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**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE**
DCN: 1009

SUBCOMMITTEES:
ENERGY AND AIR QUALITY
COMMERCE, TRADE, AND
CONSUMER PROTECTION

**DEMOCRATIC STEERING
AND POLICY COMMITTEE**

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
May 19, 2005

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

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4-24-05
5-24-05 JN

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I appreciate your taking time this week to meet with the Arkansas Congressional Delegation and me regarding the affects of the Secretary of Defense's Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) recommendations.

I would like to reiterate my strong support of the Red River Army Depot located near Texarkana, Arkansas. As you know, Red River has been recommended by the Secretary of Defense for closure. The missions being carried out at the Red River Army Depot are vital to the success and safety of our men and women in combat currently serving in Iraq and in future military conflicts. Red River has proven to be a tremendous value to our military during wartime as well as peacetime.

During the BRAC Commission's evaluation process, I hope you will consider Red River Army Depot's military value. I urge you to keep in mind the following missions and capabilities that the Red River Army Depot provides to our troops in combat.

- **The manufacturing of the HMMWV Armor Survivability Kits and M939 Truck Armor Kits** - - This Armor Survivability Kit, which is being shipped to Iraq regularly, is a necessity to saving the lives of our men and women in combat.
- **Injection Molding Machines for roadwheels and track** - - Red River Army Depot is the only facility within the Department of Defense that has the capability of producing tires and track for all military wheeled and track vehicles.
- **Patriot Missile** - - Red River Army Depot is the worldwide center for Patriot missile recertification.
- **HAWK Missile** - - Red River Army Depot is the only facility within the Department of Defense that has the necessary equipment to test and analyze the HAWK missile.

Because of the unique and distinct military value of Red River Army Depot, I will continue working in hopes that the BRAC Commission will re-evaluate and remove them from the final closure list. Again, I appreciate your taking the time to meet with me. If you need additional

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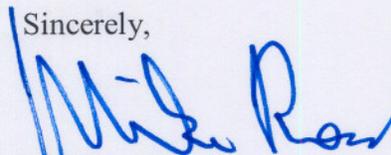
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information regarding Red River Army Depot, or if I can be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mike Ross". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping "M" and "R".

Mike Ross

MR:jy

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