

July, 2005

AUG 15 2005

Received

**Chairman Anthony J. Principi  
Base Realignment and Closure Commission  
2521 South Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202**

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I am concerned by the DOD's recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard base. This recommendation is not in the nation's best interest and the BRAC Commission should reverse this decision and remove them from the closure list.

It is hard to understand why the Air Force has decided to take planes, missions and jobs away from so many Air Guard and Air Reserve bases and put them on the more costly Active Duty bases.

As the only remaining major military installation in Western New York, Niagara Falls has been key to military recruitment. The impact of this decision will be devastating to the New York Air National Guard and will make the Pentagon's efforts to recruit and retain military personnel even more difficult than it is now.

All New Yorkers stand with the Niagara Falls/Western New York community and are united in its support for this base, and its retention. Please, overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,

Carol A. Leonard  
(A concerned Citizen)

14098 Mill St, POB 51  
(Address)

Collins NY 14034-0051  
(City, State, Zip)

BRAC Commission

Retirees Coalition-Councils 1, 2, 3  
New York State United Teachers  
270 Essjay Road  
Williamsville, New York 14221  
August 12, 2005

**AUG 15 2005**

Received

Chairman Anthony Principi  
Base Realignment and Closure Comm.  
2521 South Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, Va. 22202

Dear Chairman Principi

I am writing to you on behalf of the thousands of retired NYSUT members in Niagara and Erie Counties. We are very concerned about the proposed closing of the Niagara Falls Air Guard and Air Reserve bases for the following reasons:

1. Niagara Falls and Buffalo are gateways to Canada and the bases help keep our border secure;
2. Niagara Falls and Buffalo are economically depressed and the closing would be one more blow to the economy of Western New York;
3. The Guard and Reservists have performed admirably in both the Persian Gulf and Iraq Wars;
4. Recruitment for the Reserve and the Guard units would be diminished with no bases here;
5. Improvements have been planned by Congress for upgrading the Reserve Base.

We believe that for both security and economic reasons, closing these bases in Western New York would be an unwise decision. We urge you to do all you can to keep these bases open.

Sincerely,

  
Joanne McCartin,  
Corresponding Secretary

BRAC Commission

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Chairman Anthony J. Principi  
Base Realignment and Closure Commission  
2521 South Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I was upset by the Defense Department's recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base. This recommendation is not in the nation's best interest and the BRAC Commission should reverse this decision and remove them from the closure list.

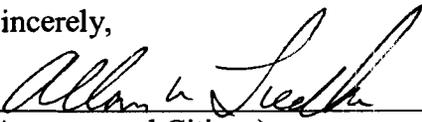
It is hard to understand why the Air Force has decided to take planes, missions, and jobs away from so many Air Guard and Air Reserve bases and put them on the more costly Active Duty bases.

Also, even the newspapers say that we are facing significant challenges in recruiting during war time. As the only remaining major military installation in Western New York, Niagara Falls has been key to military recruitment.

The impact of this decision will be devastating to the New York Air Force Reserve and the Air National Guard and will make the Pentagon's efforts to recruit and retain military personnel even more difficult than it is now.

All New Yorkers stand with the Niagara Falls/Western New York community and are united in its support for this base, and its retention. Overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(A concerned Citizen)

ALLAN LIEDIKE

216 BERRY RD

FREDONIA NY 14063

BRAC Commission

Chairman Anthony J. Principi  
Base Realignment and Closure Commission  
2521 South Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

17 Feb 2005

Received

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It is hard to understand why the Air Force has decided to take planes, missions and jobs away from so many Air Guard and Air Reserve bases and put them on more costly Active Duty bases.

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All New Yorkers stand with the Niagara Falls/Western New York community and are united in its support for this base, and its retention. Overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,

JAMES O'BRIEN  
(A concerned Citizen)

14 HENRY ST  
(Address)

SILVER CREEK NY 14136  
(City, State, Zip)

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