

DOUG LAMBORN
5TH DISTRICT, COLORADO

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL
RESOURCES
CHAIRMAN,
WATER, POWER AND OCEANS



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0605

2402 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
202-225-4422
FAX 202-226-2638

DISTRICT OFFICE:
1125 KELLY JOHNSON BLVD, SUITE 330
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80920
719-520-0055
FAX: 719-520-0840

WEBSITE:
Lamborn.house.gov

April 18, 2018

The Honorable Dr. Mark T. Esper
Secretary of the Army
101 Army Pentagon
Washing, D.C. 20310-0101

Dear Secretary Esper,

As the Army moves forward with the plan to create six new Security Force Assistance Brigades (SFAB), I strongly encourage you to stand up the next SFAB on Fort Carson in Colorado Springs, Colorado. As one of the Army's premier duty stations, with combat units conducting tough, realistic training and deploying regularly around the world in support of a variety of major operations, Fort Carson could easily support a new SFAB with minimal modifications to existing infrastructure.

In regards to the training benefits available to an SFAB stationed on Fort Carson, the unique, high altitude training environment combined with state-of-the-art facilities and ranges will enable the SFAB to deploy Soldiers who are well-trained, adept, and resilient – fully prepared for any type of world-wide deployment. The 10th Special Forces Group already stationed at Fort Carson will provide the SFAB with a local training partner who shares similar mission sets and training requirements. The overlap between the capabilities and skill sets provided by the 10th Special Forces Group and an SFAB are significant, and would immediately enable an SFAB stationed on Fort Carson to hit the ground running with a minimal length of time between activation and full operational capability. In the still-delicate fiscal environment we are currently operating in, it is important for our nation's leaders to make every dollar count, and the efficiency achieved by activating the next SFAB on Fort Carson should not be overlooked.

Finally, I would point out the fact Colorado Springs sits in the congressional district with the largest number of veterans of any congressional district in the U.S. With an SFAB being composed of more senior ranking Soldiers, a duty station such as Fort Carson would be a tremendously appealing location for quality-of-life considerations. As these senior servicemen and women begin planning for life after active duty, there are many veterans groups and

associations, local transition assistance programs, and a robust, veteran-friendly defense industry in the Colorado Springs area waiting to assist them and provide them opportunities. With five major military installations, transitioning Soldiers regularly choose to stay in the area, and the country benefits from the experience they gained over the course of their career when they readily find work in the defense industry, base support, or veterans programs, employing the skills they learned to continue serving our nation.

I stand ready to support the Army in this process in any way I am able, and appreciate your consideration of Fort Carson in Colorado Springs, Colorado as the best possible home for the next Security Force Assistance Brigade.

Sincerely,



Doug Lamborn
Member of Congress

CC: Army Chief of Staff General Mark A. Milley
Commanding General U.S. Army Forces Command General Robert B. Abrams