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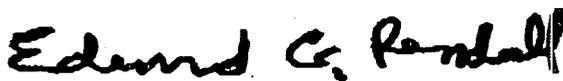
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# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 19, 2005

BRAC Commission

The Honorable Philip Coyle  
Commissioner  
2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission  
2521 South Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

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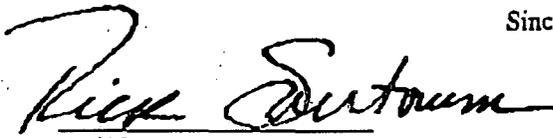
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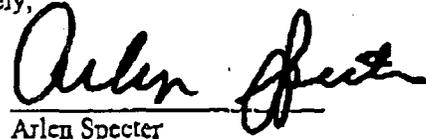
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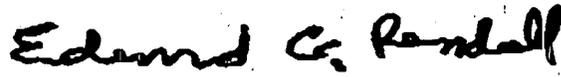
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Edward G. Rendell  
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**United States Senate**

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

BRAC Commission

**AUG 19 2005**

August 19, 2005

Received

Admiral Harold W. Gehman, Jr.  
Commissioner  
2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission  
2521 South Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Dear Commissioner Gehman:

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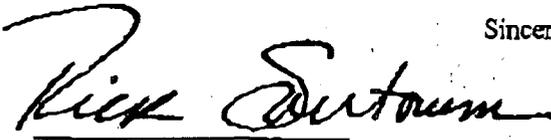
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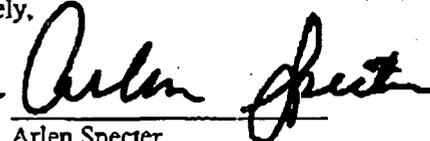
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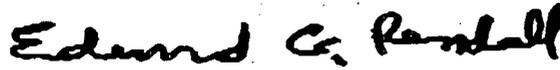
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# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

BRAC Commission

August 19, 2005

**AUG 19 2005**

Received

The Honorable James V. Hansen  
Commissioner  
2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission  
2521 South Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

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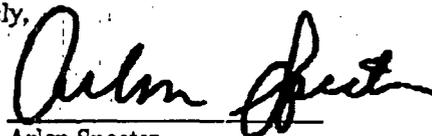
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BRAC Commission

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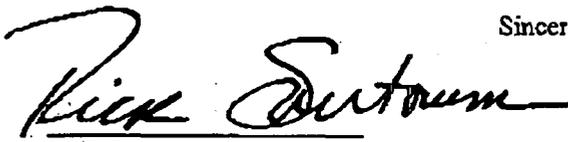
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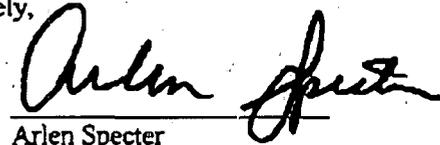
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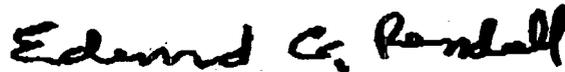
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One of the tenants of NASJRB Willow Grove, the 111<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing of the Pennsylvania Air National Guard, has been recommended for deactivation by the Department of Defense. This unit of the Air National Guard is the only National Guard unit in the nation that has been recommended for deactivation. Even more troubling, neither the Governor nor Pennsylvania's Adjutant General ever consented to the deactivation of this Air National Guard unit, which we believe is a violation of Title 32, United States Code.

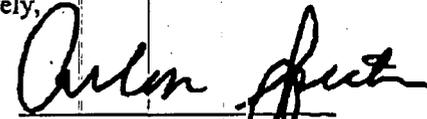
Not only do we believe that the deactivation of the 111<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wing is a violation of the law, but deactivating these personnel would also cause the loss of manpower, training, and expertise that is valued by our Commonwealth and essential to our nation's security.

Though Pennsylvania stands to lose many positions in both the western and southeastern regions of the state if the Commission accepts DoD's recommendations, Pennsylvania will gain many valued positions at two Army depots. The Department of Defense's recommendation to close the Red River Army Depot in Texas and transfer missions to the Letterkenny Army Depot (LEAD) and the Tobyhanna Army Depot (TOAD) is one that we whole-heartedly support.

There is currently excess depot capacity within the Department of Defense. In fact, even with the closure of the Red River Army Depot, DoD will retain more than sufficient capacity after the 2005 BRAC recommendations are enacted. Closing the Red River Army Depot will allow the Department of Defense to reduce excess capacity and consolidate missions at LEAD and TOAD - installations of higher military value.

We thank you for your willingness to serve in this capacity and make the difficult but necessary decisions to improve and streamline our nation's defense infrastructure. We appreciate the hard work and dedication that you and your fellow BRAC Commissioners have provided to this process.

Sincerely,

Rick Santorum  
United States Senate

Arlen Specter  
United States Senate



Edward G. Rendell  
Governor  
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

August 19, 2005

BRAC Commission

**AUG 19 2005**

Received

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner  
Commissioner  
2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission  
2521 South Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Dear Commissioner Skinner:

As the 2005 round of base realignment and closure (BRAC) process will soon conclude, and you and your fellow Commissioners will soon begin your final deliberations on the Department of Defense's (DoD) BRAC recommendations, we would like to take this opportunity to, once again, highlight areas where DoD substantially deviated from the BRAC criteria in their recommendations.

The Pittsburgh International Airport Air Reserve Station (ARS), host to the 911<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing, was recommended for closure by DoD, citing land constraints as the primary justification for its recommendation. However, as was witnessed by General Lloyd Newton during his site visit to Pittsburgh on June 21, 2005, land currently owned and leased by the 911<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing can host 13 C-130 aircraft. Further, under the current Memorandum of Agreement between the Air Force and the Pittsburgh International Airport, the 911<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing can host 7 additional C-130 aircraft, for a total of 20 C-130 aircraft.

Because it refused to acknowledge this available land, the Department of Defense's evaluation of the Pittsburgh International Airport ARS and subsequent Mission Capability Index (MCI) score is greatly undervalued. Had DoD rightly accounted for the total available land at Pittsburgh, the true MCI score for Pittsburgh International Airport ARS would be significantly higher, thus improving the installation's ranking among similar bases.

In southeastern Pennsylvania, Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base (NASJRB) Willow Grove was recommended for closure by DoD. This installation, host to the Navy, Marine Corps, Army Reserve, Air Force Reserve, and Pennsylvania Air National Guard, is a truly joint base. However, DoD's analysis of the installation appears to indicate that NASJRB Willow Grove was penalized for its jointness. Further, DoD's analysis of NASJRB Willow Grove did not adequately consider future joint mission capabilities of the installation.

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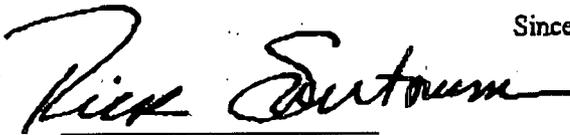
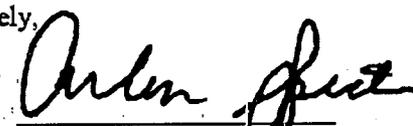
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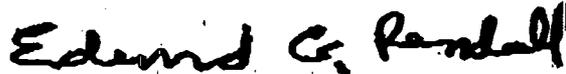
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WASHINGTON, DC 20510

BRAC Commission

August 19, 2005

AUG 19 2005

Received

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner  
Commissioner  
2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission  
2521 South Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

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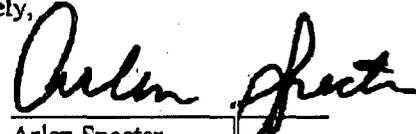
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