

July 28, 2005

Honorable Anthony J. Principi  
Chairman  
2005 Defense Base Realignment and Closure Commission  
2521 S. Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, VA22202

BRAC Commission

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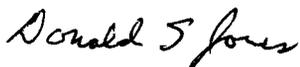
Dear Mr. Principi,

The relocation of AFIT from its present location at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base (WPAFB), Ohio, would have an adverse effect on the learning process of Air Force officers seeking to be leaders in the Engineering career field. As a graduate of the Aeronautical Engineering School of AFIT, I know, first hand, the value of having the school located in the **SAME** location as the Scientific Labs, SPOs, and other program management departments.

Moving the institution away from WPAFB would have a detrimental impact on, and minimize the quality of, the learning process and the mission of the Air Force. I am sure of this, as both a student of AFIT and later as an engineer in the AF. Though the excellent facilities came after my engineering education (in an old building shared with other base facilities), the use, even then, of the labs, was extremely beneficial. Their proximity enabled me to implement "book knowledge" with "hands-on" experiences.

It is very difficult for me to understand the rationale the commission uses to consider moving all, or even a part of, AFIT from its present location. I urge you to weigh the many positive aspects of keeping AFIT where it is, and render that as your commission's final decision.

Sincerely,



Donald S. Jones  
Lt. Col.  
USAF (ret.)  
AFIT class of 1961

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