

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

May 8, 2023

The Honorable Lloyd Austin  
Secretary of Defense  
1000 Defense Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20330-1670

The Honorable Frank Kendall  
Secretary of the Air Force  
1670 Air Force Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20301-1000

Dear Secretary Austin and Secretary Kendall,

We write to voice our concerns about discussions to maintain a KC-135 Stratotanker inspection point at Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. We believe that full inspection point operations should be returned to Grissom Joint Air Reserve Base (Grissom ARB) in north central Indiana.

As you may know, Grissom ARB served as the KC-135 inspection point until recently, when a portion was transferred to Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. However, it has become clear that such operations fell outside Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station's capabilities. Conversely, Grissom ARB remains fully equipped with the necessary expertise, equipment, and personnel to run the full slate of inspections efficiently and effectively.

Proper maintenance and inspection are critical to the safety of our aviators and the longevity of the aircraft they operate. The leadership and military and civilian employees at Grissom ARB take this role very seriously and have the proven track record to show it. As such, we believe that the Air Force Reserve should continue with its plans to transfer full inspection point operations back to Grissom ARB.

Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Bridget Visconti ([bridget.visconti@mail.house.gov](mailto:bridget.visconti@mail.house.gov)) in Congressman Yakym's office.

Sincerely,



RUDY YAKYM III  
Member of Congress



TODD YOUNG  
U.S. Senator



MIKE BRAUN  
U.S. Senator