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PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

October 7, 2007

Key West, Florida

SENATOR BILL NELSON (D-FL) TAKES UP LOCAL CITIZENS NOISE ISSUE WITH NAS KEY WEST AND THE US NAVY

SENATOR NELSON, MEMBER OF ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE, CONTACTS US NAVY ON KEY WEST CITIZENS BEHALF.

STP (Stoptheplanes.com) announced today that US Senator Bill Nelson (D-FL) will represent the neighbors of NAS Key West in their campaign to require the Navy to comply with all Environmental Regulations.

“Senator Nelson has contacted the Navy on our behalf and is awaiting the Navy’s official response to our concerns. After having our environmental concerns ignored by NAS Key West Commander J.R. Brown and his lack of response to our letter dated September 12, 2007, Senator Nelson’s support has galvanized our supporters and our campaign. Our only goal is to require NAS Key West to comply with all Environmental regulations regarding the flying of the dangerous F-18 Super Hornet aircraft over our homes and to limit the destruction of our sensitive Florida Keys environment”, according to Paul S Caruso, STP Organizer.

Caruso continued, *“Within the last few weeks, the Key West Sensitive Environment has been subjected to “fuel sprayings”, F-22 Raptor aircraft’s excessive noise, F-18 Super Hornet aircraft excessive noise and low altitude “buzzing” over our homes. Reports of NAS Key West’s latest campaign to label concerned citizens who register noise complaints as “Permanent Agitators” and have them put on a “special list” has ignited outrage within the Key West community. This is reminiscent of Richard Nixon’s agitator lists of the 1970s.”*

The Citizens of Monroe County are mobilized!

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Contact: Paul S Caruso, STP.com , info@stoptheplanes.com, (305) 296-2469

References:

Letter to Capt J.R. Brown, 2 pages

Letter form Senator Bill Nelson, 1 page

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admitted to practice in Florida and Illinois

Florida Supreme Court Certified Mediator
Florida Supreme Court Qualified Arbitrator

September 12th, 2007

Captain J.R. Brown, Commanding Officer
NAS Key West
P.O. Box 9001
Key West, Florida 33040
* *via facsimile* 293-2627 *

Re: EIS/AICUZ

Dear Captain Brown:

The undersigned is counsel to a group of residents in the Stock Island/Big Coppitt and Geiger Key areas whose lives have become negatively affected by the Navy's improper introduction to the community of the F/A-18 E/F Super Hornets, and forthcoming F-22's. The Navy unilaterally changed the county approved 1977 AICUZ, and has failed to file a proper Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) before bringing in the new planes. We respectfully request that you halt all flights of the aforementioned planes or at least restrict them to the 1977 AICUZ until these matters are resolved. You have also violated the good neighbor policy which is consistent throughout current Naval Operations Manuals.

There are two alleged Environmental Impact Statements floating about concerning the Super Hornets. The first covers the entire east coast for the planes but does not mention NAS Key West. The one you are apparently claiming covers NAS Key West is nothing more than the one prepared by the Army Corps for the dredging of the Key West channel with an additional couple of paragraphs about the planes.

Your change from the 1977 AICUZ to the aforementioned 2004 and 2007 AICUZ was unjust both procedurally and substantively. Substantively, you failed to even attempt to comply with the NEPA requiring a full EIS which includes the issues of citizen health (see SECNAVINST 5090.6 ASN (I&E) 26 July 1991).

The procedural change of the AICUZ from Key Haven to a flight path over homes purchased in reliance upon your word that they would be protected from the noise overhead is replete with much intrigue and influence peddling if the stories heard are true. If this is the case, and if and when it reaches the public domain, not only the Navy, but various individuals will be at the very least very embarrassed.

As you are aware the increased noise from the Super Hornets overhead causes objects to fall from shelves, sets off car alarms and burglar alarms, and causes tremendous health related issues in the population below. This is well documented in the Navy's own literature, as well as the various lawsuits all over the country that have been decided in favor of the citizens. My clients cannot even enjoy their day to day activities that most Americans take for granted.

As per your own operations manuals, we now look to you to be a good neighbor and work with us to address the hereinabove concerns of your host community. Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Very truly yours,

Robert B. Goldman

cc: clients

County Attorney Suzanne Hutton (fax only: 292-5516)



United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0905

BILL NELSON
FLORIDA

September 28, 2007

Mr. Paul Caruso
108 Star Lane
Key West, Florida 33040

Dear Mr. Caruso:

Thank you for contacting my office regarding the loud noise levels citizens living in Geiger Key are exposed to due to low flying aircraft from NAS Key West. As a member of the Armed Services Committee, I appreciate being made aware of your concerns and will be pleased to look into this matter.

Currently, I am in touch with the Department of the Navy on your behalf. As soon as I have a response, I will share the results with you.

Again, thank you for contacting my office. I want you to know that as your U.S. Senator from Florida, I welcome the opportunity to serve you. If I can assist you with any other matter, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Nelson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "B" and "N".

BN/jjs