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6590 Wheeler Road
Lockport, NY 14094

June 9, 2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi:

It is well known in the Western New York community that the Niagara Falls Air Force Base is going to be shut down. This decision would have a negative impact on the families of the soldiers as well as the area.

The Niagara Falls Air Force Base provides jobs for some great people. If it were to close, they would either have to relocate or find another job. Western New York is already in an economic slump. There are very few opportunities for new jobs and many local companies are closing and moving elsewhere. Closing the base would just add to the depressing situation. It does not make sense to station the soldiers at new bases when the operating cost would be lower if they stayed in Niagara Falls.

Closing the Niagara Falls Air Force Base would be a huge mistake. I ask you to reconsider your proposal and find an alternative that would allow these fine men and women to remain where they are.

Sincerely,



Brian Bowman
Student

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