

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

March 11, 2022

His Excellency Olaf Scholz  
C/O Ambassador Emily Haber  
4645 Reservoir Road, NW  
Washington, DC 20007

Dear Chancellor Scholz,

As your government deliberates its replacement of the venerable Tornado fighter fleet, we strongly encourage Germany to reconsider the F-35 Lightning II as a potential successor. By selecting the F-35, Germany would join seven NATO allies and ensure seamless coordination with key partners. Given the recent events in Europe, interoperability with our Allies and partners has never been more important.

We commend the German Government for its efforts to significantly enhance European security. It is during these uncertain times that the unwavering strength of NATO solidarity is truly highlighted, and Germany's leadership in collective defense is critically important.

In mid-February, the United States Air Force deployed F-35 Lightning II aircraft from the 388<sup>th</sup> and 419<sup>th</sup> Fighter Wings to Spangdahlem Air Base. The United States is proud to enhance NATO's collective defense posture with the F-35 and increase air integration with our Allies and Partner nations. This 5th generation capability provides the Alliance with the flexibility to address a multitude of missions in this increasingly dynamic environment.

We thank you for your steadfast commitment to NATO and our transatlantic partnership and look forward to working together to provide all Allied nations with the needed capability to ensure our collective defense.

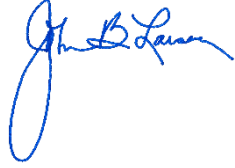
Sincerely,



Congressman Michael R. Turner  
Member of Congress



Congressman Mark Veasy  
Member of Congress

Handwritten signature of John B. Larsen in blue ink.

Congressman John B. Larsen  
Member of Congress

Handwritten signature of Chris Stewart in blue ink.

Congressman Chris Stewart  
Member of Congress