



CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

May 30, 2024

The Honorable Christine E. Wormuth  
Secretary of the Army  
101 Army Pentagon  
Washington DC 20310-0101

General Randy A. George  
Army Chief of Staff  
200 Army Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20310-0200

Dear Secretary Wormuth and GEN George,

Following the February 8, 2024 cancelation of the Future Attack Reconnaissance Aircraft (FARA) program, I believe it is vital to field rotary-wing aircraft, such as the AH-64E Apache helicopter, in the Army National Guard (ARNG). As the representative for Michigan's 10<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, home to Selfridge Air National Guard Base (Selfridge), I strongly believe that a squadron of AH-64s would be best served in the ARNG to fly out of Selfridge.

Currently, Selfridge is home to the 127<sup>th</sup> Wing, which is composed of a squadron of A-10s and 12 KC-135 Stratotankers but will soon welcome new KC-46As. The base hosts other services to include an ARNG unit of CH-47 Chinooks, the U.S. Coast Guard Detroit Air Station, U.S. Customs and Border Protection Border Patrol Detroit Sector, Navy Reserve Center-Detroit, and the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 24<sup>th</sup> Marine Regiment, among others. Selfridge is also located in Harrison Township, one of the most patriotic and supportive communities that has cared for the base throughout its historic milestones.

Our delegation, in a bipartisan and bicameral manner, has advocated tirelessly for Selfridge from the basing of a future fighter mission to taking care of the men and women that serve on the base. As a former Apache helicopter pilot that flew AH-64s during Operation Iraqi Freedom, I believe that this base has the capacity to support this mission, in both Michigan and its deployment overseas.

As the Army seeks to modernize, I believe that the ARNG provides the best solution for our national security and for taxpayers. With the Army's \$2 billion investment into FARA, it makes sense to move this significant investment to a fully capable organization like the ARNG. While the war in Ukraine has led to high-level conversations on future force design, manned rotary-winged aircraft may still be needed at a moment's notice.

Should you be interested in discussing this matter, I would appreciate an opportunity to engage in a productive conversation about the future of AH-64s.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John James".

---

John James  
Member of Congress