

ROBERT MENENDEZ  
NEW JERSEY

COMMITTEES:  
BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN  
AFFAIRS  
FINANCE  
FOREIGN RELATIONS

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3005

528 SENATE HART OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-4744

ONE GATEWAY CENTER  
11TH FLOOR  
NEWARK, NJ 07102  
(973) 645-3030

208 WHITE HORSE PIKE  
SUITE 18-19  
BARRINGTON, NJ 08007  
(856) 757-5353

October 21, 2013

General Paul J. Selva  
Commander  
Air Mobility Command  
Scott AFB, Illinois 62225

Dear General Selva:

After reading recent reports and testimonies regarding the future of the Air Force's fleets and missions, I am extremely concerned about how budgetary decisions will impact rapid global mobility and the role of Air Mobility Command missions at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst. I would like to request a briefing from you at your earliest convenience in order to gage your assessment and operational needs for air refueling requirements for Air Mobility Command.

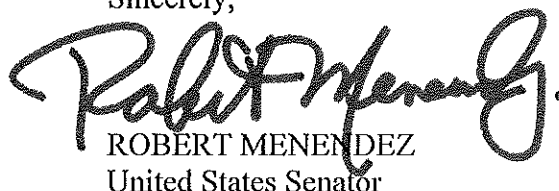
General Welsh has suggested that in order to find savings in aircraft force structure; the Air Force will prioritize global, long-range capabilities and multi-role platforms that are required to operate in a highly contested airspace. Additionally, the Air Force will consider divesting entire fleets of aging platforms that have less relevance in highly contested airspace and platforms that have excess capacity.

The KC-10 fleet has come up in recent reports as a fleet that could be divested. As you know, the 305<sup>th</sup> Air Mobility Wing and 514<sup>th</sup> Air Mobility Wing are critical components of Air Mobility Command's refueling mission. The importance of their mission cannot be understated and with this in mind your briefing would allow us to have a full conversation regarding the air refueling requirements that are crucial to the core mission of rapid global mobility.

Automatic across-the-board spending cuts that resulted from sequestration do not provide a thoughtful balanced approach to reducing our deficits. I understand that sequestration has already forced decisions to ground selected squadrons, reduce flying hours and implement furloughs for our civilian workforce. The uncertainty of future funding levels has caused our military service branches to prepare for various scenarios. It is my hope that our meeting will provide a better understanding of Air Mobility Command requirements under our nation's budget constraints.

I thank you for your dedicated service to our nation's defense and I look forward to meeting with you.

Sincerely,



ROBERT MENENDEZ  
United States Senator