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mesaaz.gov

August 18, 2009

Office of Mayor Elaine Scruggs
City of Glendale
5850 W. Glendale
Glendale, AZ 85301

Dear Luke AFB Supporters,

As the United States Air Force's largest fighter wing base, Luke Air Force Base plays a critical role in protecting our nation's defense and security. In addition to its vital role in protecting freedom, the base is undeniably one of the biggest keys to the economic viability of this region.

The military operations of Luke and the businesses those operations support provide substantial, stable employment for this region, creating thousands of jobs, billions of dollars of economic activity and hundreds of millions of dollars of state and local tax revenue. The economic impact of Luke benefits all businesses from home-based businesses to large corporations and serves as an important building block in the recovery of this region's overall economy.

The City of Mesa understands the importance of Luke's mission to our nation's defense and supports the F-35 training being added to that mission. The selection of Luke Air Force Base as the training site for the new F-35 will continue the important training missions, solidify Luke as the nation's premier fighter training base and provide needed economic activity in this region for decades to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "S. Smith".

Scott Smith
Mayor