



BRAC Commission

AUG 18 2005

Received

**HOUSE OF DELEGATES
WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

STATECAPITOL, ROOM 462-M
1900 KANAWHA BLVD., EAST
CHARLESTON, WV 25305-0470
PHONE (304) 340-3230

HAROLD K. MICHAEL, Chair
COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

August 15, 2005

Committees:
House Rules
Joint Committee on
Government & Finance

Anthony J. Principi, Commissioner
Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
2521 S. Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

I respectfully request that the BRAC Commission reverse its decision to remove the 130th Airlift Wing from the closure list.

The 130th Airlift Wing at Yeager Air Guard Base, Charleston, West Virginia is the lead night vision C-130 unit in the Air National Guard and is currently deployed in its twelfth rotation in the Global War on Terror.

This is the base whose unit helped rescue Jessica Lynch, a native West Virginian, in Iraq. Also, it is important to note that the 130th Airlift Wing was the lead unit in General Schwarzkopf's famous "left hook" tactic during Desert Storm.

All West Virginians stand with the Air Guard community and are united in support for this base, and its retention. I urge the Commission to remove Yeager Air National Guard Base from the Pentagon's recommended list of base realignments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Harold K. Michael".

Harold K. Michael

HKM/sah