

WASHINGTON - Congressman Lee Terry (R-NE) today comments on the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) of 2005. Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld earlier today announced the Department of Defense's recommendations.

"This is good news for Offutt. Offutt plays a key role in our National Security with the missions including the Fifty-fifth wing, Global Weather, and STRATCOM," Terry said. "We expected that Offutt would not be on the list, but you never know. I am ecstatic to see that Offutt will remain a significant part of our military and community."

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On Wednesday of this week, Terry met with Chairman Jim Walsh of the Military Quality of Life Appropriations Subcommittee, who confirmed that Offutt has secured funding of \$30.4 million to construct a new Air Force Weather Agency headquarters, and \$19.8 million for a new runway.

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Three Nebraska Guard centers were recommended for closure, but Offutt AFB will see only realignment. Offutt will gain 54 military personnel and lose 158 civilian personnel.

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BRAC Timeline:

- The BRAC Commission will forward its report on the recommendations to the president by Sept. 8, 2005.

- The president will have until Sept. 23, 2005, to accept or reject the recommendations in entirety.

- If accepted, Congress will have 45 legislative days to reject the recommendations in their

entirety or recommendations become binding on the department.

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