

June 1, 2005 1)



Dear Mr Principe,

First of all I want you to know that I'm not a military person or connected to Brunswick Naval Airbase. However, I feel compelled to write in defense of keeping this very vital base in the Northeast. If this base is downsized it will leave the Northeastern United States with no active-duty, fully operational military airfield in New England

on a daily basis I hear and see the P-3's over head through living and working in this community I have met many of the wonderful navy people that



come into our community. They serve in many, volunteer ways, they come to the Churches, shop locally, and in every way become part of the fabric of this very proud state. Many of them love the area so much that they stay, or come back when they finish their tour of duty. We embrace these people ^{and} are so proud of the work they do. As you know the plan is to "realign" BNAS. This will basically leave only a skeleton crew here - no plans, nearly empty of any activity 'open, but deserted'.



We are a proud people here in Maine. Life is not always easy. People work hard, in dangerous occupations such as fishing, lumbering etc. We love our country and if it were in the best interest of our country, no matter how painful, we would accept this latest blow. However, its hard to understand this is in anyones interest. The base has undergone extensive upgrading, a brand new hangar designed specifically for the P-3 replacement aircraft - much training of special forces occur here and I understand over



63,000 square miles of
unencumbered airspace for
training and exercise missions

Granted Maine can throw
some pretty challenging weather
conditions at the air men.

I think this is a big plus.

This is the real world - not
all hot spots are going to be in
perfect weather with sunshine
all the time. These challenges
make us stronger and more
prepared for the real situations
that will likely happen.

as I said I am not
connected with the base - just
a 66 year old married woman,
taking care of my husband's



parents, struggling with understanding this process. The sadness I feel is real for this potential loss to our community, but also the potential loss to our country.

Please Mr Principi look at the real facts and help us save this vital base.

Thank you for your consideration, you have a very difficult job and I pray for your wisdom.

Thank you

Deanna Whymer
29 John Walker Farm Rd
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May 31, 20

Dear Mr Principi -

I am a Maine artist
A paint local scenes like the
one on this card. I love how
England I feel it would be
a huge mistake to close or
realign the Brunswick Naval
air station in Maine.

The Brunswick Navy
Base is the only remaining
military airfield in the
Northeastern U.S.

It just doesn't make
any sense to leave us unprotected,
to say nothing of the huge
economic hit Maine would