

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-1007

June 8, 2009

General John D. W. Corley
Commander
Air Combat Command
Langley Air Force Base, VA

Dear General Corley:

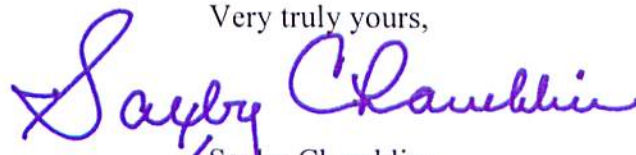
Air Combat Command is the primary force provider of combat airpower to America's warfighting commands and is charged with supporting global implementation of the national security strategy by operating fighter, bomber, reconnaissance, battle-management, and electronic-combat aircraft as well as C4ISR systems.

Given your role as Commander, Air Combat Command, I would appreciate your opinion regarding the proposed Department of Defense decision to terminate the F-22 program after procuring 187 aircraft. Specifically, I would appreciate your feedback on the following:

- Your personal and / or professional assessment of the risk (low / medium / high) of procuring no more than 187 F-22's and your rationale for that assessment.
- Your awareness of any studies or analysis that support procuring only 187 F-22's and, if such studies or analysis exist, your awareness of any assumptions in those studies or analysis relative to implementation of the National Military Strategy (e.g., that F-22's will only be required in one but not two major regional conflicts).
- Related to the studies / analysis above, whether you find the assumptions in them to be reasonable or risky.
- What, if any, input Air Combat Command provided to Air Force or Department of Defense leadership regarding the appropriate number of F-22's.
- Your personal and / or professional opinion regarding the USAF requirement for F-22's.
- Any other considerations or information that you feel are relevant to this important decision.

Thank you for your consideration of these issues. Due to their timeliness we would appreciate your response, if possible, by June 9th.

Very truly yours,



Saxby Chambliss
United States Senate