



The Town of Barnstable

Town Council

367 Main Street, Village of Hyannis MA 02601

508-862-4602 • Fax 508-862-4770

email: Council@town.barnstable.ma.us

www.town.barnstable.ma.us

071 12005

 RECEIVED

Councillors:

Gary R. Brown,
 President

Henry C. Farnham
 Vice President

Richard G. Barry
 Janice L. Barton
 Ann B. Canedy
 James H. Crocker, Jr.
 Leah C. Curtis
 Janet Joakim
 J. Gregory Milne
 James F. Munafo, Jr.
 Royden C. Richardson
 Tom Rugo
 Harold E. Tobey

Administrative
 Assistant:
 Donald M. Grissom

Town Council
 Secretary:
 Cheryl A. Phillips

July 8, 2005

Base Realignment and Closure Commission
 2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
 Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioners:

The closure of Otis Air National Guard Base would significantly jeopardize military and homeland security organizations such as Army Guard training at Camp Edwards, and numerous United States Coast Guard operations, including Air Station Cape Cod. The loss would severely damage the mission of the base, diminish coastal safety, and would substantially and fundamentally negatively impact the economy of the Cape Cod region

The Otis Air National Guard Base and the 102nd Fighter Wing regularly provide a myriad of military and homeland security functions, as well as vital support to the U.S. Coast Guard at Air Station Cape Cod, one of the busiest installations in our country.

After the attacks of September 11, 2001, it is clear a new course of military defense of our nation has been taken. Otis ANG Base and F-15s from the 102nd Fighter Wing were the first military aircraft to reach the World Trade Center on that tragic day. It is essential that our nation recognize the vital role Otis ANG Base and the 102nd Fighter Wing provide in support of our nation's homeland security.

As President of the Barnstable Town Council I strongly urge the BRAC Commission to reconsider the closing of Otis Air National Guard Base and movement of the 102nd Fighter Wing. The Otis Air National Guard Base and the 102nd Fighter Wing are an integral part of our nation's homeland defense and should remain open for the safety of our nation. Consideration of the economic consequences from the closure of Otis ANG Base would create a major negative impact on the Cape Cod region.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of the issues cited in this correspondence.

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly if further information is required regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Gary R. Brown, President
 Barnstable Town Council

cc: Save Otis Coalition
 Barnstable Town Council
 Barnstable County Commissioners
 Barnstable County Assembly of Delegates
 Board of Selectmen, Town of Sandwich
 George H. Dunham, Town of Sandwich Administrator
 Colonel Paul G. Worcester, MAANG, Commander, 102nd Fighter Wing
 Senator Therese Murray, Chairwoman Senate Committee on Ways & Means