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Mnited States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

August 8, 1978

The Honorable John Tower United States Senate Washington, D. C.

Dear John:

Thank you for your letter concerning the Department of Defense's proposal to consolidate Navy and Marine Corps helicopter pilot training with the Army at Fort Rucker, Alabama.

As you know, I have been opposed to this consolidation plan since it was first proposed by the Department. I understand that the House Appropriations Defense Subcommittee is recommending that the language included in the FY 1978 Defense Appropriations Act prohibiting this consolidation be included in the FY 1979 bill. I certainly intend to bring this matter before the Defense Subcommittee when we meet to consider the FY 1979 Defense Appropriations Bill.

Sincere1

With best wishes, I am

John C. Stennis

Chairman, Subcommittee on

Defense

JCS:1jm