

Nevada Earthquake Safety Council

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BRAC Commission

AUG 18 2005

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August 9, 2005

Brigadier General Cindy Kirkland
The Adjutant General of Nevada
2460 Fairview Drive
Carson City, NV 89701-6807

RE: Nevada Earthquake Safety Council Recommendation for Retention of the Nevada Air National Guard's 152nd Airlift Wing C-130 Air Assets

Dear General Kirkland:

The Nevada Earthquake Safety Council (NESC) is an advisory body to the Nevada Governor, State Division of Emergency Management, State Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee, and to all emergency management, public safety, engineering and geotechnical disciplines, and academia within the state. It is our desire for the Adjutant General of Nevada to communicate to the Base Realignment and Closure Commission this Council's sincere concerns regarding the reassignment of the C-130 aircraft currently assigned to the Nevada Air National Guard.

Nevada has a high level of earthquake activity, the third highest in the nation, and the potential for having an urban or rural community earthquake disaster is significant. There are similar earthquake disaster threats to the west in California; to the north in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington; and to the east in Utah.

The C-130 aircraft are a significant part of the response and recovery strategies of earthquake events. They are also critical to deployment of Nevada Task Force One, Urban Search and Rescue Team, deployment of the Strategic National Stockpile, Disaster Medical Assistance Teams, resources under the National Disaster Medical System, and post disaster reconnaissance; and they provide for the movement of other state and federal resources necessary to respond to major emergencies in the State of Nevada. (Information on the C-130 deployment on a recent Task Force One earthquake exercise can be found on the following site: <http://www.co.clark.nv.us/fire/us&r.htm>)

It is difficult to evaluate the total impact of the loss of this valuable resource to the State. Whereas the response of critical resources to an earthquake event can now, with the support of this Air Wing, be measured in hours, if the C-130s were removed, it would be measured in days and would require several more layers of requests and authorizations to receive these valuable resources. The ability of the State of Nevada to respond to major emergencies within its own State, and neighboring States, will be severely diminished.

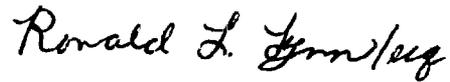
General Kirkland

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August 9, 2005

As the advisory body for earthquake hazards in the state of Nevada, the Nevada Earthquake Safety Council strongly recommends to the Base Realignment and Closure Commission that the 152nd Airlift Wing C-130 Air Assets remain with the Nevada Air National Guard.

Respectfully,



Ronald L. Lynn, Chair
Nevada Earthquake Safety Council

RLL:ecq

cc: Congressman Jim Gibbons
Frank Siracusa, Chief, Nevada Division of Emergency Management