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Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

September 25, 2013

TODD ROKITA
4TH DISTRICT, INDIANA

COMMITTEE ON THE BUDGET

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE
ADMINISTRATION

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION
AND THE WORKFORCE

ROKITA.HOUSE.GOV

Norman

Logansport, IN

Dear

Thank you for attending my Logansport Congress on Your Corner event on August 19, 2013. I would like to address your question regarding military organization.

I certainly agree we must look for ways to streamline the federal government, including the military. With a national debt approaching \$17 trillion, all areas of federal spending must be on the table, Department of Defense included.

While I understand your concern that our Navy has planes in their fleet, and our Air Force has ships, there are very practical reasons for this. For example, the Navy uses planes to support their work by carrying cargo, collecting intelligence, and transporting servicemembers more quickly. The aircraft carrier is another example where it does not make much sense to have the Navy operate the carrier, but not the aircraft that lands on the carrier. Air power is very important for a modern navy, and I believe we are actually operating more efficiently by allowing the Navy to control its airplanes.

Likewise, the Air Force does have ships as part of their fleet to support their work. For example, they have ships that collect target drones that fall into the sea. I appreciate your input on this issue. Please be assured I will continue to look for ways to control costs and streamline our military.

Again, thank you for attending my Logansport Congress on Your Corner event. Please stay in touch.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Todd Rokita".

Todd Rokita
Member of Congress

TR/tb