



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Milwaukee County

SCOTT WALKER • COUNTY EXECUTIVE

December 13, 2004

The Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I have attached a letter that was originally drafted this summer when the issue of potential base closings was raised regarding the 1-128 Air Refueling Wing (Wisconsin Air National Guard) and the 440th Air Tactical Wing (US Air Force Reserve) at Mitchell Field in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

This issue has gained a renewed urgency, and I would like to reiterate my support of keeping these facilities open. I have attended all but one of the deployments for the service men and women from these units, and can attest to their proud dedication in the critical role they hold in serving our country.

Please review our concerns. Any direction your office can offer to aid our efforts would be appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott Walker", written over a horizontal line.

Scott Walker
Milwaukee County Executive

SW:fr

attachment

OSD 20793-04



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Milwaukee County

SCOTT WALKER • COUNTY EXECUTIVE

July 1, 2004

The Honorable Donald H. Rumsfeld
Secretary of Defense
1000 Defense Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Mr. Secretary:

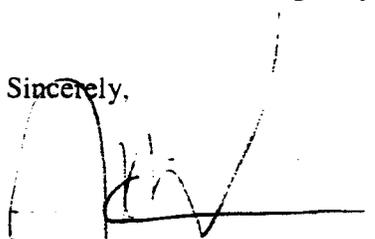
In 1987 the US Congress passed the BRAC (Base Realignment and Closing) legislation with the purpose of reviewing military facilities usefulness to military needs. Since then, the BRAC Commission ordered 93 major closures of US military bases throughout the country.

The next round of realignment and closures will take place in 2005. The new independent Commission of BRAC will be named in March 2005 to review collected data and determine the realignment and closures necessary to match military facilities to forces.

As of today there is no information available to suggest that the 1-128 Air Refueling Wing (Wisconsin Air National Guard) or the 440th Air Tactical Wing (US Air Force Reserve) based at Mitchell Field will be affected by the 2005 BRAC. A proactive effort is necessary however to preempt their potential closure or realignment which would have a large negative economic impact in the community.

To that end, I am asking for your support to keep the bases at Mitchell Field open.

Sincerely,



Scott Walker
Milwaukee County Executive

SW:fr