

Plimoth Plantation™  
P.O. Box 1620  
Plymouth, MA 02362-1620  
V 508 746-1622  
F 508 746-4978  
www.plimoth.org



07 07 2005

July 5, 2005

Anthony Principi, Chairman  
BRAC Commission  
2521 South Clark Street  
Arlington, VA 22202



Dear Mr. Principi:

This is to express opposition to the closure of Otis Air National Guard Massachusetts Military Reservation, in Cape Cod, Massachusetts. We encourage the Base Alignment and Closure Commission to remove the Otis Air National Guard Base from consideration for closure.

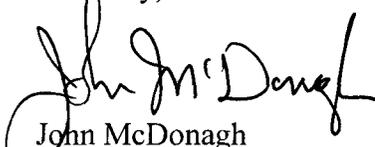
Plimoth Plantation is an outdoor, living history museum in Plymouth, Massachusetts where more than 360,000 visitors each year have a personal encounter with history built upon thorough research about the Wampanoag People and colonial English community in the 1600s. Our exhibits include a full-scale reproduction of the *Mayflower* in Plymouth Harbor. Our programs, our live interpreters and our historic settings encourage a new level of understanding about present-day issues affecting communities around the world.

Our visitors come from around the world. In fact, we receive more visitors from Germany than from New Hampshire! One of the key factors for these travelers when choosing a destination is security, and the renowned 102<sup>nd</sup> Fighter Wing housed at the Otis base and the Coast Guard Air Wing that provides additional support for our coastal communities offer an essential measure of security for our staff and our visitors. The 102<sup>nd</sup> also provides critical air protection for the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Facility that is less than five miles from our campus.

Plymouth and Plimoth Plantation are popular destinations because we provide accurate history about a seminal time of this great nation. The *Mayflower*, Pilgrims, Indians, Plymouth Rock and so much more of this community could arguably represent important symbols to terrorists wishing to harm America.

Therefore, we urge the Commission to remove the Otis Air National Guard Base from consideration for closure.

Sincerely,

  
John McDonagh  
Executive Director

cc: George H. Dunham