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***DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION  
2521 CLARK STREET, SUITE 600  
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22202  
(703) 699-2950***

**MEMORANDUM OF MEETING****DATE:** 9 June 2005**TIME:** 11:00**MEETING WITH:** Representatives of Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station**SUBJECT:** Recommended closure of Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station**PARTICIPANTS:*****Guests:***

<b>Name</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Telephone Number</b>	<b>Email Address</b>
John Trick	Advisor	Hyjek and Fix		emjay@erols.com
Chris Goode	Advisor	Hyjek and Fix	(202) 223-4800	cgoode@hyjekfix.com
Steve Hyjek	Advisor	Hyjek and Fix	(202) 223-4800	shyjek@hyjekfix.com
John Simmons	Senior Advisor	Akin and Gump	(202) 887-4408	jmsimmons@akingump
Robin Pfeil	Community Mbr	NIMAC	(716) 683-9100	rfeil@cs.com

***Commission Staff:***

Bob Cook	Dep. Dir. R&A	BRAC	(703) 699-2950	robert.cook@wso.whs.mil
Mike Flinn*	Senior Analyst	BRAC	(703) 699-2932	michael.flinn@wso.whs.mil
Tyler Oborn	COBRA Analyst	BRAC	(703) 699-2928	tyler.oborn@wso.whs.mil
Nat Sillin	Associate Analyst	BRAC	(703) 699-2927	nathaniel.sillin@wso.whs.mil

**MEETING SUMMARY:** Members of the BRAC Commission staff met with representatives of the Niagara Falls community to discuss their concerns regarding the recommended closure of Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station (NFARS). As part of the meeting, the representatives provided a draft presentation they intend to use at the Regional Hearing for delineating their concerns. The meeting focused on highlights of this presentation. Chief among their concerns were the use of

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“old” (2003) data that they felt did not portray an accurate representation of the facility. Another issue pertained to the relationship of the objective Mission Compatibility Index (MCI) to subjective professional judgment and lumping National Guard and Reserve facilities in with Active Duty facilities. Their opinion was Active installations should be compared with other Active installations and Reserve or National Guard facilities should be evaluated against other Reserve or National Guard facilities. Finally, the community representatives mentioned the issue of retention, stating that a preliminary poll suggests that NFARS personnel represented approximately 1200 man years of flying experience that would be lost to the military if the recommendation were implemented. At least some of this flying experience includes monthly training with the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division (Lt) and participation in recent missions in Iraq and Afghanistan. They also pointed out that NFARS is the only facility in the northeast that is capable of supporting the Atlantic Tanker Bridge, the Northeast CAP and the Midwest CAP.

The NFARS representatives stated that over the last 10 years since the last round of BRAC recommendations, NFARS has been actively structuring itself to better satisfy mission requirements. This includes demolishing 17% of the old buildings on the facility, a codified approach to reducing the cost of operating support by 33% through reduced utility costs, and adding \$45 million in constructed facilities. As a result, the average age of the buildings at NFARS is 32 years, which they claimed is 10 years less than the average of similar installations. In spite of the additional construction, the NFARS representatives claimed that 10% of the base consists of buildable acreage and that there are no encroachment issues.

\* Denotes individual responsible for completing the memorandum

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Title of Item: Memorandum of Meeting with representatives of Niagara Falls International Airport Air Reserve Station.

Installation or Community: Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station

Source: Generated as a result of a meeting with representatives of Niagara Falls International Airport Air Reserve Station

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