

**DENISE
MARSHALL**
COUNTY LEGISLATOR
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"When the full-time military personnel and reservists from this base were called upon to serve their country in Somalia, Bosnia, Haiti, Honduras, Afghanistan and Iraq they responded with patriotism, professionalism, and a sense of duty. Now it is time for us to show our support for these brave men and women."

Please complete and return to: Legislator Denise Marshall, 5580 Broadway, Lancaster, New York 14086
or place in the collection box located at the Republican booth on the carnival grounds.

June 17, 2005



RECEIVED



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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The Defense Department's recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base is not in the best interests of our nation. As a concerned citizen and American, I urge the BRAC Commission to reverse this decision and remove the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base from the closure list.

I, along with many others, have difficulty in understanding why the Air Force has decided to take missions, jobs and planes away from so many Air Guard and Air Reserve bases and relocate them to more costly active duty bases.

With newspapers reporting that we are facing significant challenges in recruiting personnel during wartime, this action can only hinder our nation's efforts. As the only remaining major military installation in Western New York, Niagara Falls has been a key to military recruitment. The impact of this decision will be devastating to the New York Air National Guard and will make efforts to recruit and retain military personnel even more difficult.

The entire Western New York community is united in its support for retaining the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base, and I am respectfully asking that you overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep this important base open.

Sincerely,

Mary K. Reichert

Print Name and Address below:

MARY K. REICHERT

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