

Congress of the United States  
Washington, DC 20515

April 8, 2010

The Honorable Michael B. Donley  
Secretary of the Air Force  
1170 Air Force Pentagon  
U.S. Department of the Air Force  
Washington, DC 20330

Dear Secretary Donley,

We recently received news that the Air Force plans to transfer a number of C-130 aircraft from Air National Guard and Reserve Units across the country to Air Force Active Duty. The transfer of these planes to Active Duty appears to be in contravention to the Air Force's agreement with the Reserve Component on the AC/RC airframe mix and will severely inhibit the ability of the National Guard and Reserve to effectively continue their mission during this time of war.

The Air National Guard and Reserves are among the most cost effective means of flying for the Air Force as a whole. By recapitalizing aircraft from the Air Guard and Reserves it seems as though the Air Force is trying to solve a short-term problem without looking at the long-term impact of such a decision. Air Guard and Reserve units fly supply missions in support of our troops overseas, and we believe they do so in a very cost effective manner. This proposal is reminiscent of the Air Force's efforts to transfer aircraft from the Air Guard to Active Duty installations during the BRAC process, a proposal that was met with resistance at that time due to the cost effectiveness of Air Guard and Reserve Wings as compared to their Active Duty equivalents.

If the Air Force wishes to move forward with this recapitalization we would like to request the supporting data and analysis techniques used to come to such a conclusion. This recommendation comes on the heels of a November 2009 GAO report to the House Armed Services Committee (#GAO-10-67) which underscored the Army's concerns about C-130 availability to support operations. We want to be provided with the short-term and long-term goals the Air Force hopes to achieve by taking these aircraft from the Air Guard and Reserve Units, information on the involvement of the Air Guard in the decision-making process regarding this issue, and alternate proposals that have been considered.

Redistributing aircraft from the Air Guard and Reserve units at this time will be detrimental to the overall mission which has currently been given to them. We urge you to withdraw your current proposal to recapitalize aircraft from the Air Guard and Air Force Reserve for Air Force Active Duty Units until you can provide our offices conclusive proof that this is the best course of action.

We look forward to your timely response.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Adam Gold", written over a horizontal line.A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul D Tenbo", written over a horizontal line.

Michael L. Linn

Scott Murphy

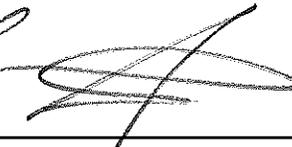
Fay Gray

Paul Quinn

Hank Johnson

Dave Lockard

Mike Castle

Sam  MO-6

Christy Lee

Laurie M. Margulies

Tom Murphy

Eric Paulson

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