

BRAC Commission

September 29, 2005

OCT 04 2005

Received

BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Re: Requesting BRAC Commission to close Oceana jet base

Dear Sirs:

Enclosed is a copy of my 9-23-05 letter to the Virginia Beach Mayor and City Council. It's a lot of background noise, but the point is that saying goodbye to the jets would solve our housing problem.

I have never been allied with any anti-jet groups though I understand they exist. Please surmise there are many individuals in Virginia Beach who also hate jet noise. They just don't make their voices heard.

I, for one, ask you to be decisive and close the Oceana base.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Street

Carol Street
1020-110 Autumn Woods Lane
Virginia Beach, VA 23454
757-496-3924

copy for
BRAC Commission
9-29-05

September 23, 2005

Mayor Meyera Oberndorf and the
City Council of Virginia Beach
2401 Courthouse Drive
City Hall Building #1 Municipal Center
Virginia Beach, VA 23456

Re: BRAC and affordable housing

Dear Madam Mayor and Members of Council:

National politicians are those fork-tongued beasts who appeal to the large numbers of people never taught logic or the universal values in great art and literature, much less grammar. They appeal to current prejudices while piling up questionable power-money. They owe their souls to special interests and have no real desire to serve the people. And they are always wrong. I sincerely hope this profile does not apply to our city.

If the politicians of Virginia Beach choose power-money over people - that is, if they cave in to BRAC's punitive demands - they will be caving in to fear-based mentality, just like our totally misguided federal administration. The heroes of history create their own future, giving no power to thugs. Not easy.

The Base and the Developers deserve each other. I see them in the ring together with the City as referee. I see BRAC as punishing City for preferring D's over B's.

Love the sinner, hate the sin. I know developers can be people. I used to work with some as receptionist at Rhodes & Watson years ago. I know city fathers and mothers can be people. I have been a Meyera fan from getgo, through pluses and minuses. Also I appreciated Robert Jones (Council member) at 1st Presbyterian Church. As to Oceana, I of course have had neighbors who were employed there. My neighbors in the apartment below moved to a base in Rhode Island some years ago and we were all ecstatic. They found a real house for their growing family. And now I have a lovely nonsmoking retired couple as neighbors.

So much for the sinners. Aren't we all? But the *sin* is war. What a shame to build a city based on that dark thing. We could be a city of light. We could be City of the Future. In the near future, warplanes will be passe. They should be even now. Diplomacy and intelligence (both meanings) must replace oldfashioned combat. Even Iraqi insurgents are not routed by warplanes. How counterproductive!

We could be a Healing Mecca. I moved to Virginia Beach from Chicago in 1976 after coming here 1-3 times a year starting in 1963, drawn by the Association for Research and Enlightenment, also by the trees of Virginia, not to mention walking on the beach. I live across from Sentara VB General Hospital but drive all the way to Pungo if I need to go to

my MD's office (John Patterson). This is because he combines regular and alternative medicine. I believe the City of the Future will expand greatly on this healing model - because it works (unlike the current multibillion-dollar ripoff).

Another industry I would love for Virginia Beach to embrace as its own: Artisanal Foods. I just read an article on it in *Newsweek* (Sept. 26, 2005). We have wonderful land and climate for such an industry if the usurpers are encouraged to leave it alone. That would be BOTH warplanes and developers (the greedy kind).

Do I need to reveal that I hate jet noise? It ruins quality of life in our city, not only for residents but also for tourists. Jets are harming my ears, and also my lungs. I like to walk 2 miles in the evening, but that is when those damned things swarm. Conversations along the way are impossible. Breathing is difficult. (I've noticed no problem breathing outdoors with no jets, or indoors).

When the jets leave us for Florida: 1) I hope they fly every dinnertime over Jeb Bush's house; 2) we will have a major period of resurrection (death and rebirth); 3) many workers will move away; 4) many businesses serving them will follow them; 5) federal money will leave us and our state (*the big one, mama*); 6) expenses that money was purposed to cover will also leave; 7) our population will diminish; 8) that's a good thing; 9) vacancies and homes for sale will bring prices down; 10) that's a good thing; 11) no more problem with affordable housing; 12) infrastructure expenses scaled down; 13) good riddance of bad garbage; 14) joy of planning afresh - is this POSSIBLE after living for years with foot on neck?

Can this be worse than the New Orleans collapse? Same opportunity to start again. This time for the people instead of special interests?

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Street
1020-110 Autumn Woods Lane
Virginia Beach, VA 23454
757-496-3924

cc: Letters to the Editor
The Virginian-Pilot