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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS
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J. KEITH KENNEDY, STAFF DIRECTOR
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June 3, 2005

Mr. Anthony Principi
Chairman
Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 S. Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Dear Mr. Principi:

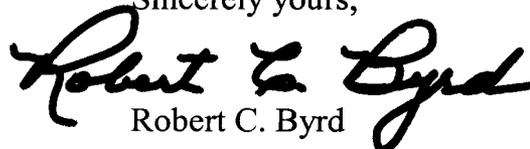
I have just hung up the telephone from our conversation, and I do thank you for returning my call. I know that you are very busy and appreciate your calling me during your travels.

As I stated in our conversation, and as we discussed before the Secretary of Defense's recommendations for base realignment and closure were released, I think that it is important for you to visit the West Virginia National Guard's 130th Airlift Wing and see first-hand the strengths of that unit which were ignored in the Secretary's recommendations. I know that your time is very limited, and your continued pledge to visit Charleston is appreciated. Please let me know at your earliest convenience when you would be able to schedule your trip to Charleston.

I shall be in further contact with you regarding the North Carolina field hearing, which I presently hope to attend. I look forward to talking with you soon.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,


Robert C. Byrd

RCB:er