

JUL 19 2005

Received

PROCLAMATION

The Rotary Club of Charleston, West Virginia and Friends

WHEREAS: The Defense Department Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) has recommended the closure of one-third of the Air National Guard's 88 flying units; and

WHEREAS: The proposal will strip all aircraft from 28 Air Guard units, most of which have been significant contributors to operations in Iraq, Afghanistan and in past conflicts as far back as the Korean War; and,

WHEREAS: Hundreds of the Air Force's most experienced aircrews and support personnel may be pushed out of the military as the nation is struggling with securing the homeland while continuing the global war on terrorism; and

WHEREAS: The elimination of the Air Force's most cost-efficient flying units in the name of saving money may present a decrease in the readiness of our country to respond to emergency situations or attacks; and,

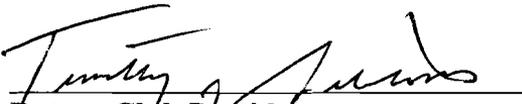
WHEREAS: Little or no consideration was given to the potential loss of highly qualified personnel or their connection and activity with the surrounding community; and,

WHEREAS: The average strength of an Air National Guard C-130 unit is 92.8 % and the strength of the 130th Airlift Wing is 103%; and

WHEREAS: The Pentagon has finalized the BRAC recommendations without the benefit of the 2005 Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR), which will identify threats, develop strategies and allocate resources to combat those threats,

NOW, THEREFORE MAY IT BE PROCLAIMED: That, the Rotary Club of Charleston, West Virginia and its friends support the Air National Guard Flying Units and in particular the 130th Airlift Wing located in Charleston, West Virginia; and;

FURTHER: Requests that the United States Congress vote to keep these Air National Guard Units intact to serve our great Country and the states where they are located.


Rotary Club President

Proclamation of Charleston Rotary Club and Friends in Support of the 130th Airlift Wing,
Charleston, West Virginia

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