

MARK POCAN
2ND DISTRICT, WISCONSIN

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SENIOR WHIP



10 EAST DOTY STREET, SUITE 405
MADISON, WI 53703
(608) 258-9800

1421 LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-2906

POCAN.HOUSE.GOV

UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 26, 2021

General Charles Q. Brown, Jr.
Chief of Staff
United States Air Force
1160 Airforce Pentagon
Washington, DC 20330

Dear General Brown:

I write today to inquire about recent comments you made regarding a review of the United States Air Force (USAF) tactical aviation force and the future the F-35A,¹ a mission the Air Force already selected for Truax Air National Guard Base in my district.

While it has been made abundantly clear that Congress does not have authority over the USAF's basing decisions, I am interested in how your recent comments may impact future placement of F-35A planes in Wisconsin – more specifically, their footprint at Truax Field. Considering your comments, and the Air Force's concerns about the longevity and effectiveness of the F-35 planes, will the operational flaws of the F-35A and the upcoming tactical aviation force review impact the current mission at Truax and the upcoming placement of F-35A planes at the base?

I stand ready to work with the USAF and Wisconsin Air National Guard to identify a different use for Truax Air Base that will improve the Air Force's readiness and mission without significant interruption to surrounding neighborhoods and communities. I am also happy to discuss alternative missions for Truax, be it medical training, emergency response functions, or similarly situated activities.

I appreciate your attention to this letter and my question about any potential impact at Truax Air National Guard Base.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark Pocan', written over a blue circular scribble.

Mark Pocan
Member of Congress

¹ <https://www.airforcemag.com/brown-launching-major-tacair-study-with-cape-considering-5th-gen-minus/?emci=599cad44-0c76-eb11-9889-00155d43c992&emdi=e970f5d3-9776-eb11-9889-00155d43c992&ceid=81616>