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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

FRANCIS J. SULLIVAN, STAFF DIRECTOR

September 20, 1977

Mr. Ron Maples, President
Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce
1201 North Shoreline Boulevard
Corpus Christi, Texas 78403

Dear Ron:

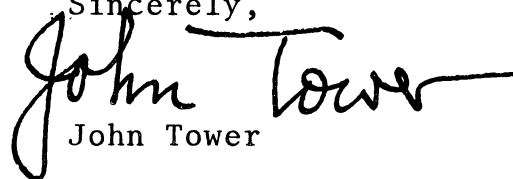
Thank you for your recent letter calling to my attention the Navy's consideration of plans to transfer the Navy Air Training Command Band from the Naval Air Station at Corpus Christi.

Pursuant to your letter and at my request, Navy officials briefed the Armed Services Committee staff this morning on the plans under study at the present time. The Department of Defense Appropriations Bill for fiscal year 1978 does include a proposal made by the Senate Appropriations Committee to reduce each of the military band programs by 10%. One means the Navy has identified of absorbing this reduction is to disestablish two existing bands, one of which is that located at Corpus Christi.

Though I fully recognize the problem which the Navy faces in attempting to abide with the intent of Congress on this matter, I have written to the Chief of Naval Personnel to request that he afford careful attention to alternatives which might permit retention of the band at Corpus Christi, even if some level of reduction must be made.

As soon as I receive his response, I will be in further touch with you.

Sincerely,


John Tower