



"Most Livable City"  
U.S. Conf. of Mayors

Town of Gilbert, Arizona  
*A Community of Excellence*  
Municipal Center  
50 East Civic Center Drive  
Gilbert, Arizona 85296

From the Office of  
Mayor  
John W. Lewis

August 20, 2009

The Honorable Elaine Scruggs  
Mayor  
City of Glendale  
5850 West Glendale Avenue  
Glendale, AZ 85301

Dear Mayor Scruggs:

Luke Air Force Base is an essential component to the national security of our country, as well as a key contributor to the state of Arizona's economy and one of the state's largest employers. As a premiere fighter pilot training site, Luke AFB is an outstanding selection for the second training site of the F-35 Lightning II.

Luke AFB currently serves as the only active duty F-16 training base in the world with a longstanding tradition of dedication and service that will only strengthen once selected as the F-35 training site. The Base provides economic viability to the region and state that is vital to the thousands of individuals employed through Luke Air Force Base or surrounding businesses.

The Town of Gilbert recognizes the major impacts to the nation and the state of Arizona that will result from Luke Air Force Base being chosen as the training site for the F-35. Selection of Luke AFB for this esteemed designation will allow the base to continue as one of the nation's premiere fighter pilot training installations.

Sincerely,

John W. Lewis  
Mayor