

7 Clipper Court
Bear, DE 19701
July 26, 2005

Dear Sirs:

I am writing concerning the closure of the Delaware Air National Guard Base in New Castle Delaware.

With renewed attempts from terrorists around the world to threaten the freedom and peace we hold so dear, it gives me great concern to think that the East coast would be void of a line of defense provided by this base and others along this coast should the closure take place.

Furthermore, as was the original intent of the National Guard, they are to be our defense for all sorts of natural disasters as well.

As State Conductress in the Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW, I am proud to be an American and extremely proud of the men and women of Delaware's Air National Guard! However, I am also concerned about the well being of men and women who will be displaced because of this closure. These men and women are our future veterans and the people the VFW organization pledges to help. Their sacrifices for this country and this state deserve to be protected.

The ripple effect of such a move appears to me to be greater than what can be gained by the closure. The economy of this small state will certainly be impacted when these men, women and their families no longer frequent the numerous businesses, eateries, gas stations, etc. around this base. Because Delaware is such a small state the ripple effect will be far reaching.

I ask that you take a closer look into the eyes of the men and women this closing will impact and think further than the moment. The United States needs its military to be a visible force in every state wherever possible. Let BRAC stand for Base Revitalization and CARING! not CLOSING!

Sincerely,



Dianne B. Walters