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ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-1400

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

9 APR 1997

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Honorable Sam Brownback
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510-1604

Dear Senator Brownback:

Thank you for your letter endorsing the selection of Mr. Jim Grier to attend the Joint Civilian Orientation Conference (JCOC) 60.

The Secretary of Defense receives several hundred nominations each year for JCOC, and 60 of those are selected by a joint service selection panel. The panelists, who represent all services and several offices from within the Defense Department, receive copies of the nominations two weeks prior to the convening of the panel. They are also provided information on selection criteria and are requested to follow that criteria as they score nominations. When the panel members meet, they come to a consensus on the selections, and then that information is forwarded as a recommendation to the Secretary of Defense.

Mr. Grier's nomination was given the serious attention it deserved and, in the course of the Secretary's invitation process, Mr. Grier received an invitation on March 15, 1997. He has accepted the invitation.

Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,

William B Blacklow

William B. Blacklow
Deputy Assistant Secretary of
Defense for Public Affairs
(Communications)

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