

05272005

Dear President Bush,

For the love of my Grandad who fought in Spanish Am. War and a great Uncle on my Mom side who is in Arlington for being a 1st W.W. Hero For my dearly loved Uncles who fought in the 2nd W.W. and my ^{Present} Dad who left his 4 young children to do some spy work for our Country due to his photo and art ability during the 2nd W.W. My Beautiful Mom who helped build planes at Bell air mutual, For my sister's and my self who collected newspapers roll up foil to help the war effort and my older, dead, loved cousin who was in the service during Korea along with many many friends for my Sister Susie frame who died in Korea for a dear friend who threw him self on a grenade in Korea & saved others who also is in Arlington for my loved little cousin & baby sis who went thru

the
 Tell in Vietnam for my Cousins Some
 several of them who been in Iraq & Afghanistan
 w'd just like to know who in the Pentagon
 think closing our Air Base is a good idea
 Where did the terrorist say they hid 1st and
 where did they hid 1st you got it N.Y.
 Oh really then I and all my beloved
 family dead or alive would like to
 know how come you think its ok to
 open all the windows, doors and even
 give the keys to our power plant so
 they can walk right in & blow it up or
 too say nothing of what they could do to
 Niagara Falls.

I remember you said at 9/11 What
 ever it takes I'll back you I worked
 for you & now I'll scream to you
 my precious Grandson at FIT at
 9/11 will graduate 5/24/05 but some
 of his friends in apt near the tower who
 asked you stand on world. My Son
 who was on the ground that day flew
 often out of Logan to visit me of the
 (America War)

innocent men women or children
 who just got in a plane to Disney World
 that dreadful day. I want my precious
 Grand kids & my family protected
 like my family protected others.
 My Dad the greatest in all the
 world put him self in danger for his
 young & others and this land he so
 loved. I also thought after W.W. 2
 we would never have too many eggs
 in one basket or we could have
 another Pearl Harbor. Everything in Arizona?

Either you care or you don't
 this Country & its people's need to
 come 1st for prosperity, health and
 safety if you can't do that you
 can't do what ever it takes.

Protect my 6 year old Grand Son
 & my 3 month old Great Grand daughter
 and my precious 97 year old Uncle only
 W.W. 2 family member left a Flying Tiger
 Our young old poor need what ever it takes
 no more 911 Mandy Lemay one

Protect our Borderline. Neopam Valle
is one place they proceeded to Hob,
How could you stand on Hillside
ground & meet women & prisoners
Children asked & had members
protection for our land & the
people. If need you to be the
Man & welcome you to be and
say no to the Perogation
Neopam Valle the Base
in cloning Neopam make it better.
Our country needs to come
job in many Health & Safety
if we can turn any country or
war.
If no need you to be one
of the United & all over of it
Means a draft of 3 or 4 of my
young there some might have to go
some prisoners children & adults
need to be ~~detained~~ protected
Neopam Valle

To: BRAC Commission
Washington, D. C.

I feel it would be a
dangerous mistake to close the
Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base
for the following reasons:

1. Proximity to Canada & 3 international bridges
2. Longer runways
3. The power project - ours & Canada's - which would be prime targets for terrorists.
4. Training can be done here in various kinds of weather not possible in other areas.



5. The local economy would suffer greatly - it's already poor.

We all feel safer having the base here & hope it never closes.

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Please reconsider this closing especially in this dangerous world situation.

Sincerely,
Carol H. Brett

A Note From

CHRISTINE

A Note From

CHRISTINE

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I can hear the planes from the base and on clear days, can see them. They always make me feel safer, knowing they are there. Now safe are we going to be with a base hundreds of miles away in case of an invasion or pilot error? You can ~~save~~ military spending by not being where we are not wanted costing lives and money.

Put ~~some~~ of that money back to Homeland Security and teching immigrating people. Fences do not stop illegals or radicals.

I am a 52 year old (61 year old) with S.S. Disability of less than \$700 a month and a house that I inherited but lived in most of my life.

I understand the economy of closing the Niagara Falls AFB would hurt the region.

I have ~~watched~~ watched Buffalo and Niagara Falls become deserted and dilapidated.

But the most important reason not to close the base is Homeland Security.

My house is ~~about~~ ^{less than} 15 minutes from the Peace Bridge and ten-fifteen minutes from Twicken Border Bridge.

You don't have to have elaborate bases or luxury features for soldiers either. Comfortable housing and good food should be sufficient. You can't cure the loneliness that is a big problem.

Make sure defense contractors are doing their jobs. I'll bet there are more old ~~er~~ Bridge and roads and buildings standing than newly built and with material that should be stronger.

Ms Christine Malinowski

Ms. Christine Malinowski
24 Reservation St
Buffalo, NY 14207-2922

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Date 5/17/05

NIAGARA FALLS MILITARY AFFAIRS
COUNCIL
PO BOX 231
NIAGARA FALL NY 14304-0231

DEAR BRAC COMMISSION

I AM WRITING TO AS A
CONCERNED CITIZEN OF THE FALLS.

WE LIVE ON AN INTERNATIONAL
BORDER, AS WELL AS A POWER PLANT
SITE. IF THIS BASE IS CLOSED WE
ARE LEFT VULNERABLE TO TERRORIST.

THIS COMMUNITY NEEDS THE BASE
HERE, TO PROTECT OUR BORDER, IN
BOTH PEACE AND WAR TIME. SUSPECTED
TERRORIST HAVE ALREADY BEEN CAUGHT
TRYING TO ENTER THIS COUNTRY FROM
CANADA. THIS COMMISSION IS NOT
ONLY PLAYING WITH THE LIVES AND
SAFETY OF THE COMMUNITY, BUT ALSO WITH
BASE PERSONNEL AND THEIR FAMILIES.

THE BASE PLAYS A VALUABLE
ROLL IN THIS COMMUNITY, AS WELL
AS CONTRIBUTING TO THE ECONOMY
PLEASE DONT PUT US IN DANGER
BY PLAYING WITH OUR SAFETY

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME

Sign Below To Save Our Base!

Name:

Address:

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Mary [unclear]

7 W. White Rd. O.N.Y.

Cindy Beames

7647 Gow Rd Appleton

Lynn Hight

7367 W. Somerset Rd.

Barbara Piggins

3834 Branks Rd, Gasport, N.Y.

Marianne [unclear]

41 Bmi Dr Depew NY 14043

Cindy [unclear]

5673 Bommeller Rd Lockport NY

Janet [unclear]

1408 Quaker Rd. Berke NY 14094

Carol Benoit

1 Pebble Court, Middleport 14105

Priscilla Dechepus

10390 Freeman Rd Medina

Dora Manuel

9932 Ridge Rd, Middleport

Elizabeth Schaal

297 Lo Drum Rd, Middleport 14105

Paul L. Gorenov

PO Box 85 Berke NY

Cuth Anne Labort

4201 Wickes Rd. Lockport NY 14094

Janet [unclear]

58 Hubbardston Amherst 14228

[unclear]

58 Hubbard St Amherst, 14228

Charlene Muddock

4745 Sunset Terrace Gasport, NY 14067

Mark Muddock

4745 Sunset Terrace Gasport NY 14067

Linda Snell

4079 Hoffman Rd. Medina NY 14103

Dora Townsend

4990 Sharpick Lkport, NY 14094

John Smith

9309 Ridge Rd Middleport NY 14105

John [unclear]

9 Alfred St Middleport 14105

Karen Schian

7885 Haight Rd Berke NY 14012

Bub Schian

7885 Haight Rd Berke NY 14012

Robert [unclear]

24 General Smith Sacot Harbor NY

Cindy Baker

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Carolyn Larkin

3420 Ewing Rd Lockport NY 14094

Colin S. Zimmerman

16479 Roosevelt Hwy Kendall NY 14476

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8950 Ridge Rd Gasport, NY 14067

Robert Andry

8980 Ridge Rd Gasport NY 14067

JJ [unclear]

7974 Chestnut Ridge Gasport 14067

Jan [unclear]

61 Ave #4 Lockport NY 14094

Gloria Hefferon

4225 Hartland Road Gasport 14067

Richie Hefferon

4225 Hartland Rd Gasport, NY 14067

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5/9/05

Print Name	ADDRESS	LOCALITY
CONRAD, TOTA	6958 TOWNANDA Ct Rd	W. Hill
William C. Guidicci	6707 1/2 Ave, 676	W. Hill
Maury R. Pate	6958 Townanda Ct Rd, W. Hill, NY	W. Hill
Patricia Q. Lowes	4 Hallack Ln, Tonawanda, NY	W. Hill
Patricia A. Stonish	93 Calvert Blvd, Tonawanda, NY	W. Hill
CHARLES A. STONISH	93 CALVERT TONAWANDA, NY	W. Hill
Michelle D. Spryck	8009 3rd Ave, N.F., NY	W. Hill
CAMELA TESCO	8009 3rd Ave, N.F., NY	W. Hill
Denise Tesco	160 2nd St, N.Y.	W. Hill
Tom Royer	130 2nd St, N.F., NY	W. Hill
NETTE BRUNS	1680 PKEY FT ERIC DR, W. Hill	W. Hill
PAULLE HARRIS	142 3rd St, N.F., NY	W. Hill
DEVIN ROYER	636 2nd St, N.F., NY	W. Hill
AMBER HARRIS	142 2nd St, N.F., NY	W. Hill
Grand Maria	134 2nd St, N.Y.	W. Hill
Carol Honyok	2166 Syron Place, N.F., N.Y.	W. Hill
William G. Doss	3718 OPPENHEIM CT, W. Hill	W. Hill
Valerie A. Carr	2718 Oppenheim Ct, N.Ton., NY	W. Hill
Charles W. Spahn	12776 Ste Tree Rd, E. Aurora, NY	W. Hill
Terry Houser	7898 Boston State Road, W. Hill, Hamburg, NY	W. Hill
Dale Houser	50 Bellhurst Rd., Tonawanda, NY	W. Hill
Sandra Carlson	30 Pheasant Lane, Cheektowaga, NY	W. Hill
Merrie Carlson	30 Pheasant Lane, Cheektowaga, NY	W. Hill
LEONARD D. SMITH	2873 LEWISTON Rd, N.H. Falls, NY	W. Hill
Marcia Popaduck	7052 NASH Rd, N. Ton., NY	W. Hill
Karen L. Bauer	1412 ELDERBERG PL, N.F., NY	W. Hill
Sharon Budnik	1252 95th St, N.F. Falls, NY	W. Hill

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Niagara Falls
Daniel D. Gush

Print	Address
Megan Larwood	290 Lamarck Drive
Daniel D. Gush	4897 Best Street Hamburg 14075
JAMES BRANNAN	7009 PLAZA DR NIAGARA FALLS NY
JESSE U. Mc GEE	219-69th ST, NIAGARA FALLS, NY
MARY JAYES	6023 Robinson Rd. Lockport N.Y.
James S. Stephens	78 Steele Circle NE, NY 14304
Barbara Amour	82 Steele Circle NE, NY 14304
Joanne Shemik	5200 Mayle CT, NE, NY 14304
Kimberlee R Larwood	290 Lamarck Dr. Amherst NY 14226
Francine Boore	1030 Upper Mtn Rd. Lewiston 14092
Susan Fisher	8015 Colonial Dr NE NY 14304
Kevin Fisher	203 LOVERING BUFFALO NY
Barbara Fullford	780 Schenck St. Tonawanda 14120
John Kinney	2657 NORTH Ave NE NY 14305
Diann Mayhew	1291-80th St NY NY 14304
NANCY CHERICO	182 GARY LANE, CHEEKTOWAGA, NY 14227
JOE CHERICO	182 GARY LANE, CHEEKTOWAGA, NY 14227
Michael Bell	9314 Cayuga Drive NIAGARA FALLS NY 14304
Clayton P. Jason	6310 Ridge Rd Lockport, NY 14054
Marie Little	9317 Link Road, Akron, NY 14001
Ruth Gleason	3901 Fair Court W. Saratoga 14132
Richard R. Heenan	3901 Fair Ct W. Saratoga NY 14132
Tom Rando	2535 NICOLE DRIVE NE NY 14304
Barb Rando	2535 Nicole Dr NE NY 14304
Harold Long	356 72 St NIAGARA FALLS NY
Judy Rando	2478 Westlake, N.F., NY 14305
Kim Parth	2288 Lancelot Dr. NE NY 14304
KENNETH GENS	9512 COON RD. GOWANDA NY 14070

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Mary Goodwill 242 Coventry Rd Ken 14217 ~~Mary J. Goodwill~~

DARIA STERNER 1221-86th St. N.F. NY 14304 ~~April~~

Roger G. Matiosh 1632-98th St. N.F. N.Y. 14304 ~~Robert Matiosh~~

Sammy Hauney-Rose 4618 Lockport Rd Lockport NY 14094 ~~Sammy Rose~~

Walter Megard 141 Nelson Ave. Blasdell N.Y.

Paulas Nicholson 61 Pike St Lockport NY ~~Paula~~

Kathleen Campbell 1425 E. Robinson - NT, NY 14120

James Campbell 1425 E. Robinson - W.T. N.Y. 14120

Edward F. 205 EAST AVE N. TONAWANDA, N.Y. 14120

Phronpie Dyland

Stu Wilk 2026th N.F. NY

LISA RATHER 202 68th N.F. NY

Linda Alanexic 8020 Colgate Dr. N.F. NY

MOSAIC'S 1387 101st N.F. NY

TOM CONNOR 1803 18th N.F. NY

Janet Wolanske 10309 Dorettaw N. Falls

Mary Anderson 110 East Felton St. N. Ton. N.Y. Mary Anderson

Muane Churchill 3 Hardy St. Tonawanda, NY 14150

AUDREY ELDRIDGE 916 Cayuga Rd. Tonawanda, NY 14150 Audrey Eldridge

Charlie Durham 46 SAINT PAUL MALL BUFFALO NY 14209

Barb Charenzy 2442 Pierce Ave, Niagara Falls NY 14301

Maureen Fellick 586 Hillside Dr./Lewiston NY 14092

Jean Kelleck 422 Aberdeen Rd. Lewiston N.Y. 14092

Gwynne Fulk MAIN ST NEWFANE NY 14108

Nan Northcott 154 60th St. Nia. Falls NY 14304

Sharon Northcott " " " "

Maureen Gravel 147 56th Nia. Falls N.Y. 14304

Tsgt. Scot Northcott Dyess AFB TEXAS

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Print Name	ADDRESS	SIGN
Gary Chapman	240 Branch St Lockport 14094	<i>[Signature]</i>
Ricky Ostrom	8627 ERNEST RD, GARFERT 14669	Ricky Ostrom
MILKE BOECHLICHIN	1685 JANE DR, A-5 NIAGARA FALLS NY ¹⁴³⁰⁴ 14174	<i>[Signature]</i>
DONNA SEGAVIA	1025 Youngstown - Wilson Rd ¹⁴³⁰⁴	Donna Segavia
Carolyn Laskay	3272 Southway SANBORN NY 14132	Carolyn Laskay
Marion Irwin	2035 Lockport Rd. NF NY 14304	Marion Irwin
Cheryl Killian	Gate Coffee Shop 2028 Lockport Rd. NF NY 14304	Cheryl Killian
MILK Y BAKER	1373 Carroll Rd NF 14132	<i>[Signature]</i>
Fred Coar	5243 HEWITT PKWY LEWISTON 14092	<i>[Signature]</i>
RAY WILSON	402 95th St N.F. NY 14304	Ray Wilson
GEORGE SCHIEDER	332 Remondt Kenmore NY ¹⁴²¹⁷	<i>[Signature]</i>
Carol Lemhart	4276 Irish Lockport NY	<i>[Signature]</i>
Chuck Giles	1031 Remington Dr N. Ton NY	<i>[Signature]</i>
Joela Collette	40 Kenton Dr Kenmore N.Y. 14217	<i>[Signature]</i>
Mary Lou Colley	34 Kenton Rd Kenmore, NY 14217	Mary Lou Colley
PAUL C. TRACY SR.	1225 PK NF. 14132	<i>[Signature]</i>
Mario P. Tonellato	1434 Byrd Ave Niagara Falls N.Y. 14305	<i>[Signature]</i>
Mal Needh	864 CASTROVA N. TONA NY	Malcolm A. Needh
Diane Giordano	67 Walnut Kenmore, NY.	Diane Giordano
Juni M. Giordano	278 Glenhurst Rd Tona, N.Y.	Juni M. Giordano
Joan Skotnicki	3130 Krueger Rd Wheatfield	JOAN SKOTNICKI
Ralph DiPaul	6929 William Rn. N.F. NY	<i>[Signature]</i>
Georgia A Brownman	7009 Plaza Dr. #4	<i>[Signature]</i>
George DeFendi	531-23rd St NF NY	George DeFendi
SUSAN WARNER	531 23rd ST NF NY 14301	Susan Warner
Raymond Rossano	615-34th St N.F. NY 14301	<i>[Signature]</i>
Richard Whittell	PO Box 475 Ransomville NY 14131	<i>[Signature]</i>

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MICHAEL JARZAB 311 PORTAGE RD. WENT 14303 Michael Jarzab

Susan M. Finger 5261 Garlow Road N.F. NY 14304 Susan M. Finger

ROBERT C BUNCE 1079 29th ST N.F. NY 14304 Robert C. Bunce

MICHAEL A. JANDA 430 MAIN ST. TON, NY 14150 Michael Janda

URSULA E ZIMMANN 815 5th St. N.F. NY 14304 Ursula E. Zimmann

ROBERT A HOU 3176 West Lake Rd. Wilson Robert A. Hou

Douglas Walck 1842 N. NIAGARA AVE NIAGARA FALLS Douglas Walck

Mitch BRADT 156 Greenwood N.Y. Mitch Bradt

John Rowles Baseline Rd. BRADT Ist. John Rowles

William Stine 295 Tremont St N. Tona. NY 14120 William Stine

Regina Johnson 2932 Nevada Ave N.F. NY 14305 Regina Johnson

John & Schales 602 Riverside Dr. Ut. W. 14303 John & Schales

Terence Beereng 9314 Cayuga Dr. N.F. N.Y. Terence Beereng

Ted Kalaga - 570 - 73 St N.F. N.Y. Ted Kalaga

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JERRY WOODRING 9337 Buffalo Ave. N.F. N.Y. 14304 JERRY WOODRING

Deb Duncan 6020 WAlmore Rd SANBORN NY 14132 Deb Duncan

Phil Duncan 6020 WAlmore Rd. SANBORN NY 14132 Phil Duncan

Barbara Wilson 2233 Western Ave N.F. NY 14305 Barbara Wilson

Bill Kaufman 20 Depot St COFFO NY 14036 Bill Kaufman

Sharon E Casey 2024 Pine Ave N.F. NY 14301 Sharon E Casey

Linda Tonillato 1424 Dundee N. NY 14303 Linda Tonillato

Jennifer Bauer 2430 Grand Ave Niagara Falls, NY 14301 Jennifer Bauer

Lauree Rebon 741 - 59th St. Niagara Falls, NY 14304 Lauree Rebon

Mary Jean Prochala 738 - 59th St N.F. NY 14304 Mary Jean Prochala

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Michaelne La Penelle 6047 Edward Ave A-5 Newfane 14108 Michaelne La Penelle

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Wayne La Penette, Sr 6047 Edward Ave Apt A5 Tonawanda ¹⁴¹⁰⁸ New York

Thomas Szczerbacki 1763 A ^{LAKE RD} Youngstown, N.Y. 14174

Mary Lanton 2962 Ontario Ave, Niagara Falls, NY 14305

Kelli Bennett 96 Iliac St Tonawanda NY 14150

Marie S Ciavatta 4030 Cliff St. N. F. N.Y. 14305

Madeleine S. Buono 55 Steele Circle N. F. NY 14304

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Carl W Landan 49 Bradley St Buffalo NY 14213-22

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ALIEN J. TARAPCZYNSKI 2629 NIAGARA ST N. F. NY 14303 ¹⁴¹²⁰

CAROL TARAPCZYNSKI 2629 NIAGARA ST N. F. NY 14303

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Ian McLennan 663 Cindy Lane W. Seneca NY 14224

Caitlyn McLennan 603 Cindy Lane W. Seneca NY 14224

Robert L. Merhoff 410 Walcott Dr. Tonawanda NY 14120

Jerrard Gervase 1460 Edgackett Rd 14072

Catherine E. Roberto-Abel 29 Oliver St., Lockport 14094

Frank Sparks 791 S. Niagara St Tonawanda, NY 14150

PATRICIA PHILLIPS 173 RUMBOLD ST NY 14120

Susan M. Phillipon P.O. Box 36 N. Tonawanda NY 14120-0036

Wita C. Anderson 1460 E. Erie Rd, Grand Island, N.Y. 14172

Harold C. Anderson, 1460 E. Erie Rd, Grand Island NY 14172

Dorothy Pulger 1432 Mall St. N. Tonawanda ¹⁴¹²⁰

Mel J. Quinn 817 ST. LAWRENCE AVE BUFF NY 14215 ^{N.Y.}

Marie S. Krieger 31 Steele Cir NF 14304

Felicia Reese 408 A Street C.V. N.F., NY. 14304-1911

JAT GALL - 3034 MACKLEU DR N.F. 14305

Bill Holby

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Michael Egan 7277 LAKEVIEW G. PENNSLVANIA, NY 14120
Lee Galt 2071 Ridge Rd Lewisport NY
William Cowan 1250 Brighton Rd. Ton. N.Y. 14150
Jean Aurelia 7200 Williams Rd Apt 326 N.Y. NY
Michael Grubbs 44 Catona Ct, APT 3 Buffalo NY 14220
Lynn Sadovsky 196 Joseph Drive, Ton. NY 14150

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SAVE NIAGARA AIR BASE PETITION

NAME	ADDRESS
Beatrice Buczowski	6763 Hatter Rd Newfane NY 14108
Amanda Sattlerberg	6341 Charlotteville Rd Newfane NY 14108
Kim Harrington	2314 Birch Lane Newfane N.Y. 14108
Kristen Schultz	9194 Ridge Rd Mdpt, NY 14108
Terry Barcys	291 meadowbrook Ln, Newfane 14108
Kim Titus	4240 Freeman Rd Middleport NY 14105
Brian FRET	2603 William St. Newfane NY 14108
JoAnne Brossait Mully	5024 ESCARPment Dr Lockport NY 14094
Jillie Thompson	207 maine St. Rochester NY 14609
Paul Starich	576 wall St N. Tonawanda, NY 14120
Rosalyn Smith	2320 Birch Lane Newfane NY 14108
Albert Wittberger	3600 Day Rd Lockport NY 14094
Steny Ewald	17 Sunset Island, Wilson NY 14112
Debra Pelletier	2487 Lockport-Olcott Rd Newfane
Erin Reeson	6041 Edward Ave Apt B2 Newfane
Christa Miller	15608 Lockport Olcott Rd Olcott NY 14108/14126
Angelia Gayne	4791 E. Lake Burt NY 14028
Laurie Aubrey Janni Anderson	2323 main St. Newfane NY 14108
MARK E. MUNDY Mark E. Mundy	542 93rd St. Niagara Falls NY 14304
Daniel Hefferon	1441 Hosmer Rd. Barker, NY. 14012
Dina M High	304 Cottage St Lkpt NY 14094
Arcel O'Leary	8664 Huntington Bldg Barker NY 14012
Cynthia G. Burgess	8708 High St Barker, NY 14012
James Pearson	1381 Johnson Creek Rd. Barker
Johnsen	9676 Hall Rd Barker NY 14012
Debi Jones	815 Chapman Rd Wapport NY 14067
Grace Farnin	7072 Lake Rd Appleton, NY 14008
Michael Campbell	1960 Madford Rd Appleton
Basilqa Sutich	2591 Hoeme Rd Appleton N.Y. 14008
Paul D. Miller	1713 PALLISTEK BARRE NY 14012
Joan Morgan	7871 W Somerset Rd Appleton NY 14008
DEBRI LEE DEARBORN Debra Lee Dearborn	7740 W. SOMERSET APPLETON NY 14008

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SAVE NIAGARA AIR BASE PETITION

Thomas P. Stadler Jr	
Alan Milton	9284 Haight Rd Barker NY 14012
Kathi Hilton	9284 Haight Rd Barker NY 14012
Becky Harding	6502 Drake Sett Rd Appleton 14008
Holly Bigelow	9826 Lower Lake Rd Barker, NY 14012
Donna Reisman	9201 Lake Rd Barker, N.Y. 14012
Joseph G. Reisman	9201 Lake Rd Barker, N.Y. 14012
Patricia A. Alvarez	8724 Coleman Rd. Barker N.Y. 14012
Adam C. Stadler Jr	BARKER COMONS
Barbara A. Snell	1138 Quaker Rd Barker NY 14012
	309 Cottage St. Lockport, NY 14094
Christine M. Hotaling	1365 Quaker Rd. Barker, N.Y. 14012
Patricia A. Rosekellia	2707 Quaker Rd. Gasport, NY 14067
Joan Beaman	8707 COLEMAN RD BARKER NY
Gloria Sutch	881 Coleman Barker, NY 14012
Cynthia Albee	3297 Mill Rd. Gasport, NY 14067
Mary Rinker	8496 Lake Rd. Barker
James L. Gow	2349 Lake Rd Appleton 14008
Beverly C. Dickinson	8713 Haight Rd Barker NY 14012
Daryl G. Hansen	1449 Quaker Rd. Barker, NY 14012
Ronnie L. Hefaul	8691 Lake Rd #19 Barker, NY 14012
Debra LeBeau	Garden St. Lockport NY 14094
Chris Dietz	Pallister, Barker, NY 14012
Gail Damon	9142 Lower Lake Rd Barker NY 14012
Donna Sanchez	6983 West Ave. Appleton, NY 14008
Antia Sanchez	6983 West Ave. Appleton, NY 14008
Shirley Longmeyer	9761 Lake Rd Barker NY 14012
Marie W. Conley	8961 Lower Lake Rd, Barker NY 14012
Robert Brownhead	8776 Lockport Ave Barker NY 14012
JAMES S. TORGESEN	393 DAVISON ROAD # LOCKPORT, NY 14094
Sue & Bill Hamal	7600 Ridge Rd Gasport NY 14067
Ernest Helen Boresen	9236 Coleman Rd. Barker, NY 14012

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<u>PRINT NAME</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>SIGN</u>
MARY Schieder	332 Tremont Kenmore	Mary Schieder
Frank FB uchaltz	100 Thompson BFLC	Frank + Buechaltz
MICHAEL A MARCHESI	40 GARDEN RD CHEEK NY	Michael Marchesi
JAMES W. ROSTEN	464 VICTORIA BLVD KENMORE N.Y.	James W. Rosten
GLENN WASLEY	813 PIONEER DR, NT NY	Glenn Wasley
Russell D. Bova	460 Getzville Rd Amherst	Russell D. Bova
MARY A REASINGER	410 95 th ST. U.F. NY.	Mary A Reasinger
Robert W. Waldon	376 Hinman Ave BFLC	Robert Waldon
PAUL BEAMER	60 HEATH ST BUFFALO 14214	Paul Beamer
JACKIE BEAMER	60 HEATH ST Buffalo 14214	Jackie Beamer
FRANKLIN GINTY	4864 WATERFORD PL. LOCKPORT, NY ¹⁴⁰⁹⁴	Franklin Ginty
MARIE DEMBITSKY	281 SPINA DR. NIAG. FALLS NY 14304	Marie Dembitsky
ELAINE K. GINTY	4864 WATERFORD PL., LOCKPORT, NY, 14094	Elaine Ginty
ROBERT L. SODANO	5896 MILLER PL. NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y. 14304	Robert L. Sodano
Chris Aulet	325 Smallwood Dr. Amherst, NY 14226	Chris Aulet
Laura Marra	345 North 7 th St Lewiston NY 14092	Laura Marra
Michael MARRA	345 North 7 th St Lewiston, NY 14092	Michael Marra
Jack Fell	609-31 ST #2 Nia. Fls NY, 14301	John Fell
CHARLES J. FELL	261 WASHINGTON ST. LOCKPORT NY, 14094	Charles Fell
Darlene Schmiede	1157 Balmer Rd. Youngstown N.Y. 14174	Darlene Schmiede
Marlene Janda	430 Main St Tonawanda NY 14150	Marlene Janda
Jean A. Socha	9414 Cayuga Dr. #6 Niagara Falls, N.Y.	Jean A. Socha
MOUI S. KNIPLER	862 C ROBIN RD AMHERST, N.Y. 14228	Molly Knipfler
Marty Abramson	1846 Niagara Ave N.F. NY. 14305	Marty Abramson
Vernon Fildford	97 Jasper dr. Amherst N.Y. 14226	Verna Fildford
Rick + Patty Fiden	2219 Katherine Dr. Niagara Falls, NY 14304	Patty Fiden
Brianne Wilson	134 69 th St. Niagara Falls, NY	Brianne Wilson
Doug Schuelles	600 Rice-Sole Dr. N.F. N.Y.	Doug Schuelles

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William R. Abel 29 Oliver St Lockport
 Renee S. Kinney 2651 North Ave., NY, 14305 Renee Kinney
 Laurie Bartolomeo 284 Franklin St, NY 14150 Laurie Bartolomeo
 JOHN BARTOLOMEO JR 284 FRANKLIN ST. Tonawanda NY 14150
 Timothy Prawl 3409 Champlain Ave Nia. Falls
 Karl A. Bauer 2430 GRAND AVE^{APT. 2} NIAGARA FALLS, NY 14301
 FRANK BUSHARDT 357 SKILLER ST BUFFALO NY 14207
 Charles Rebon Jr. 1763 LAKE RD. Yagstn. NY. 14174
 James A Ryan 4823 Tuscarora Rd Town of Niagara, NY 14304
 Carmo Buccarelli 2595 Jerauld Ave Niagara Falls, NY 14305
 Janine Blackburn 5848 Pearl St Sanborn NY 14132-0473
 Jusley Battaglia 215 main st. N. TONA. 14120
 David R. Kogo 2592 N. main st. Tonawanda, 14108
 Alicia Kogo 2592 N. main St. Tonawanda 14108
 Annika Burholt 1300 92nd St. NF, 14104
 Nancy Strat 6033 Regal PK WY N Lockport
 Rebecca M. Bayne 55 Raintree Ave., Apt. 12, Tonawanda, NY, 14150
 Judith M. Bayne 185 Walnut Ave, Kenner NY 14217
 Shirley Stanley 13390 Cedar Rd Clarence Ct 14032
 Mal D Brown 2708 Welch Ave Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14303
 Marianne Brown 2708 Welch Ave Niagara Falls NY 14303
 Beverly James 2184 Violet Circle, Niagara Falls N.Y. 14304
 Stewart E. Russell 922 91 ST. NIAGARA FALLS, NY 14304-3534
 Dr Robert J. Koko 1006 91st NF. NY 14304-2876
 Ann M. Koko 1006 91st Niagara Falls NY 14304

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- Keyword
- Bookmark

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Name:

Address:

Carrinne Weatherbee

Ransomville Ny.

Debbie Cockayne

Newfane, Ny

Shelly Stranges

Lockport, N.Y.

Ms. Arlene McDonald -

Lockport, N.Y.

KEVIN HANNA

NEWFANE NY

Wayne

Barker Ny.

Paul C. Nicholas

Newfane N.Y.

James E. Nicholas

Newfane NY

Russell Aubrey

2823 main st.

Mark Mundy

Newfane NY 14108

Doris Whitwell

542 93rd St.

Niagara Falls, NY 14304

Wendigo Sharpes

6786 Union Road

Lockport, N.Y. 14094

Thomas Fret

Lockport, NY

John Phillips

Newfane N.Y.

Virginia Carston

LOCKPORT, N.Y. 14094

Virginia Carston

Wilson N.Y. 14172

Maude Munn

Wilson N.Y. 14172

Ann Munn

Wheatfield NY 14120

Cathy Hefner

Buffalo, Ny 14216

Ben Hefner

Newfane NY 14108

Becky Hardman

Lockport

Evelyn R. Suck

Lockport

Gay Williams

Wilson, N.Y. 14172

Julie Latoral

Lockport NY 14094

Deborah Sims

Newfane, NY 14108

24

Cheryl Woodmanay

Niagara Falls Ny 14305

2745 Quaker Rd Lockport 14067

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Name

Address

Heather Ecker	8486 Lake Rd, Barker 14012
Carol Hurlbough	6138 Ketchum Ave, Newfane 14108
Renee Ward	8080 Church St, Barker 14012
Ron Seifert	6043 East Canal Rd Lockport 14094
Kathleen Hurlbough	6138 Ketchum Ave Newfane 14108
Ann Schulze	2030 Old Coomer Rd, Burdett 14028
Heather Gardiner	2833 S. Main St. Apt 2 Newfane 14108
D. Maybach	6010 Dutton Place Newfane 14108
Dave Finell	76 MADISON AVE, Blossell
Ann Raskopf	P.O. Box 296 Olcott 14126
INNA HERLAN	6187 HOWELL AVE NEW FANE 14108
Corey Galore	1513 W. Somerset Rd, Appleton 14008
John Raskopf	P.O. Box 296 Olcott NY 14126
Ronald H. Mael	3196 SHARON ALI NEW FANE NY 14108
Jane Verminick	717 Elliott Rd, Lockport, NY 14094
Sylvia Marshall	2540 West Creek Rd Newfane NY 14108
Marilyn J. Olsen	2804 S. Main, Newfane NY 14108
Cathy He	2512 Transit Rd Lockport, NY 14094
Margaret Stark	6078 East Ave Newfane, NY 14108
Patricia E. Ditch	P.O. Box 827 Olcott NY 14126
Andy Webb	3618 Lkpt-Olcott Rd. Lkpt NY 14094
Amanda Fisher	7328 Ridge Rd. Lkpt NY 14094
Pat Stephenson	6061 EDWARDS AV Newfane NY 14108
Chris Kelahan	508 Lake St Wilson NY 14172
Kalate Lehrer	3093 Lkpt-Olcott Rd, Newfane NY 14108
Carly Paterson	1550 Crescent Heights Olcott NY 14126
Richard W. Kutt	2070 Main St Newfane, NY 14108
Kimberly Sullivan	2090 Lkpt-Olcott Rd Newfane NY 14108
Bonnie J. Spjut	6468 Phillips Rd Newfane NY 14108
Jacky Hunter	7918 Leunin Rd Appleton 14008
Robert W. Eckhart	6900 Charlottesville Rd, Newfane NY 14108
Mandy Horvath	6137 Poplar St Newfane NY 14108
David Kerwin	444 Lake St. Wilson, NY 14172

~~Help!!~~ Help!!

Sign Below To Help Save Our Base!

Name:

Address:

Kenneth Snee

841a Haight Id Butler 14012

Jill Siford

6903 Lake Geneva Ct. N. F. N.Y. 14804

Aiden Siford

" " " "

Paula Feh

6276 Corwin Station Newfane ¹⁴¹⁰⁸ NY

Gene Austin

6344 Charlottsville Rd.

Mary Ellen Kavanaugh

509 Applewood Dr. Lockport, NY

Richard D Lee

3225 Coomer Rd. Newfane

Jean See

3525 Coomer Rd Newfane

Christa Miller

1568 Airport Scott Rd

Lawrence R Mille Cambridge 48103. Lockport NY

Susan Malisane

2715 Transit Rd Newfane

Tammy Delano

2695 Maple Ave #1 Newfane

Krista Kirby

6379 Dale Rd Newfane

Anna Choops

7605 Chestnut Ridge Rd, Lkpt

Chris Sattelby

6341 Charlottsville Rd Newfane

JACQUE Knight

6672 Wheeler Lockport 14094

Diane Woodcock

23 Bobo Link Lane Lockport N.Y. 14094

Gaine Howell

2549 N. Main St. Upper apt. Newfane NY 14108

Spurline Baker

6180 East Avenue Newfane NY 14108

Dora Chapman

3811 Chase Rd Middleport NY

Cassidy Dean

4370 N. Ridge Rd. Lockport

Deb Davis

639 G. ... Newfane N.Y.

Carye Haughtling

2570 Transit Rd - Newfane N.Y.

Stephen J. ...

48 THE Common Lockport, N.Y.

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05272005

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Name:	Address:
Ashley Heinz Sarah Drier	P.O. Box 183 Barker, NY 14012 1623 Quaker Rd Barker NY, 14012
Angela Towne	8691 Lake Barker NY 14012
PAMELA McDONALD	1396 Quaker Rd. Barker, N.Y. 14012
Stella DeCarlo	9679 Lake Rd Barker 14012
Jan Kent	1707 Palliser Ave Barker 14012
Ann Dierz	9762 Haight Rd. Barker NY 14012
Robert E. Dierz	9762 Haight Rd. Barker, N.Y. 14012
Billy Stratten	8704 High St Barker N.Y. 14012
Brandon Sardellini	8512 Lake Rd Barker NY 14012
ANDREW STEEL	1705 PALLISTER AVE BARKER NY 14012
Michelle DeWart	5686 Cleman Rd Barker, Ny 14012
Christel Watts	2747 W. Creek Rd Newton NY 14105
Tim Hoffman	8770 Lower Lake, Barker, N.Y. 14012
Lois Hildebrandt	1432 Quaker Rd Barker NY 14012
Al Dierz	8830 HAIGHT RD BARKER N.Y. 14012
Victoria J. Andrews	31 Bicky Pl. Medina 14103
Kam Char	105 John St Rockport 14099
Jean W. Anderson	1127 Quaker Rd., Barker, N.Y. 14012
Malcolm Anderson	1127 Quaker Rd., Barker, N.Y. 14012

Sign Name in full N 1903s Air Force
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Name:	Address:
Carol M Santosk	5616 West Bluff, POB344, Ocott
Cornelia Steen	6084 Exchange St Newfane NY
Faun Crayton	6124 East Ave Newfane
Francine Mc Cushman	2031 Quaker Rd. Bakers, NY
Alexandria Matcalawag	1968 Crestside Dr Burt NY 14028
Salvatore Zepano	2744 Calabrous St Newfane
Michelle Mumper	6119 Hutchinson Ave Newfane
Quiterman	6400 Charlotteville Newfane
Deborah Molyett	6009 King St. Newfane, NY 14108
Carol Ann	5974 Railroad Ave Burt 14108
Kim Schuler	1720 Ballister Ave. Borters, NY 14012
Ann Schuler	5404 Stone Rd Louport
Paula Allen	5400 Stone Rd Lockport
Paul King	6801 State Rd Copleton 14008
Rosalind J. HAUSE	6169 Howell Ave Newfane NY 14108
Phyllis Laurent	P.O. BOX 427 OLCOTT NY
Molly Faber, MD	303 Madisbroke Lane Newfane NY 14108
Margaret Woodman	2637 Merritt St Newfane NY
Stephania Harmon	4788 Side Rd. Wilcox, NY
David Miller	4295 North Ridge Rd. Burt, NY
Jean Wolfe	6070 East Ave. Newfane, NY 14108
Margaret Ernst	6132 Corwin Ave Newfane NY 14108
Dorothy Hopkins	2327 W. Creek Rd Newfane NY 14108
Sarah Hooper	3005 WEST-OLCOTT Rd NEWFANE NY 14108
Melanie Patrowska	6070 Corwin Ave Newfane NY 14108
Blaine S. Wang	6193 Bixler Rd, Newfane, NY 14108
Thomas Woodruff	6080 Exchange St. Newfane NY 14108
Leola Deen Dickstein	1893 W Creek Rd. Burt 14028
Deborah	150 Washington St - Burt, NY
Dorinda DeLong	3319 Ewing Rd Newfane NY 14108
Doreen Ann	6294 Duke Street. Newfane, NY 14108
Dorothy Schuler	2766 West Ave, Burt NY 14108
Ward J. Schuler	2625 N. Main St Burt NY 14108

Sign Below To Help Save Our Base!

Name	Address
Cathy Schumacher	10217 Mill Rd
Jim Saquin	9216 Starwood Rd
Becky Leder	3222 Zerkow Rd
April Gow	7349 Lake Rd, Apple
Jindy Karpal	24 Kelly Ave, In
Bill Hoessel	24 Kelly Ave 9
Edy Hoening	4591 Plant Rd, Lkt
John M. Rumb	8686 Coleman Rd Bar
Wm E. Devereaux	1430 Quaker Rd 2
Frank P. ...	1430 Quaker Rd 2
John P. ...	6448 Hope Lane Rd
Clare ...	2255 1st Avenue
Lynne Wolentzski	8699 LAKE RD 10
Julie Obermiller	8691 Lake Rd #9 Barker
Anna Lou Dean	6559 ROYAL PKWY N LOCKE
Jan Buffington	2036 Hartland Rd N
ouis Mead	1945 Quaker Rd Bar
Tom ...	281 Hamilton Blvd Ke
John ...	321 Hamilton Blvd
	1341 102nd St N.E. NY

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Name:

Address:

Doris White

314 Pine St
Lockport NY 14094

Patty White 95 Trowbridge St. Lockport NY 14094

✓ Teresa Hayner

6260 Ridge Road
Lockport, NY. 14094

✓ Steve Hayner

6260 Ridge Rd
Lockport NY 14094

✓ Karen Fuller

3015 Johnson Cir Rd
Masp. NY. 14105

Melanie Guild

3303 Mill Rd
Gasport NY 14007

KATHLEEN STEIN

5739 SIDNE RD
LOCKPORT, NY 14094-1213

Amanda Gueli

6609 Parkwood Dr.
Lockport, NY 14094

✓ Lisa Marie Maddox

485 South Street
Lockport NY 14094

Elizabeth P. Burffon

71 McIntosh Dr
Lockport, NY 14094

Kathleen Shanley

302 Church
Lockport NY 14094

Adrienne Adams

3271 CRAIG DR
NY. 14094

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Name:

Address:

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✓	Henry Luzzo	Coleman Rd Barker 14012
✓	Kenny Ellner	7120 Lake Rd Appleton 14008
✓	Leann Barnes	24 Purcella Lockport, 14094
✓	Mary Nuhn	58 Adam St., Lockport, NY 14094
✓	Brian David	5632 Eastwood Dr. Lockport NY 14094
✓	Kara Stimmel	872 Eden Rd Amherst ny 14228
✓	Jane Pfah	6314 Dochester Lockport NY 14094
✓	Frankie	2 Humphrey Rd Buffalo, NY 14207
✓	Denise Dear	Hartland Rd Gasport NY 14067
✓	GAIL DEAR	386 Hawley St Lockport NY 14094
✓	Danielle Dear	6559 Royal Pkwy N. Lockport NY 14094
✓	Joy Dear - Clody	8824 Haseley Rd Gasport, NY 14067
✓	Sara Dear	358 West Ave Apt 1 Lockport, NY 14067
✓	Tanzela Coates	5968 Washington St Cheektowatch NY 14126
✓	Paul Leadet	6118 Carwin Ave Newfane NY 14108
✓	Michele M Smith	5 East Ave Middleport, NY 14105
✓	Lana Secrist	193 Church St Lockport ny 14094
✓	Edward Gettes	4466 Beach Ridge Rd. Lockport, NY 14094
✓	Dorothy Gettes	4466 Beach Ridge Rd Lockport, ny 14094
✓	Liane Snickles	2947 Randall Rd. Ransomville 14131

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Name:	Address:
Stephanie Myers	Barber 14012 1441 Hosmer Rd'
Donna Bickster	7526 Sunnydale Rd ^{N.T. NY 14102}
Evelyn M. Scaletta	761-60 th St. NF, NY 14304
Jane Molinaro	885 Cayuga Street NF, NY 14304
Christine Muraicin	1843 Swann Rd. Ransomville 14101
Sally Hansen	7526 Sunnydale Rd (NT NY)
Elaine Walton	3241 Woodland Ave ¹⁴¹⁰² NF NY
Michael CRAMER	3241 Woodland Ave ¹⁴³⁰⁴ NF NY
James Myers	7526 Sunnydale Rd. ^{NT, NY} 14102
Griffin Browning	42 Edgewood Ave ^{NT} , NF, NY 14304
Leslie Browning	56 Edlicott Creek Rd 14150
May Myers	402-82 nd St. NF NY 14304
Peter Eodice	456-71 st NF NY 14304
Jacqueline Eodice	456-71 st NF NY 14304
Aurelanne Clarkson	8105 Frontier Ave ^{N.F.} 14304
Carolyn Corp	3055 Shenk Rd, Saratoga, NY 14132
+ Susan Bertuzzi	208 Canal St NF NY 14304
James Nicholas	403 8 th St. NF NY 14304
Karen Dick	1243 93 rd St NY NY 14304
Carlene Schwartz	2420 Tagaw Rd NF NY 14304
Archie Sciarano	8 Mason Dr. NF NY 14304
Guttansen	6986 Jennifer Ct NF NY 14304
Jacqueline Malmonski	859 Foxwood Dr Lew. NY 14092
James Malvestato	6877 Nickis Lane ¹⁴³⁰⁴ NY
Sara Osburno	83 Rosedale St. Buff NY 14207
James Galkowski	42 Wolong St Buffalo NY 14210
Rya Kroeman	349 Kaymar Dr. Amherst NY 14225
Gloria Tracasse	552-25 th St. NY 14301
Leandra Dashneau	552-25 th St NY 14301
Johnny Butterbaugh	310 Wolf Rd. Leico, NY 14127

N.I.M.A.C.

RECEIVED

We need the Niagara Falls
Air Base opening + serving
this area for protection
with our international
border + the power
plant.

06132005

Dear Chairman Principi and
BRAC Commissioners:

I am deeply troubled by the
Defense Department's recom-
mendation to close Niagara
Falls Air Reserve Station. This
recommendation is a terrible
mistake, and I urge the BRAC
to reverse this decision and re-
move the Niagara Falls Base
from the list.

It is hard to understand why
the Defense Department has
decided to take planes, missions
and jobs away from so many Air
Guard and Air Reserve bases
and put them on more costly ac-
tive duty bases. Of all the bases
to pick to close, how do you
close the base whose unit
helped rescue Jessica Lynch in
Iraq, because they are the lead
night vision C-130 unit in the
Reserves? You must also recog-
nize:

- The federal government
has invested more than \$35 mil-
lion in Niagara Falls since 1995
in new facilities.

- Base Operations Support
costs have been reduced more
than 33 percent (to include a 25
percent reduction in utilities) to
make the base one of the most
cost-efficient facilities in the Air
Force Reserve Command.

- Closure of the base elimi-
nates the ability to recruit and
retain New Yorkers in a region
in which the units have both
maintained in excess of 100 per-
cent manning rates.

- Niagara Falls existing in-
frastructure can accommodate
eight additional C-130H model
aircraft without any military
construction.

- Niagara Falls faces no
physical encroachment nor air
traffic control constraints and
has acreage on the base and ad-
jacent to the installation for ex-
pansion.

I urge the Commission, in
the strongest possible terms, to
remove Niagara Falls Air re-
serve Station from the Penta-
gon's recommended list of base
closures and to stop the con-
tinuing retreat of the military
from our region of the country.

2901 Lehigh Ave
N. Tonawanda, NY 14120
BRAC Commission
RECEIVED
6/20/2005
May 25, 2005

BRAC Commission
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs

I vehemently oppose the idea of minimizing in any way, the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. To remove a very strong military presence from Western New York is a mistake. ^{The air base is vital.} due to its extremely strategic position. Home of one of the amazing natural wonders of the world, harnessed by an equally amazing power plant, in close proximity to a densely populated region of the United States and Canada, next to a highly busy and successful international border ... all of that is here, in W.N.Y. The base needs to be here!

I understand one of the considerations is weather. Weather?! We scoff at the idea that weather holds us back. Does our military only work in mild weather? Of course not! So why would you not want people who have experienced and thrived

BRAC Commission

Received

6/20/2005
T. J. Bowski
86 Tyler Street
Depew, NY 14043
716-603-3207

BRAC Commission
Washington D.C.
C/o NIMAC; PO Box 231
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

Dear Commissioners:

The Pentagon has recommended to the BRAC that the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, New York be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with over 3,000 full and part-time workers, this would deliver yet another devastating blow to our region's economy. In addition to the financial concerns, the community pride for our past and present military contributions can not be understated.

The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossings between the U.S. and Canada, along with the New York State Power Authority's Hydropower Complex which supplies substantial power to the Northeast United States Power Grid. The size and location of the base would also allow it to be used for responses to natural disasters or terror attacks in the Northeast United States. While the base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable. It should be expanded rather than closed.

According to the Niagara Military Affairs Council:

- Closure of Niagara would reduce the Air Force presence in NY by 40%, and eliminate the *last* Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with \$35M in new facilities and lengthened runways which have improved the operational effectiveness of the wings.
- We have also reduced our Base Operations Support costs by not less than 33% (to include a 25% reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- Closure of the base would also eliminate the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers in a region in which the units have both maintained in excess of 100% manning rates.
- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate 8 additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.

According to the Buffalo News article on May 25, 2005:

Top Air Force officials relied on their "collective judgment" in deciding to recommend their Niagara Falls base for closure, disregarding military value rankings that showed Niagara outperforming several other bases slated to remain open. Air Force spokesman Douglas Karas said the Air Force's "mission compatibility index" was just one of the factors considered in the base-closure decisions. Asked why at least nine bases with airlift missions were slated to stay open when they had lower "MCI" scores than Niagara, Karas said the Base Closure Executive Group sometimes deviated from its own rating system. "There were cases in the analysis process where lower ranked bases were retained," Karas said. "In those cases, the Base Closure Executive Group used their collective judgment, that, when combined with the MCI scores, resulted in the retention of lower-ranked installations. This was true in Niagara's case."

A lobbyist for New York State on the issue, John M. Simmons, said the Air Force's response proves that the base-closure recommendations followed "a judgmental, and not an analytical, process." The Pentagon was supposed to judge each base primarily on its military value - yet in

**BRAC Commission
Received**

6/20/2005
this case the Air Force bypassed the tool it created for judging military value. "The Air Force in their response acknowledge that they themselves ignored the results of a key analytical tool . . . created for the BRAC process," Simmons said. "They simply took the position that their judgment trumped the analysis."

Considering these facts and figures; I am writing to remind you, our elected representative, of your obligation to use all means necessary in order to persuade the BRAC to reconsider the recommendation to close the station. The fine men and women of the 914th Airlift Wing and the 107th Air Refueling Wing have been instrumental in securing the home front and fighting the war on terror overseas and these highly-decorated units have served their country and represented our State and local communities well.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this most important matter.

Sincerely,



Tom Paradowski



Infrastructure, buildings, environment, communications

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 disappointed and upset by the Defense Department's recommendation to close 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 Niagara Falls from the closure list.

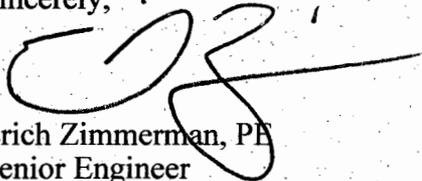
It is no secret that closing the base would have a devastating economic impact on our region: The base is Niagara County's second-largest employer with more than 3,000 full- and part-time military and civilians, and it has an estimated impact of \$150 million on regional businesses.

That said, it is also difficult 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.

The media has reported that the military is 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 National Guard and will make the Pentagon's efforts to recruit and retain military personnel even more difficult than it is now.

The Buffalo Niagara business community stands with the Niagara Falls/Western New York community in support of the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base, and its retention. Overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,



Erich Zimmerman, PE
Senior Engineer

Part of a bigger picture

**BRAC Commission
Received**
6/20/2005

ARCADIS G&M, Inc.
7288 Hayes Hollow Rd
West Falls, NY 14170
Tel 716 655 2409
Fax 716 655 4307
www.arcadis-us.com

Date:
06 June 2005

Contact:
Erich Zimmerman, PE

Phone: 716 655 2409

Email:
ezimmerman@arcadis-
us.com

**BRAC Commission
Received**
6/20/2005

June 3, 2005

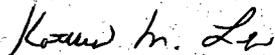
Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC)
c/o Niagara Military Affairs Council (NIMAC)
PO Box 231
Niagara Falls, New York 14304

To Whom It May Concern:

The recent BRAC announcement that the Niagara Falls Air Force Base may possibly be closed brings concern and sadness to everyone who cares about the Niagara Falls area, the people who live and work there and, most importantly, the military presence in the community along with the those who serve there. The numerous military and economic contributions made over the years through the Niagara Falls AFB have made our country safer and helped to enhance the economy of an area that has been economically deficient over the past 30 years. It goes without saying that the area can ill afford to lose more jobs. Our country should not be subjected to leaving another door open for terrorists by decreasing our defense options and handing them a perfect opportunity to destruct a vulnerable area. For the military attached to this base who are actively serving our country throughout the world at this time, the BRAC announcement must most certainly affect their morale and perhaps cause them to question why they are doing what they are doing if the people back home do not attach importance to their home base. Those men and women deserve tremendous gratitude and support for their sacrifices, and they deserve to know that they will return home to continued support at an active military facility that is recognized as such by our country.

As a former resident of Niagara Falls who lived in the Norfolk/Virginia Beach area for 20 years, where there is a heavy Navy, Army and Air Force presence, I definitely understand how important every branch of the military is and how magnificently those members serve the citizens of this country. While the Niagara Falls AFB is on a smaller scale, the importance is never the less the very same. Therefore, I respectfully request that my request to keep this important facility open be added to the many others who have voiced the same sentiments.

Sincerely,



Kathleen M. Len
205 Catalpa Lane S.
Pinehurst, NC 28374

BRAC Commission

RECEIVED

6/20/2005

1104 Michael Dr.
Angola, NY 14006
June 4, 2005

BRAC Commission
Washington, DC

I am writing in support of our local Niagara Falls Air Force Base. I am requesting that you reconsider the closing of this base because of the profound effect such closing would have on the Western New York area. Please support efforts to keep the Niagara Falls Air Force Base open.

Sincerely,

Eileen C. Hansen

Eileen C. Hansen

BRAC COMMISSION: WASHINGTON D.C

HI, MY NAME IS JOHN SIMON AND I LIVE IN SLOAN N.Y. I'M
WRITING YOU TO ASK IF YOU CAN PLEASE CONSIDER LEAVING
THE NIA FALLS AIR BASE OPEN PLEASE. I'M A FATHER OF 2
LITTLE GIRLS AND THEY BOTH LOVE THE ARMY PLANE'S. I
TOOK MY DAUGHTER'S AND MY WIFE TO THE AIR SHOW LAST
YEAR TO SEE THE BLUE ANGLES. IT RAINED THE FIRST DAY WE
WENT SO THE ANGLES DIDN'T FLY, SO I TOOK THEM BACK THE
NEXT DAY TO SEE THEM AND IT WAS TOO CLOUDY FOR THEM
TO FLY AGAIN, BUT TO SEE THE LOOK ON MY DAUGHTER'S
FACE'S WHEN I TOOK THEM IN THE PLANE'S AND THE
PICTURE'S I TOOK, AND THE FUN THEY HAD THAT WEEKEND
I CAN'T REPLACE. AS A FATHER OF 2 AND MARRIED, THE LITTLE
THING'S IN LIFE MEAN A LOT TO PEOPLE LIKE MY FAMILY.
SPENDING A WEEKEND AT THE AIR SHOW OR JUST SEEING THE
PLANE'S PRACTICE LANDING ON DAY'S WE DON'T HAVE
ANYTHING TO DO MEAN'S A LOT TO MY KID'S. THE LOOK IS
PRICELESS. YOU HAVE KID'S TO SO YOU NO THAT LOOK.
YOU DO ANYTHING TO SEE THAT LOOK AGAIN. SEEING THEM

BRAC Commission

Received

6/20/2005

Debra J. Marley
3750 DeVeaux Street
Niagara Falls, NY 14305

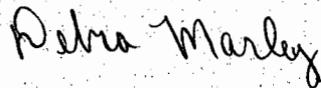
June 3, 2005

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

Dear Chairman Anthony J. Principi

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. Please reconsider your decision.

Sincerely,



Debra J. Marley



TOWN OF ORCHARD PARK

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

S 4295 South Buffalo Street Orchard Park, New York 14127-2609

Phone: (716) 662-6410
Fax: (716) 662-6413
Email: optownclerk@orchardparkny.org

TOWN CLERK
JANIS A. COLARUSSO

June 3, 2005

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 Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base. This recommendation is a not in the nation's best interest and the BRAC Commission should reverse this decision and to remove Niagara Falls from the closure list.

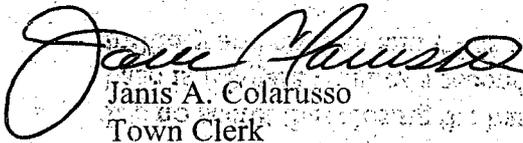
It's no secret that closing the base would have a devastating economic impact on our region. The base is Niagara County's second-largest employer with more than 3,000 full- and part-time military and civilian and it has an estimated impact of \$150 million on regional businesses.

That said, it is also difficult 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.

The media has reported that the military is 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 National Guard and will make the Pentagon's efforts to recruit and retain military personnel even more difficult than it is now.

The Buffalo Niagara business community stands with the Niagara Falls/Western New York community in support of the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base, and its retention. Overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely yours,



Janis A. Colarusso
Town Clerk

cc: Town Board of the Town of Orchard Park

Visit the Town's website at www.orchardparkny.org

BRAC Commission

Received

6/20/2005
Gary and Elaine Daum
1968 Marshall Rd / Lyndonville, NY
585-765-9682 14098

BRAC Commission
Washington D.C.
C/o NIMAC; PO Box 231
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

Dear Commissioners:

The Pentagon has recommended to the BRAC that the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, New York be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with over 3,000 full and part-time workers, this would deliver yet another devastating blow to our region's economy. In addition to the financial concerns, the community pride for our past and present military contributions can not be understated.

The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossings between the U.S. and Canada, along with the New York State Power Authority's Hydropower Complex which supplies substantial power to the Northeast United States Power Grid. The size and location of the base would also allow it to be used for responses to natural disasters or terror attacks in the Northeast United States. While the base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable. It should be expanded rather than closed.

According to the Niagara Military Affairs Council:

1. Closure of Niagara would reduce the Air Force presence in NY by 40%, and eliminate the *last* Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with \$35M in new facilities and lengthened runways which have improved the operational effectiveness of the wings.
2. We have also reduced our Base Operations Support costs by not less than 33% (to include a 25% reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
3. Closure of the base would also eliminate the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers in a region in which the units have both maintained in excess of 100% manning rates.
4. Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate 8 additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.

According to the Buffalo News article on May 25, 2005:

Top Air Force officials relied on their "collective judgment" in deciding to recommend their Niagara Falls base for closure, disregarding military value rankings that showed Niagara outperforming several other bases slated to remain open. Air Force spokesman Douglas Karas said the Air Force's "mission compatibility index" was just one of the factors considered in the base-closure decisions. Asked why at least nine bases with airlift missions were slated to stay open when they had lower "MCI" scores than Niagara, Karas said the Base Closure Executive Group sometimes deviated from its own rating system. "There were cases in the analysis process where lower ranked bases were retained," Karas said. "In those cases, the Base Closure Executive Group used their collective judgment, that, when combined with the MCI scores, resulted in the retention of lower-ranked installations. This was true in Niagara's case."

A lobbyist for New York State on the issue, John M. Simmons, said the Air Force's response proves that the base-closure recommendations followed "a judgmental, and not an analytical, process." The Pentagon was supposed to judge each base primarily on its military value - yet in this case the Air Force bypassed the tool it created for judging military value. "The Air Force in

BRAC Commission

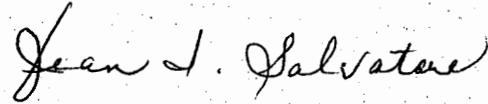
RECEIVED

6/20/2005

-2-

I urge the Commission, in the strongest possible terms, to remove Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station from the Pentagon's recommended list of base closures and to stop the continuing retreat of the military from our region of the country.

Very Respectfully,



Jean I. Salvatore

**BRAC Commission
Received**

their response acknowledge that they themselves ignored the results of a key analysis . . . created for the BRAC process," Simmons said. "They simply took the position that their judgment trumped the analysis."

Considering these facts and figures; I am writing to remind you, our elected representative, of your obligation to use all means necessary in order to persuade the BRAC to reconsider the recommendation to close the station. The fine men and women of the 914th Airlift Wing and the 107th Air Refueling Wing have been instrumental in securing the home front and fighting the war on terror overseas and these highly-decorated units have served their country and represented our State and local communities well.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this most important matter.

Sincerely,

Diane K Daum
(Signature)

Diane K Daum
(Name)

**BRAC Commission
Received**
6/21/2005

June 8, 2005

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

Subject: Possible Closure of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The possibility of closing the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base as recommended by Pentagon officials, causes me great consternation for the safety of the citizens of the Western New York Region and our Country's combat readiness. This is a big mistake.

I find it appalling that the active duty forces have seen fit to take planes, missions and jobs away from so many dedicated and militarily proficient members of both the Air Force Reserve and the New York Air National Guard based at the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base. Their unit histories are replete with successes in meeting and exceeding the Active Duty Force's expectations, particularly when called upon to perform in combat theatre of operations. Most reasonable and informed citizens interpret the Pentagon's actions as declaring "war" on the reserve forces. Don't let this happen. Their future is in your hands.

I also find it appalling to accept a reduction in the combat ready reserve forces and resources at a time when our Country is militarily over extended with world challenges and commitments ranging from Afghanistan to Iraq, along with numerous other countries.

I join with fellow Western New Yorkers in voicing in the strongest terms possible to remove the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base from the Pentagon's recommended list of Base closures. I am sure you realize the 914th Airlift Wing is the last Air Force Reserve-flying unit in New York State. Unfortunately, our State has experienced a constant history of cut backs in Air Force activity. The history of the 107th Air Refueling Wing, New York Air National Guard is as impressive as any active duty organization, operating at a fraction of the cost of an active unit.

Thank you for your attention.

Regards,

Niedi von Kellinghausen
Eric H. von Kellinghausen

NORMA HIGGS
MPO BOX 2132
NIAGARA FALLS, NY 14302
716 282-3599

RECEIVED

May 22, 2005

BRAC Commission
Washington, D. C.

05272005

To Members of the BRAC Commission

I am writing this letter to state my support of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. My reasons are simply that we are, as residents of Niagara County and Western New York, in a strategic location and should be very concerned about homeland security issues.

We are located at an international border with four border crossing bridges to protect. We are located at the center of two of the largest power producing facilities in the United States and Canada. These facilities are responsible for power supply to a vast area throughout the north eastern corridor of both countries. Adjacent to this facility is a private university adding several students to our population during the academic year. We are located with three world class casino gaming establishments in our midst drawing thousands of attendees each day, which is a cause of concern for members of certain ethnic and religious backgrounds. We sit with large resources of chemical producing industries (although greatly downsized over the years) in the center of the City of Niagara Falls and other areas of Western New York. We are located with one of the most famous tourist attractions in the world at our door step which brings millions of visitors to this area every year with many of these visitors from foreign lands.

The above issues along with the economic impact of this base being the second largest employer in Niagara County has brought additional fears to this community. We look to our government for protection, both at the local police department level, the County Sheriff's Department and the New York State Police. But homeland security is a much larger and more unknown cause for worry among private citizens. A strong military presence in the midst of all of the risk factors stated above (and I am sure I missed many more) says a lot for the level of protection we have come to enjoy. Just hearing and seeing these military planes overhead brings a certain sense of trust in our government. The other side of the coin is that this presence is certainly a deterrent, warding off any possible threats to this area.

We are proud of the contributions the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station has made to this community over the years. They have taken an active role in our community from participation at our events to actually assisting in collecting roadside trash and other clean up and beautification efforts. They have served our country well in the course of their active duty around the world. They deserve stability as they continue to serve.

A loss of this base is a loss that cannot be measured in words but I hope you will take my effort in consideration as you review this list.

Sincerely,

Norma Higgs
Norma Higgs

A concerned citizen and resident of Niagara Falls

RECEIVED

05272005

1845 Dodge Road
East Amherst, New York 14051
May 20, 2005

BRAC Commission
Washington DC.
c/o NIMAC
P.O. Box 231
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

Re: Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

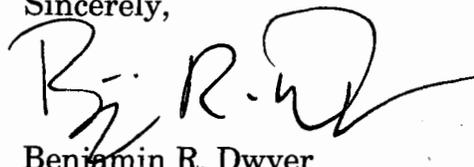
I write respectfully to express my support for the continued operation of the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base and to oppose the Defense Department's recommendation to close it. I respectfully urge you to remove the Niagara Falls base from the DOD's list of proposed closures.

In a time when the broadest possible support for the nation's armed forces and their missions is essential, the DOD's plan to consolidate bases and to remove them - mainly to the south and west - is counterproductive. Local support for the armed forces is strengthened by the knowledge that many of our neighbors are engaged in duty by their work on local bases. Removing such bases from our communities may result in erosion of such support.

The Niagara Falls base is especially worth saving. First, the federal government has invested more than \$35 million in Niagara Falls since 1995 in new facilities. Second, the Niagara Falls base is one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command. Third, Western New York regularly exceeds manning rates. Finally, Niagara Falls faces no physical encroachment nor air traffic control constraints and has acreage on the base and adjacent to the installation for expansion.

I urge the Commission in the strongest possible terms to remove Niagara Falls AFB from the Pentagon's recommended list of base closures and to stop the continuing retreat of the military from our region of the country.

Sincerely,



Benjamin R. Dwyer

**BRAC Commission
Received
6/20/2005**

7 June, 2005

BRAC Commission
Washington, DC
c/o NIMAC
PO Box 231
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

Dear Chairman Principi & BRAC Commissioners:

I am deeply troubled by the Defense Department's recommendation to close Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. This recommendation is a terrible mistake, and I urge the BRAC to reverse this decision and remove the Niagara Falls base from the list.

It is hard to understand why the Defense Department 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. Of all the bases to pick to close, how do you close the base whose unit helped rescue Jessica Lynch in Iraq, because they are the lead night vision C-130 unit in the Reserves? You must also recognize:

- The Federal Government has invested more than \$35 million in Niagara Falls since 1995 in new facilities, and is currently constructing a \$6.2 million Military Entrance Processing Station there to serve Western New York & Northwest Pennsylvania.
- Base Operations Support costs have been reduced more than 33 percent (to include a 25 percent reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- Closure of the base eliminates the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers in a region in which the units have both maintained in excess of 100 percent manning rates.
- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate eight additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.
- Niagara Falls faces no physical encroachment nor air traffic control constraints and has acreage on the base and adjacent to the installation for expansion.
- Placing the majority of the Air Forces C-130 planes at one base in Little Rock, AR does not appear to be a militarily strategic move. Have we forgotten the lessons learned at Pearl Harbor, HI?

BRAC Commission

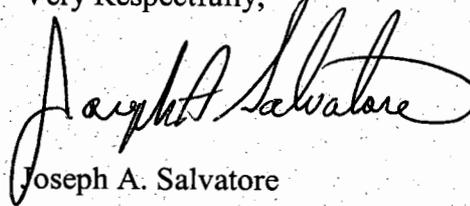
Received

6/20/2005

-2-

I urge the Commission, in the strongest possible terms, to remove Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station from the Pentagon's recommended list of base closures and to stop the continuing retreat of the military from our region of the country.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph A. Salvatore". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Joseph A. Salvatore

7 June, 2005

BRAC Commission
Washington, DC
c/o NIMAC
PO Box 231
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

Dear Chairman Principi & BRAC Commissioners:

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BRAC Commission

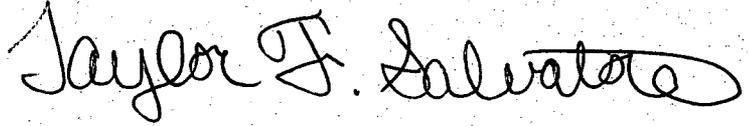
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6/20/2005

-2-

I urge the Commission, in the strongest possible terms, to remove Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station from the Pentagon's recommended list of base closures and to stop the continuing retreat of the military from our region of the country.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Taylor F. Salvatore". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Taylor F. Salvatore

June 17, 2005

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

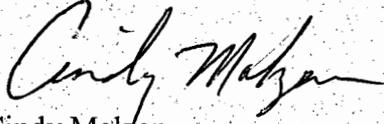
**BRAC Commission
Received**
6/21/2005

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I urge you not to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard base. We have been led to believe that this nation remains under threat and that our borders and national resources remain vulnerable. If this is true, then hopefully we have learned from our past at Pearl Harbor that it is unwise to keep such a large stock of needed jets and forces in one spot. What a target that would make! What a waste of reserves. The cost of such a move should include the cost to the surrounding community. Perhaps we would save federal dollars, but what about the cost in local dollars. Will the state or county replace these jobs locally? Does the federal government care about the impact on families, recruitment, safety?

Please overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,



Cindy Malzan
236 Old French Road
West Seneca, New York 14224

HUDSON ADVISOR SERVICES, INC.

BRAC Commission
237 MAIN STREET—SUITE 600
BUFFALO, NY 14203
(716) 852-7628
6/20/2005 FAX: (716) 852-4591

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

June 6, 2005

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I was upset by the Defense Department's recommendation to close 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 Niagara Falls from the closure list.

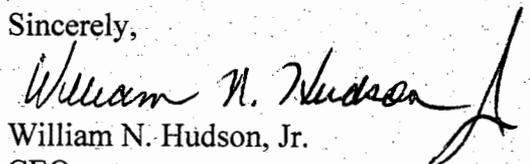
It's no secret that closing the base would have a devastating economic impact on our region: The base is Niagara County's second-largest employer with more than 3,000 full- and part-time military and civilian jobs and it has an estimated impact of \$150 million on regional businesses.

With that said, it is also difficult 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.

The media has reported that the military is facing significant challenges in recruiting during wartime. 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.

The Buffalo Niagara business community stands with the Niagara Falls/Western New York community in support of the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base, and its retention. Overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,


William N. Hudson, Jr.
CEO

INVESTMENT ADVISORY & FAMILY OFFICE SERVICES
VERO BEACH, FL • GREENWICH, CT • NEW YORK, NY • SAN FRANCISCO, CA

22 Lynbrook Drive
Tonawanda NY 14150
June 17, 2005

RECEIVED

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

06212005

RE: Niagara Falls, NY Airbase

Dear Mr. Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I am writing not only to ask you to reconsider targeting our base in Niagara Falls, NY for closure but to ask you to expand it.

This is the only military base in Western NY and critical to armed forces recruitment as well as recruitment and retention of military personnel. It cannot be in the best interest of our national defense to close a base so close to the Canadian border and potential targets of strategic interest (i.e. NY Power Authority).

Over 30 young men and women from Western NY have given their lives in the recent Iraq and Afghanistan wars. As a testament to their service, please not only remove this base from the closure list, but enhance and expand it.

Sincerely,



Charles Siewert
A concerned citizen from WNY

980 G Hopkins Rd.
Williamsville, NY 14221
May 27, 2005

BRAC Commission
Washington, DC

06212005

RECEIVED

To Whom It May Concern;

I am Brig./Gen. James C. Cook NYANG (Ret.) having retired in 1987, and I am a former Commander of the 107th Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base at Niagara Falls, NY. I am writing your Commission regarding the closure of the Air Reserve Base at Niagara Falls and disbanding of the 107th ARW and the 914th Airlift Wing.

I wonder if the Department of Defense and the U.S. Air Force realize the talent, expertise, and years of experience they are doing away with by this base closure. The 107th members were flying the F 100C at Niagara in 1968 when they were called to active duty by President Johnson to support the conflict in Vietnam. The unit deployed in June, 1968 and was assigned to the 31st TFW at Tuy Hoa Air Base in Vietnam. In a matter of a month and a half a majority of the wings, shops, and docks were supervised by the Master Sergeants of the Air National Guard. The wings staff realized in a short period of time what talent they had! The wings hospital was commanded by a Lt. Colonel flight surgeon from the Air National Guard. A sister AF Squadron the 308th TFS asked the wing if they could have Air National Guard pilots fly as instructor pilots to help lead newly assigned junior pilots on their first combat missions, this was approved. Again, the Air National Guard talent was used to help the 31st TFW perform it's combat mission.

The Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird in the 1970's instituted the Total Force Concept. The U.S. Air Force was the first to visualize the importance of this concept and immediately accepted this new doctrine and it has served the Air Force well for all these years. When the Air Force needs forces it has these experienced combat ready squadrons immediately available with little or no added training. Just look at the number of call ups of the Air National Guard squadrons and individuals in the last 5 - 10 years. This can do attitude is something I do not think we should ignore nor should we do away with these talented experienced combat forces. It should be noted that it is too bad the Army and Marines did not take the Total Force Concept as seriously as the Air Force.

A few years ago when the 107th received the tanker assignment it was not fully capable to perform the air refueling missions out of Niagara, the reason being the unit could not take off with a full load of internal fuel plus a full load of fuel for refueling. The Air Force spent millions of dollars to increase the length of the runway from 9,100 feet to 10,000 thereby allowing the unit to fully perform it's mission from Niagara Falls. In addition, more ground fuel storage tanks were installed plus a second fuel pumping station to allow the 107th to refuel it's own aircraft in the event the Air Reserves were not available. In 1986 I was in a flight of six F-4's that we ferried across the Atlantic to Germany. We took off from Selfridge Field in Michigan and rendezvoused over Albany, NY with a KC-10 tankers out of Shreveport, Louisiana. Albany, NY is on the main route going over Caribou, Maine to Gander, Newfoundland and on to Europe and the Middle

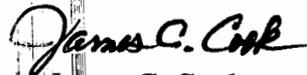
East. The KC-10 tanker home base was approximately 800 miles from Albany and to make a point the 107th is only a little under 200 miles away. The 107th KC-135R's are to be transferred to the Air National Guard Unit at Bangor Maine because its aircraft would have to be re-engined and modified to KC135R status. This lack of new tankers is a direct result of actions taken by the Secretary of the Air Force and a senior procurement officer to lease new tankers from Boeing Aircraft Company and the quid pro quo that took place benefiting the procurement officer. This resulted in Congress not authorizing the lease agreement and now the Air Force does not have the new tankers it was seeking.

A sister unit in New York is the 105th Airlift wing located at Stewart Field near Newberg New York. This unit is flying C-5 aircraft and has to fly from Stewart Field to Dover AFB Delaware to pick up cargo or troops and if carrying return cargo, must land at Dover and then return to Stewart Field. Is this cost effective? I think not! I have addressed primarily the 107th ARW, but the 914th has received its share of accolades through the years. I have been in close contact and worked with previous commanders of the 914th and found them to be proud of their accomplishments, especially its performance during Desert Storm, and Desert Shield. The Transfer of the 914th's C-130 to Little Rock Arkansas and centrally locating a large number of aircraft at one base does not sound strategically effective; a lesson we learned on 7 December 1941. I believe the Little Rock AFB is located right in the middle of tornado alley causing concern for evacuation to protect these assets.

In closing I suspect that the Air National Guard and Air Force Reservists would not consider traveling long distances to fulfill the goal of a 20 year retirement. It is a tragedy to let these experienced backup forces go and leave an enormous void in the defense posture of the United States.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



James C. Cook
Brig./Gen NYANG (Ret.)

RECEIVED

05272005

5/19/05

BRAC Commission
Re: NIAGARA FALLS AIR BASE

I AM WRITING IN AN EFFORT TO STOP THIS MADNESS! I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY WE WOULD PUT ALL OUR DEFENSES IN ONLY 2 LOCATIONS WHAT'S TO STOP A MISSILE FROM WIPING OUT ALL OUR FORCES. THIS IS ANOTHER TRAGEDY WAITING TO HAPPEN WE'LL HAVE ANOTHER PEARL HARBOR. ISN'T PEARL HARBOR THE REASON WE SPREAD OUT OUR DEFENSES. WHY DON'T WE BRING OUR PEOPLE HOME AND LET IRAQ AND OTHER COUNTRIES DEAL W/ THEIR OWN CONFLICTS. WE DON'T BELONG THERE BUT WE ARE BECAUSE OUR PRESIDENT HAD TO FINISH A WAR HIS FATHER COULDN'T A WAR THAT WILL NEVER END. WE NEED TO CONCENTRATE ON OUR NATION THE MONEY BEING SPENT IN IRAQ COULD BE BETTER SPENT HERE PROTECTING US. OUR PLANES CAN BE DEPLOY'D ANY WHERE IN THE WORLD NO MATTER WHERE THEIR BASED. THE PEOPLE OF THIS NATION WILL MAKE THEIR VOICES ~~3~~ HEARD + VOTE EVERYONE OUT WHO CLOSED OUR BASE. DON'T YOU SEE OUR PRESIDENT LIED TO THE PEOPLE AND IS GETTING YOU TO DO THE DIRTY WORK.



taylor devices inc.

90 TAYLOR DRIVE
P.O. BOX 748
NORTH TONAWANDA, NEW YORK 14120-0748

TELEPHONE: (716) 694-0800
6/12/2005 FAX: (716) 695-6015

COMPRESSIBLE MATERIAL DEVICES

May 26, 2005

BRAC Commission
Washington, DC
c/o NIMAC
P.O. Box 231
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I am deeply troubled by the Defense Department's recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base. This recommendation is a terrible mistake and is not for the overall good of the Air Force or the DoD. I urge the BRAC Commission to reverse this decision and remove the Niagara Falls Base from the Base Closing List.

In the case of the Niagara Falls Base, the following must be considered as they constitute a high value added to Air Force capabilities:

- Homeland Security requirements are ever expanding on the U.S.-Canada border. Given the importance of the nearby 2500 megawatt Niagara Falls Hydro-Electric Power Plant and other local assets to U.S. National Security, the presence of the Niagara Falls Base serves as a strategic deterrent to our enemies.
- Niagara Falls faces no physical encroachment, aircraft size, or air traffic control constraints and has ample acreage for expansion both on the Base and adjacent to the installation.
- The Niagara Falls region is not subject to natural disasters such as hurricanes, floods, tornados, and earthquakes that periodically impede or shut down Base operations in other regions.
- The proven capabilities of the Base are at the highest possible level, with consistent on-time performance and zero mishaps.
- Base Operations Support costs at the Niagara Falls Base have been reduced more than 33% to make the Base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- Closure of the Base eliminates the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers in a region in which the units have maintained in excess of 100% manning rates.
- Niagara Falls' existing infrastructure can accommodate eight (8) additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.

I urge the BRAC Commission, in the strongest possible terms, to remove the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base from the Pentagon's Base Closing List. The facts speak for themselves.

Sincerely,

TAYLOR DEVICES, INC.


Douglas P. Taylor
President

Jim Snell

Received

From: carol houwaart-diez [ch-diez@unitedwayniag.org]

6/12/2005

Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2005 10:25 AM

To: Angelo Tecchio; 'Annemarie C. Bettino (E-mail)'; 'Cheryl McInerney'; 'Connie Brown'; 'Diane Quarantello'; 'Donna Kuna (E-mail)'; dshubsda@acnc.org; edtango2002@yahoo.com; Fran Isaacs; 'Gary Butler (E-mail)'; Jim Snell; Joe Mineo; 'John Kinner (E-mail)'; 'Ken Sass'; 'Mary Ann Oliver'; Mary Jane Beilein; 'Myrna Young'; 'William Garrett'

Subject: Need your help

Hello All,

As you all are aware, the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station is on the BRAC closure list. As a member of the Niagara Military Affairs Council, we need your help.

We need to get 1,000 letters of disapproval signed by Tuesday to get to BRAC Commissioners. Attached is the template letter. Can you make copies and ask your staff to sign these and get them back to you so that we can pick them up or direct them to nimac.org and do the letter electronically.

This issue is so important to this area.

Please help!

<<...>>

Carol

Carol G. Houwaart-Diez
President
United Way of Niagara
345 Third Street
Suite 570
Niagara Falls, NY 14303
716-285-8461 ext. 109

what matters.™

5/24/2005

Received

6/12/2005

June 1, 2005

BRAC Commission
Washington, DC

Re: Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station

Dear Sirs:

The economic impact of closure of Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station cannot and has not been overstated. The personnel stationed and training there are the best our military service could ask for. Unfortunately, if it is closed very few Western New York men and women will choose to enlist and carry on the military capacity this area has exhibited and our country needs.

The units stationed at Niagara Falls have proven their worth in the multiple assignments they have completed in the war against terrorism in Afghanistan and Iraq. Many of the personnel are reservists who will not find it either advantageous or possible to continue their service if their units are transferred to Arkansas and Maine.

The Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station is the northern portion of Niagara Falls Airport. It has a 9800 foot runway that accommodates the largest aircraft the USAF has. And they have all landed here for both training or for show.

We in Niagara County are accustomed to seeing and hearing the transport planes and air refueling planes fly overhead. It is part of their training and currency to fly the skies over us so they are proficient and safe air personnel. We like to see them and hear them overhead. Our county provides a superior training atmosphere because no one complains about the aircraft overhead. The enclosed sectional shows the MOA training area over Lake Ontario and accommodating air space over Niagara County that provides the superior location for their training. I doubt that Arkansas or Maine can duplicate the kind of air space, weather accommodation, citizen support and local morale that is provided here in Niagara Falls, Niagara County, New York State. Our service people deserve to be able to train here, to live here, to support our economic climate, and most importantly, be so welcome here. Do not transfer the units or close the base, please.

Sincerely,

Doralyn Marshall

Doralyn Marshall
240 Waterman Street
Lockport, NY 14094



12,500' MSL SEE TORONTO VIA CHART

VFR AIRSPACE RESTRICTIONS
No VFR flight within Class B Airspace is permitted above 2,500' MSL, or MEA, whichever is higher, to any ATIS. For additional details see appropriate Canadian publications.

SPECIAL NOTICE
SPECIAL AIR TRAFFIC RULES (PART 93) IN EFFECT BELOW 3500' MSL IN THE NIAGARA FALLS AREA. SEE AIRPORT/FACILITY DIRECTORY FOR RECOMMENDED VFR FLIGHT PROCEDURES AND RESTRICTIONS.

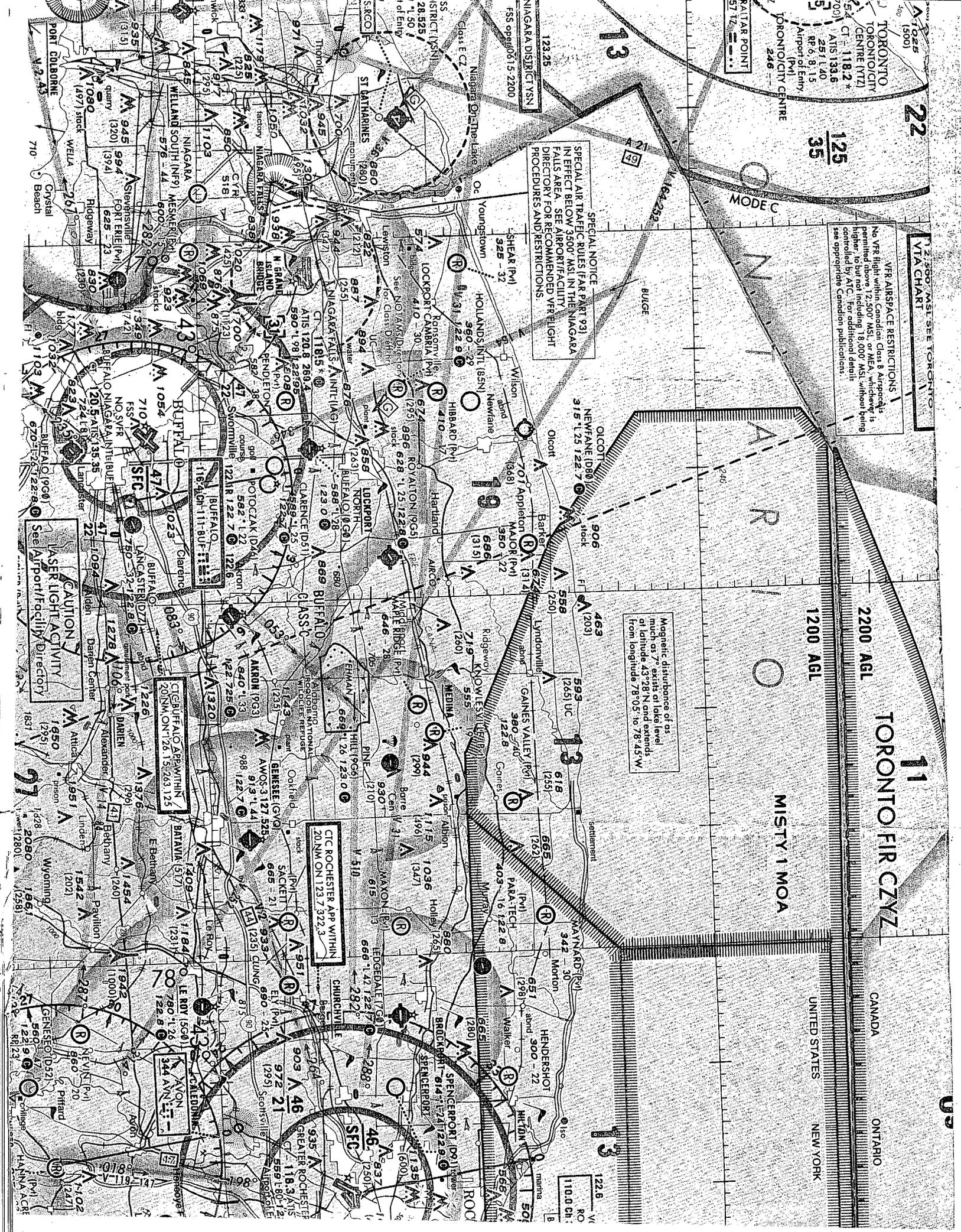
Magnetic disturbance of as much as 7° exists at lake level at latitude 43°28' N and extends from longitude 78°05' to 78°45' W.

11 TORONTO FIR CZYZ

2200 AGL
1200 AGL

MISTY 1 MOA

CANADA
ONTARIO
UNITED STATES
NEW YORK



From: (Nicholas M Bilotta Sr)
Date: 05/25/05 17:13:48
To: info@nimac.org
Subject: Niagara Air Base Petition

Received

6/12/2005

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by
Nicholas M Bilotta Sr () on Wednesday, May 25, 2005 at 17:13:46

platform: We oppose the Department of Defense recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Base

address1: 48 Meadow lane

city: Tonawanda

state: New York

zip: 14223

comments: Closing Niagara Falls AFB would be a great mistake for a number of reasons. This is a depressed area already and taking jobs from the Guard and Reserves not to mention the economic impact in Western NY would be crippling, not to forget the recruitment problem the Military is having this will just add to it. These two units at Niagara in my opinion are the Best of the Best and I would put them up against any one or any mission and they will prevail!

submit: Submit Petition

5/26/2005

403 Main St., Suite 430
Buffalo, NY 14203
(716) 856-3300 / fax (716) 856-2524
www.lumsden CPA.com

BRAC Commission
Received 
Lumsden & McCormick, LLP
Certified Public Accountants

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base serves as an integral line of defense against those forces willing and able to harm the United States of America. Its close proximity to three major border crossings with Canada, two fresh water lakes and the Niagara Power Project make this base a critical element of homeland protection. Closing this base will provide an opening to terrorists who are constantly searching for an easier way to harm our citizens and our natural resources.

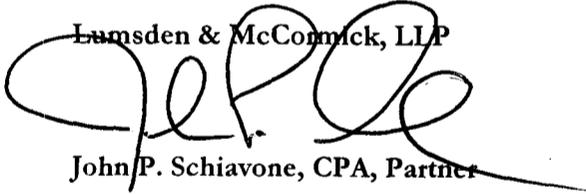
The world and the ways wars are fought are changing. It is essential the United States react to these changes by re-aligning its resources to better protect our country. It seems that closing a military base that borders an international crossing and important national resources is counter-productive to this goal. Both fresh water lakes, Erie and Ontario, provide valuable water to the area. The Niagara Power Project helps keep New York City running.

In addition to its proximity to these essential resources, the Niagara Falls Air Force Base Reserve provides valuable training and support to our forces stationed in Iraq and Afghanistan. This base provided men and women who helped rescue Jessica Lynch in Iraq as the lead night vision C-130 unit.

Please reconsider the Pentagon's recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Base Reserve. It is in the best interest of the defense of the United States of America that this base remains open and active.

Sincerely,

Lumsden & McCormick, LLP


John P. Schiavone, CPA, Partner

May 26, 2005

Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark St.
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

ATTN: CHAIRMAN ANTHONY J. PRINCIPI

I would like to voice my opinion on why the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station home of the 914th Airlift Wing and 107th Air Refueling Wing should not be on the BRAC list of base closures. As a reservist of the 914th I believe you will take the time to read this letter. Actually, I am going to state some true facts of how I feel and many of the 914th, starting with the most important.

Did you know that the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station is located near the border of Canada/Niagara Falls where homeland security is an issue? There is the Erie County Water Authority and Niagara Power Plant in the vicinity. What would happen in case of a terrorist attack on these facilities, with no military base in the area? The 914th, 107th, and Niagara Army Reserve 865th Combat Support Hospital would be gone, who in the area would respond if we were no longer there? That would be a critical issue.

Niagara's recruiters made their quota every month on bringing in new Airman? Recruiting would definitely decrease for the Air Force Reserves and Air National Guard if our base closed. There would be no local base and the fact that the new Airman would have to travel long distances to their drill site would discourage them from joining.

Now to the other points; traveling to a different state to do drills would be costly with the rise in gas prices and tolls. I believe Pittsburgh and Ohio would be our choices and they are about 4-6 hours away from Niagara Falls and Buffalo, NY. Lets put this into perspective, figure a person who works a 9-5pm shift at their civilian job, they would have to leave from work to get to their drill sight at which they would arrive at 1-2am and have to start their drill weekend at 7:30am. Talk about lack of sleep and alertness. Then after the Sunday drill they pack up and head home and drive after working a long day, then have to be at their regular job by 9am. Suppose there was a specific check-in time for lodging that would mean leaving our civilian job early (which would mean a loss in pay) on a Friday to arrive on time for check-in. Would that be fair to our employers? Or if that wasn't the case, leaving in the middle of the night to arrive at our drill site by 7:30am for drill. What about those who are less fortunate and don't have a reliable

**BRAC Commission
Received**

6/13/2005

vehicle to travel? Or those who lease vehicles, their mileage would sky-rocket and you know what that means at the end of their lease \$\$\$ for extra mileage put on the vehicle.

What about the married couples who are both reservists and have children and no family members locally to watch the children while they travel to a different state to do their weekend drill? Or those who have pets and don't trust or have the money to board them somewhere?

There are also the civilians who are employed at the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station to consider, some are also reservists too. They will have to relocate, sell their homes to keep their job & military career? Or maybe just forget it and leave the military all together. I know a few and one is my best friend! How is that for morale?

What if we were to travel to our drill site by plane "Awesome" but, the expense of the airfare would be a costly out of pocket expense on us. If it were to be reimbursable...the paperwork!! It would be a big mess, and very expensive (ex: 2,581 reservists + x \$150.00 approx. for a ticket to Pittsburgh or Ohio = \$\$\$\$) and it is supposed to be saving money closing our base?

We at Niagara are a family, splitting us up wouldn't do much for morale of the 914th. You have to see it in the eyes of the reservists at Niagara, and the above arguments I posted. Would it be worth a homeland security risk, 4-6 hours of travel especially during our stormy winter months...isn't it safety first (lack of sleep driving to & from drills after a long weekend), the cost of gas & tolls, morale, friendships, and family!!! Please consider seriously the facts I have stated and remove the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station from the BRAC list. It would be an honor to all of us.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter & God Bless America.

Regards,



Ssgt Mrzyglod, Valerie A.

Received

6/12/2005

From: Bradley, Pat J.
Date: 05/27/05 09:57:54
To: All Staff at NFMMC; Alliance; Capital Campaign Cabinet
Subject: BRAC Commission: Niagara Falls Air Base

As you know, the Niagara Military Affairs Council (www.nimac.org) is spearheading a drive to convince BRAC – the Base Realignment and Closure Commission – to take the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base off the Pentagon's list of proposed base closings.

Although the BRAC's decisions are expected focus on the local base's tactical and strategic military capabilities, it is essential that Western New Yorkers clearly and visibly demonstrate their support for the base and the units stationed there. The base is Niagara County's second-largest employer; its closure would deal a devastating blow to the local economy.

To demonstrate that support, NIMAC is calling upon the community to send letters protesting the base's proposed closure to the Base Realignment and Closure Commission.

Please address letters to the BRAC Commission, Washington DC. All letters should be mailed to NIMAC P.O. Box 231, Niagara Falls New York 14304-0231. (If you want to save on postage, send them to me via inter-office mail and I will deliver them.)

Following are suggestions of points to be made in letters to the BRAC Commission:

1. Closure of Niagara would reduce the Air Force presence in NY by 40%, and eliminate the last Federal Air Force flying mission in the State.
2. Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with \$35M in new facilities and lengthened runways which have improved the operational effectiveness of the wings. We have also reduced our Base Operations Support costs by not less than 33% (to include a 25% reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
3. Closure of the base would also eliminate the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers in a region in which the units have both maintained in excess of 100% manning rates.
4. Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate 8 additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.
5. Niagara Falls faces no physical encroachment nor air traffic control constraints and has acreage on the base and adjacent to the installation for expansion.

Two sample letters are attached for your convenience. Thank you for your support of this important community effort.

Patrick J. Bradley, Public Relations Manager
Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center
621 Tenth St.
Niagara Falls, NY 14302
(716) 278-4569

5/27/05

Received

6/12/2005

The Niagara Falls Air Base is the number one employer in the Niagara Area. With the change in the Western New York environment from an industrial-based employment community to a more service-oriented area, the closing of this Base will have a devastating effect on the local economy. This area has suffered more than its share with the loss of jobs from industry and cannot afford one more financial hit.

The Niagara Area has four International bridges for automotive travel within the radius of 25 miles.

- 1) Peace Bridge, Buffalo, New York
- 2) Rainbow Bridge, Niagara Falls, New York
- 3) Whirlpool Bridge, Niagara Falls, New York
- 4) Lewiston-Queenston Bridge, Niagara Falls, New York

Also, there is a railroad crossing at the Whirlpool bridge.

Lake Erie, the Niagara River and Lake Ontario all border Canada. The Niagara Power Plant is located on the Niagara River and supplies power to many states. The Niagara Falls Air Reserve can provide security to this vast area of open borders along with the many other responsibilities they have.

Please inform our local political leaders to do everything they can to keep the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base located in Niagara County open.

Sincerely,

Mary L. Bax

4831 Lewiston Road

Niagara Falls, NY 14305

SMITH, SPERANZA, FOLTZ & MAY, LLP

R. JOSEPH FOLTZ
RICHARD F. MAY

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
131 EAST AVENUE
P.O. BOX 540
LOCKPORT, NY 14095-0540

FRED J. SMITH (1922-1999)
RICHARD H. SPERANZA (1939-1996)
JOSEPH SPERANZA (1906-1973)

Legal Assistants:
Edna M. Dibley
Brenda J. Chaffee
Denise Gustin

Phone: (716) 433-5921
Fax: (716) 439-5941

June 10, 2005



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

RE: Niagara Falls Airbase – National Guard Refueling Wing and Air Reserve Airlift Wing

To Chairman Principi and All BRAC Commissioners:

Based on my knowledge of the Department of Defense ("DOD") ratings for the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base, and further based on my concerns involving the importance of this base both in terms of homeland protection and in projection of air power and support, I am both troubled and confused by DOD's recommendation to close this base. Moreover, it is troubling that much of the information on which DOD based its decision has not been made available to parties in interest, including the New York congressmen and senators; in addition, based on my reading of published reports, the New York State's Adjutant General for the National Guard was not briefed by DOD in the course of its studies leading up to the recommendation to close this base.

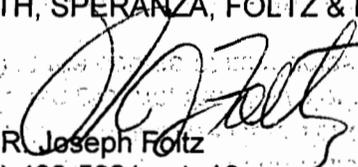
I was never a member of the military; however, I question the advisability of centralizing our defenses, in particular the centralization of airlift in the state of Missouri. In any event, I am confident that the commissioners, given their military background, will thoroughly review this questionable DOD recommendation. Centralization of forces, in my view, increases the probability of a catastrophic terrorist strike on our defense facilities.

I am sure you are receiving numerous correspondence pointing out the negative impact of the proposed closure on recruitment and retention of our reserve and guard components.

In summary, the recommendation on the Niagara Falls Air Base, as is the case with several of the other military bases, defies military and defense logic and should be thoroughly reviewed and modified by the commission. Accordingly, I respectfully request that, after due study, your commission overturn DOD's recommendation and maintain – if fact, expand – the military functions at the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base.

Very truly yours,

SMITH, SPERANZA, FOLTZ & MAY, LLP


By: R. Joseph Foltz
(716) 433-5921 ext. 16
RJF/dg

c: Honorable Thomas M. Reynolds, Congressman
Honorable Louise M. Slaughter, Congresswoman
Ms. Jennifer Overholt, Executive Assistant, Niagara Military Affairs Council

Newfane High School
1 Panther Drive
Newfane NY, 14108

RECEIVED
06162005

June 9, 2005

Chairman Anthony J Principe
Base Realignment and Closure Commission:

You are making a tremendous mistake closing the Niagara base. The closure of the Niagara Falls facility would result in the loss of 800 full-time jobs. The base is both headquarters for an Air Force Reserve unit that flies cargo planes and an Air National Guard unit that flies tankers for refueling. I understand the Pentagon's proposal to close 33 major bases is nationwide, including the Air Force Reserve facility in Niagara Falls, but we need this site. If you close the base, it is initially causing our government more debt. An amazing 11,200 letters have been sent in from all ages across WNY supporting the protection of the base. Please reconsider your vote against our county's closure. I thank you for you time, and the consideration.

Sincerely,



Briana McNamee
Newfane High School Student

RECEIVED

6/8/05

This is an Addendum: I also feel that with the base being here in the USA and also close to Canada that it's in the best interest for both at this time of WAR that this base stay open! There are to many crossings of BORDERS to our countries & power plants that maybe in danger to be possible targets for TERRORISTS at this place in time. We're living in some very uncertain times.

Thank You,



(A Concerned Citizen)

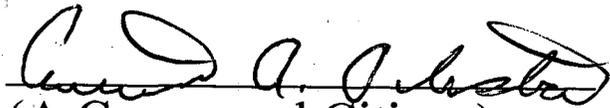
58 Carmel Rd.
Buffalo, NY 14214

 RECEIVED

6/8/05

This is an Addendum: I also feel that with the base being here in the USA and also close to Canada that it's in the best interest for both at this time of WAR that this base stay open! There are to many crossings of BORDERS to our countries & power plants that maybe in danger to be possible targets for TERRORISTS at this place in time. We're living in some very uncertain times.

Thank You,


(A Concerned Citizen)

58 Carmel rd.
Buffalo, NY 14214

ST. TIMOTHY'S CHURCH

565 East Park Drive
Tonawanda, New York 14150

07092005



RECEIVED

July 6, 2005

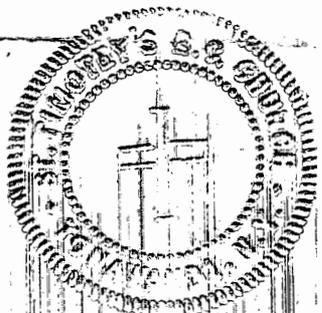
Base Closure Commission
Mr Anthony Principe, Chair

Dear Sir,

Please recommend that the
Niagara Falls Air Base remain open.
It is important for our defense and
economy.

Thank you.

Monsignor John Deette
Pastor
Chaplain of the Port of Buffalo



NIAGARA COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM, INC.

1521 Main Street, Niagara Falls, New York 14305-2521 716/ 285-9681 Fax 716/ 285-9693
E-mail niagaracap@prodigy.net

Serving Niagara County



May 24, 2005

RECEIVED

05272005

BRAC Commission
Washington, DC
C/O NIMAC
Post Office Box 231
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

This letter is being written in support for keeping the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base open. Please note that:

- The federal government has invested more than \$35 million in Niagara Falls since 1995 in new facilities.
- Base Operations Support costs have been reduced more than 33% (to include a 25% reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- Closure of the base eliminates the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers in a region in which the units have both maintained in excess of 100% manning rates.
- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate eight (8) additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.
- Niagara Falls faces no physical encroachment nor air traffic control constraints and has acreage on the base and adjacent to the installation for expansion.

I urge the Commission, in the strongest possible terms, to remove the Niagara Falls AFB from the Pentagon's recommended list of base closures.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Shears
Executive Director

SS/mk

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Gerald Meal
Chairperson

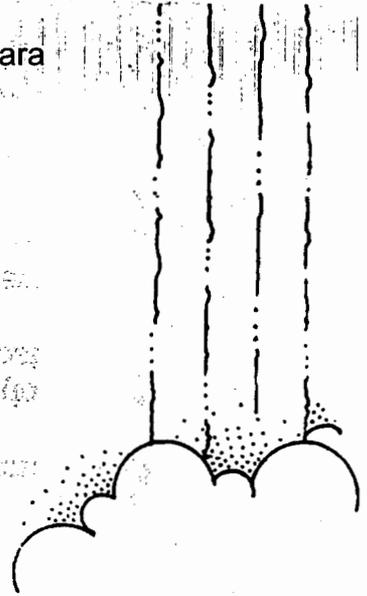
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Vice Chairperson

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Sharon Highfield
John Lombardi, III
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Richard Printup
Danny Sklarski
Dennis Stachera
James Ward

Suzanne Shears
Executive Director



May 22, 2005

TO: Base Alignment and Closure Commission

FROM: August Cenkner Jr.
6982 Creekview Drive
Pendleton, NY
Lockport P.O. 14094

RECEIVED

SUBJECT: **Pearl Harbor Lessons for Base Realignment**

05272005

I would like to comment on a recent news article that presented reasons why the Niagara Falls Air Base should not be closed. Unfortunately, the article did not discuss one of the most important reasons.

The current plan is to move all the cargo planes from Niagara Falls, and other bases, to a huge cargo-plane-air-base in Arkansas. All the Air Forces' cargo planes would therefore be congregated in one location.

I guess the lesson from the successful sneak attack on Pearl Harbor, in 1941, has been forgotten already. The U.S.A. assembled most of the fleet in one location – for reasons similar to the ones being given for creating a huge cargo-plane-air-base; they succeeded in creating a single target, that was too tempting to resist. We know what the result was.

The secret to survival is to create numerous targets, not a single key target, that terrorists may not be able to resist. Incapacitating a single huge cargo-plane-air-base or a single huge refueling-plane-air-base would cripple the ability of the Air Force to re-supply and transport troops – much to the delight of foreign adversaries.

If our troops have to fight, lets make sure the country can keep them as safe as we can and that they have all the supplies and support they need to survive.

August Cenkner Jr.



May 25, 2005
06132005

Patrick G. MacDiarmid, Jr.
pmacjr@chek.com

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Pentagon has recommended the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, New York be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with nearly 3,000 full and part-time workers, this would deliver another devastating blow to our region's economy.

The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossings between the U.S. and Canada. Recent analysis has shown that one border crossing in particular, The Peace Bridge, is the most heavily traveled corridor between the United States and Canada. Due to this high volume it is essential that we have elements in place to defend it from terrorism. A strong local military presence is essential in deterring these threats. Furthermore, the New York State Power Authority's Hydropower complex which harnesses the waters of the Niagara and supplies substantial power to the Northeast United States Grid is located within very close proximity to this base. Not to mention the base's proximity to Niagara Falls, a major tourist destination for travelers across the globe.

While the base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable to allow the addition of a fighter squadron to further secure America's northern border and power grid infrastructure. It should be expanded rather than closed.

According to the Niagara Military Affairs Council:

- Closure of Niagara would reduce the Air Force presence in NY by **40%**, and eliminate the last Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with **\$35M** in new facilities and lengthened runways which have improved the operational effectiveness of the wings.
- We have also reduced our Base Operations Support costs by not less than **33%** (to include a **25%** reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the ***most cost-efficient*** facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- Closure of the base would also ***eliminate the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers*** in a region in which the units have both maintained in excess of 100% manning rates.
- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate **8 additional C-130H model aircraft** without any military construction.
- Niagara Falls faces ***no physical encroachment nor air traffic control constraints*** and has acreage on the base and adjacent to the installation for expansion.

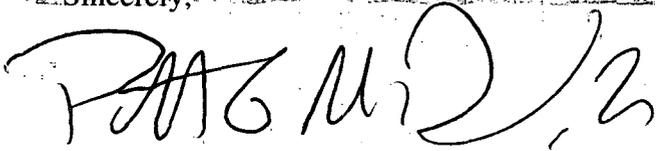
I humbly request that you *strongly reconsider* the decision to close the station. The fine men and women of the **107th Air Refueling Wing** and **914th Airlift Wing** have been instrumental in securing the homefront and fighting the war on terror overseas.

On a more personal note, I have been directly involved with an essential community service project provided by the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station for the last ten years to Western New York high school students. I am writing about the Niagara County Traffic Safety Fair. This program blends elements of local police agencies, represented in large scale by the Niagara County Sheriff's Department and the New York State Troopers, the New York State Department of Transportation, CSX railroads, various local fire and rescue departments and Calspan Corporation to educate thousands of high school juniors and seniors of the dangers of irresponsible driving behaviors at an essential time for the students, just prior to proms and graduation. The Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station and its wonderful personnel and support staff are essential to this program that has expanded each year since its inception. As a representative of Calspan Corporation, I have had the pleasure of working with all of these agencies to provide my insights as an automotive safety engineer helping students learn the benefits of proper safety belt use. In addition to these hangar demonstrations, we also perform a vehicle to vehicle impact demonstration to show students the consequences that can result from driving under the influence and not using vehicle restraints. Without the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station this program would not succeed.

The economic impacts of closing the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station would be devastating to this community. Not only for the loss of many great men and women of the United States Air Force, but also to the businesses and charitable organizations in the surrounding community. The base is directly responsible for the survival of organizations that wouldn't otherwise exist. In addition, a base closure would dramatically affect the businesses that rely on the Niagara Falls airport for their survival. Without the military traffic the airport could become economically unviable resulting in the closure of businesses not directly related to the military installation and the loss of more jobs resulting in an even greater efflux of people from our community. This directly affects my company as we have just completed work on a \$10 million dollar hanger that operates at this airport.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this very important matter.

Sincerely,



Patrick G. MacDiarmid, Jr.
157 Los Robles Street
Williamsville, NY 14221
716-632-0511



Dr. Conor T. McLennan
2618 Shadagee Road
Eden, New York 14057
716.984.9759

BRAC Commission
Washington D.C.
C/o NIMAC; PO Box 231
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

Dear Commissioners:

The Pentagon has recommended to the BRAC that the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, New York be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with over 3,000 full and part-time workers, this would deliver yet another devastating blow to our region's economy. In addition to the financial concerns, the community pride for our past and present military contributions cannot be understated.

The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossings between the U.S. and Canada, along with the New York State Power Authority's Hydropower Complex that supplies substantial power to the Northeast United States Power Grid. The size and location of the base would also allow it to be used for responses to natural disasters or terror attacks in the Northeast United States. While the base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable. It should be expanded rather than closed.

According to the Niagara Military Affairs Council:

- Closure of Niagara would reduce the Air Force presence in NY by 40%, and eliminate the *last* Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with \$35M in new facilities and lengthened runways that have improved the operational effectiveness of the wings.
- We have also reduced our Base Operations Support costs by not less than 33% (to include a 25% reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- Closure of the base would also eliminate the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers in a region in which the units have both maintained in excess of 100% manning rates.

- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate 8 additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.

According to the Buffalo News article on May 25, 2005:

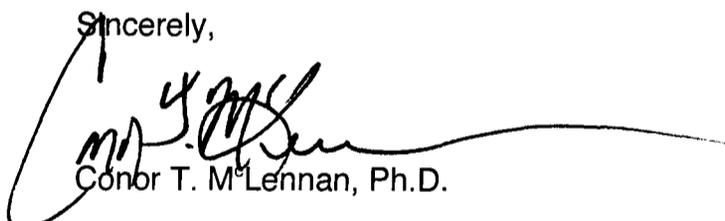
Top Air Force officials relied on their "collective judgment" in deciding to recommend their Niagara Falls base for closure, disregarding military value rankings that showed Niagara outperforming several other bases slated to remain open. Air Force spokesman Douglas Karas said the Air Force's "mission compatibility index" was just one of the factors considered in the base-closure decisions. Asked why at least nine bases with airlift missions were slated to stay open when they had lower "MCI" scores than Niagara, Karas said the Base Closure Executive Group sometimes deviated from its own rating system. "There were cases in the analysis process where lower ranked bases were retained," Karas said. "In those cases, the Base Closure Executive Group used their collective judgment, that, when combined with the MCI scores, resulted in the retention of lower-ranked installations. This was true in Niagara's case."

A lobbyist for New York State on the issue, John M. Simmons, said the Air Force's response proves that the base-closure recommendations followed "a judgmental, and not an analytical, process." The Pentagon was supposed to judge each base primarily on its military value - yet in this case the Air Force bypassed the tool it created for judging military value. "The Air Force in their response acknowledge that they themselves ignored the results of a key analytical tool . . . created for the BRAC process," Simmons said. "They simply took the position that their judgment trumped the analysis."

Considering these facts and figures; I am writing to remind you, our elected representative, of your obligation to use all means necessary in order to persuade the BRAC to reconsider the recommendation to close the station. The fine men and women of the 914th Airlift Wing and the 107th Air Refueling Wing have been instrumental in securing the home front and fighting the war on terror overseas and these highly-decorated units have served their country and represented our State and local communities well.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this most important matter.

Sincerely,



Conor T. McLennan, Ph.D.

BRAC Commission

Name Dave Donnelly
Address 429 Englewood Ave
Kenmore NY
Phone # 716 833-7253

JUL 13 2005

Received

BRAC Commission
Washington D.C.
C/o NIMAC; PO Box 231
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

Dear Commissioners:

The Pentagon has recommended to the BRAC that the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, New York be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with over 3,000 full and part-time workers, this would deliver yet another devastating blow to our region's economy. In addition to the financial concerns, the community pride for our past and present military contributions can not be understated.

The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossings between the U.S. and Canada, along with the New York State Power Authority's Hydropower Complex which supplies substantial power to the Northeast United States Power Grid. The size and location of the base would also allow it to be used for responses to natural disasters or terror attacks in the Northeast United States. While the base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable. It should be expanded rather than closed.

According to the Niagara Military Affairs Council:

- Closure of Niagara would reduce the Air Force presence in NY by 40%, and eliminate the *last* Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with \$35M in new facilities and lengthened runways which have improved the operational effectiveness of the wings.
- We have also reduced our Base Operations Support costs by not less than 33% (to include a 25% reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- Closure of the base would also eliminate the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers in a region in which the units have both maintained in excess of 100% manning rates.
- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate 8 additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.

According to the Buffalo News article on May 25, 2005:

Top Air Force officials relied on their "collective judgment" in deciding to recommend their Niagara Falls base for closure, disregarding military value rankings that showed Niagara outperforming several other bases slated to remain open. Air Force spokesman Douglas Karas said the Air Force's "mission compatibility index" was just one of the factors considered in the base-closure decisions. Asked why at least nine bases with airlift missions were slated to stay open when they had lower "MCI" scores than Niagara, Karas said the Base Closure Executive Group sometimes deviated from its own rating system. "There were cases in the analysis process where lower ranked bases were retained," Karas said. "In those cases, the Base Closure Executive Group used their collective judgment, that, when combined with the MCI scores, resulted in the retention of lower-ranked installations. This was true in Niagara's case."

A lobbyist for New York State on the issue, John M. Simmons, said the Air Force's response proves that the base-closure recommendations followed "a judgmental, and not an analytical,

BRAC Commission

JUL 13 2005

Received

Name Peg Stewart
Address 44 Bonnett Ave
Tonawanda
NY 14150
Phone # 873-5366

BRAC Commission
Washington D.C.
C/o NIMAC; PO Box 231
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

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BRAC Commission

JUL 13 2005

Received

Name Donna Bartkowski
Address 51 Coreentree Road
Tonawanda
NY 14150
Phone # (692) 9274

BRAC Commission
Washington D.C.
C/o NIMAC; PO Box 231
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

Dear Commissioners:

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BRAC Commission

JUL 13 2005

Received

Name Robert Baitkowski
Address 51 Greentree Rd
Tonawanda NY
14150
Phone # 716-692-9274

BRAC Commission
Washington D.C.
C/o NIMAC; PO Box 231
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

Dear Commissioners:

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BRAC Commission

JUL 13 2005

Received

Name SUSAN STARR
Address 75 LISA ANN LN
West Seneca, NY
14224
Phone # _____

BRAC Commission
Washington D.C.
C/o NIMAC; PO Box 231
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

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BRAC Commission

JUL 13 2005

Received

Name Vincent Donnelly
Address 429 Englewood Ave
Kenmore NY 14223
Phone # 716 833-7255

BRAC Commission
Washington D.C.
C/o NIMAC; PO Box 231
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

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Tuesday, June 14, 2005

 RECEIVED

Committee Chairman, Mr. Anthony Principe
BRAC Commission
Washington, D.C.
C/O Niagara Military Affairs Council
P.O. Box 231
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

50028290

Mr. Cornelius Canavan
Alterra Sterling House of Niagara
6741 Nash Road
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Re: *Maintaining Full Operations at the Niagara Falls NY Air Base*

Dear Committee Chairman Mr. Anthony Principe;

We, the Residents, Friends and Family, many of whom are dedicated veterans of the United States military who reside at Alterra Sterling House of Niagara in North Tonawanda, NY wish to express our sincere desire to maintain full operations at the Niagara Falls NY Air Base due to security purposes, continued training of our troops as well as economic reasons.

The Pentagon has recommended the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, New York be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with nearly 3,000 full and part-time workers, this would deliver another devastating blow to our region's economy.

The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossing between the U.S. and Canada, along with the New York State Power Authority's Hydropower complex which harnesses the waters of the Niagara and supplies substantial power to the Northeast United States Grid.

While the base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable to allow the addition of a fighter squadron to further secure America's northern border and power grid infrastructure. It should be expanded rather than closed.

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- Closure of Niagara would reduce the Air Force presence in NY by **40%**, and eliminate the last Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with **\$35M** in new facilities and lengthened runways which have improved the operational effectiveness of the wings.

- We have also reduced our Base Operations Support costs by not less than **33%** (to include a **25%** reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the **most cost-efficient** facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- Closure of the base would also **eliminate the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers** in a region in which the units have both maintained in excess of 100% manning rates.
- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate **8 additional C-130H model aircraft** without any military construction.
- Niagara Falls faces **no physical encroachment nor air traffic control constraints** and has acreage on the base and adjacent to the installation for expansion.

We humbly request that you **strongly reconsider** the decision to close the station. The fine men and women of the **107th Air Refueling Wing** and **914th Airlift Wing** have been instrumental in securing the homefront and fighting the war on terror overseas.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this very important matter.

Respectfully yours,

1 Cornelius Conover
 2 Tony A. Ruffolo
 3 Robert Munk
 4 Eshlin Dombert
 5 Tracy D. Dombert
 6 Carmella Liggio
 7 Robert Wright
 8 Joseph W. O'Neil
 9 Lee Forth
 10 Munzir El-Chakali
 11 Martha Schuyler
 12 Janet Barchay
 13 Ismael El-Chakali
 14 Anna L. Bagdy

- 15 Fred H. Weeks
- 16 Mary Catherine Weeks
- 17 Penny Reidenfrost
- 18 Maria Pechovich
- 19 Debbie Oliver
- 20 Ashley Heffern
- 21 Marc A. Centur
- 22 Ruth E. Centur
- 23 Joshua D. Centur
- 24 Hannah L. Centur
- 25 Jane C. Cahalin
- 26 S. Lynn [unclear]
- 27 Melinda Grayson
- 28 Grace Blaine
- 29 Jan Brauer
- 30 Richard C. Wasson
- 31 W. Camm
- 32 Mary A. Colosi
- 33 Amy Oliver
- 34 Margaret J. Jones
- 35 Michael Miller
- 36 Michael Miller
- 37 Robert McMaster
- 38 Rose Paulini
- 39 Victor P. Richard
- 40 Arthur Caggiano
- 41 Ellen C. Montana
- 42 Donna Dick
- 43 L. H. [unclear]

- 44 Loane Weaver
 - 45 Opalee Carlisle
 - 46 Elizabeth Vee Hegew
 - 47 Marta MacArthur
 - 48 Judith C. Gabe
 - 49 Carol Davidson
 - 50 Mrs. Inghard
 - 51 Vicki Kent
 - 52 Susan Kanaton
 - 53 W. M. Carson
 - 54 Eric McLeod
 - 55 Rose Anderson
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May 25, 2005

BRAC Commission
Washington, DC.
c/o NIMAC
P.O. Box 231
Niagara Falls, NY, 14304

RECEIVED
06282005

Dear Chairman Principi,

Please don't close the Niagara Falls Airforce Reserve base. It is very important not to close the base because if you do many jobs will be lost. Including two of the fathers in our class. If you do those two children will have to move away because their fathers will have to switch to another station of classmate.

Another reason you shouldn't close the Niagara Falls Airforce Reserve base because you are the base that helped rescue Jessica Lynch. You risked your lives just to save her and you succeeded. You saved her life. Your base also is the leading Night Vision C-130 in the Reserve. Please, I urge you to keep this base open!

Yours Truly,
Rim Potfara

May 25 2005

RECEIVED
06282005

BRAC Commission
Washington, D.C.
% NIMAC
PO. Box 231
Niagra Falls N.Y. 14304

Dear Chairman principi

please Don't Close the Niagra
Falls Air Force Reserve Base because
alot of kids dads work there and if
you close it they will be mad.

And if you close it it would
Not Be safe Because we would all
be crunched up at another air
force.

So please Don't close

Sincerely
Anthony
Stecum

RECEIVED
06282005

May 25, 2005

BRAC Commission
Washington, D.C.
%o Nimrac
P.O. Box 231
Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

Dear Chairman Pricipi

Please don't close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve base because it would be unsafe because terrorist could set a bomb on Niagara Falls and would wipe out all the power. Many jobs will be lost. If you don't close the Air base there's room to add eight more 130-H model planes. Please don't close the Air base.

Yours truly,
Derrick

RECEIVED
06282005

May 25, 2005

BPAC Commission

Washington, D.C.

c/o NiMAC

P.O. BOX 231

Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

Dear Chairman Principi

I don't think it would be fair to close the
Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve base. Because there
would be a lot of job lost for many men and
women. This air force is very important to me
because this air force helped save Jessica
Lynch.

This base is very important. Most people
will have to get new jobs and some people might
even have to move. And 35 million dollars would go
to waste. I want to go to bed and know that
I am safe. When ever I think about you closing
the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve base I
think about how many peoples lives are
getting risked.

I want to know why just tell me why
you are even thinking about closing the air
force. Why did you choose ours to close down
in the first place. I just want to know
why you choose ours. Why?

And there still would be a lot of more room
to even add 8 more 130-H model planes.
You could probably even put in 10, MABBY
even if you never know just please please
DON'T close our air force.

And please there is no air traffic
control rules here we all love it you
can't you just can't tear it down please
we are all counting on you. Just please
Don't tear it down.

Yours truly
Gina Marillo

Dear

RECEIVED

06282005

May 25, 2005

BRAC Commission
Washington, DC
c/o Nimac
PO, Box 231
Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

Dear Chairman Principi,

I don't think it would be safe to close
The Niagara Air force base. I don't think it
would be safe because the whole east coast
is unsafe they could drop an atomic bomb and
they would win. Two of my friend fathers
work at the air force base and if you close it
they had to move. Just for heaven sake please keep it
open. And the Air force base saved Jessica Lyneil.
And they just spend a lot of money. And it will
be away if you close it down.
They saved Jessica Lyneil by the air force base
And they used your plans and night vision.

yours Truly,

Stephen
Schalz

RECEIVED
06282005

BRAC Commission

May 25, 2005

Washington, D.C.

To RDMAC

P.O. Box 231

Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

Dear Chairman Principi,

Please don't close Niagara Fall Air Force Reserve base. It is unfair and unsafe. It definitely not be done.

One reason is, alot of people will lose their jobs and have to move, like two kids in my class's fathers work for the air force. Also the Base helped save Jessica Lynch. Plus, they are the leading Night Vision C-130. It is very important and keeps us safe. Please I urge you to keep this base open.

Sincerely,
Michaela D. Corrado ^{Mead}



RECEIVED

06282005

May 25, 2005

Brac Commission
Washington Dc.
c/o Nimac
P.O Box 231
Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

Dear Chairman Principi,

Please don't close Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve base. It is a good Air Force that protects us. Also if you close it many many jobs will be lost including two of my classmates' fathers. It's also important that the base is still there because without it you wouldn't of saved Jessica Lynch. Also my friend's dad helped fill the night vision plane the C-130 who helped save Jessica Lynch. There is also a lot of room to put 8 more 130-H model planes. Please do not close the Niagara Falls Air force base.

Sincerely,

Lorenzo Zaccaria



RECEIVED

06282005

May/25/05

Brac Commission
Washington, DC.
% Nimac
P.O. Box 231
Niagara Falls N.Y. 14304

Dear Chairman Principi

Please don't close the Niagara Falls air force Reserve base. The reasons why I do not want you to close is because you protect our country. Many Jobs will be lost. Why did you pick this base to close instead of one of the other ones. Please do not close our base.

Your's truly
Samartha

Mead

RECEIVED
06282005

May 25th 2005

Mike
BRAC Commission
Washington DC.
% NTMAC
P.O. Box 231
Niagra Falls, N.Y. 14304

Dear Chairman Principi,

We all know that our
base is one of the ten largest
bases in this country. But
~~why close yours?~~ I to you
~~close it~~ my father Joseph
Giordano will lose his
job. I have friends, family and
~~my~~ I have friends, family
and my life here. If you
close it I move. Please, with
all my heart I beg you.

Your's truly, Michael Giordano.

403 Main St., Suite 430
Buffalo, NY 14203
(716) 856-3300 / fax (716) 856-2524
www.lumsden CPA.com

BRAC Commission

Received



Lumsden & McCormick, LLP
Certified Public Accountants

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base serves as an integral line of defense against those forces willing and able to harm the United States of America. Its close proximity to three major border crossings with Canada, two fresh water lakes and the Niagara Power Project make this base a critical element of homeland protection. Closing this base will provide an opening to terrorists who are constantly searching for an easier way to harm our citizens and our natural resources.

The world and the ways wars are fought are changing. It is essential the United States react to these changes by re-aligning its resources to better protect our country. It seems that closing a military base that borders an international crossing and important national resources is counter-productive to this goal. Both fresh water lakes, Erie and Ontario, provide valuable water to the area. The Niagara Power Project helps keep New York City running.

In addition to its proximity to these essential resources, the Niagara Falls Air Force Base Reserve provides valuable training and support to our forces stationed in Iraq and Afghanistan. This base provided men and women who helped rescue Jessica Lynch in Iraq as the lead night vision C-130 unit.

Please reconsider the Pentagon's recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Base Reserve. It is in the best interest of the defense of the United States of America that this base remain open and active.

Sincerely,

Kristin M. Anderson, CPA
Lumsden & McCormick, LLP

MAY 27 2005

BRAC Commission
RECEIVED 2005

6/14/2005

PH-JS

86 Slate Creek Dr. #2
Buffalo, NY 14227

May 24, 2005

BRAC Commission/Washington, DC
c/o NIMAC
PO Box 231
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I urgently request reexamination of closing the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base. The government likes to say, "guns don't kill people, people kill people." Well, planes do not perform the missions and duties this Base performs - it is the leadership and training of a "well-regulated force" who protect our borders, and other countries where they serve.

Aside from loss of planes and jobs, the security of our nation is being held in the balance. When in high school in the 1940s, I went with the Red Cross delivering coffee and donuts to this base. From their service in World War II, up to their role in the Gulf War and the present engagement, they have always been in the front of the battle.

OUR SECURITY as a nation will be severely compromised if this base leaves. As a border city - close relations with Canada are vital.

1. There are two power plants, one on each side of the border.
2. The Niagara Falls airport is an international facility, requiring ability to respond quickly.
3. There are three (3) international bridges in close proximity to the base. The closest crossing to the West, is at Windsor, Ont./Detroit, MI, and to the East - at Ogdensburg (1000 Islands), NY. At the base's present location, guarding of these strategic routes can be maintained almost instantly.
4. And then, the greatest treasure of all - Niagara Falls. What if harm was done to this wonder??? The force of the water alone, would do tremendous damage especially to life, but everything in its path as far as Buffalo.

It is only common sense to retain and maintain this exceptional facility in this location. It should be the first thought for national security for New York State and surrounding areas easily accessible to this base.

One more thought: There is a serious decline in military recruits. NOW, move this base staffed by Air Force Reserves, whose homes and jobs are closeby (contributing to the financial welfare of the area). Consider how this would cut the enlistment of those who have already served in the Air Force, and strongly desire continuing AS THE HEROES THEY ARE.

I trust you will truly consider the ramifications of failure to have this large area of the country secure with their presence.

Sincerely,

Ruth Harvey

Ruth Harvey

cc: Representatives
Jack Quinn
Tom Reynolds
Louise Slaughter

WGRZ-TVZ

*Thank you for fighting
for so many issues that
affect our lives -
Ruth*

BRAC Commission

Received

6/14/2005

May 25, 2005

HOMELAND SECURITY - KEEP NIAGARA FALLS BASE OPEN

Since being made aware that the lead night vision C-130 unit in the reserves helped rescue Jessica Lynch in Iraq, I happened to watch "Extreme Makeover - Home Edition" on local TV. Jessica contacted them about her comrade, Lori Ann Piestewa, who lost her life there.

It was deeply touching to feel how much she meant (like a daughter) to the Piestewa family, American Indians. Mr. and Mrs. Piestewa have assumed care of Lori's son and daughter. They lived humbly in a mobile home which was in urgent need of repair. Home Edition crew, along with Jessica, built a new home including Indian culture guidelines. They also used Indian ways to do the planting around the home. As work progressed, they talked with two veterans who were "Code Talkers" in World War II, whose ingenuity allowed our country to correspond with units in an unbreakable code.

Not only did they build the home for the family, but their sponsors provided appliances, clothing, and other essentials, for the whole village. Then, after talking with veterans of several wars, the crew found there was no place for the veterans to meet. Since time was of the essence, they assembled a modular building, completely furnished to accommodate them. Extra crew and towns people pitched in to accomplish this miraculous gift.

They went in to change lives of such deserving people, and came out changed themselves. The family who lost their daughter, and mother, other war-time survivors, and, Jessica - for being such a loving, caring HERO after her ordeal in Iraq.

AND, AT THE END - that without the Niagara Falls Base's Air Guard and Reserves, All this might not have happened. Thank you for all the years of guarding your homeland, and the other side of the world. I pray this base will continue to be our guardians.



Ruth Harvey
86 Slate Creek Dr. #2
Buffalo, NY 14227

Phone: (716)668-4451; e-mail: ruthharvey@verizon.net

06162005

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



Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I am deeply concerned and troubled by the Defense Department's recommendation to close Niagara Falls International Air Reserve Station. I feel this recommendation is a terrible mistake and goes against all sound military judgment, and does not take into consideration current and future needs of the Defense Department and Homeland Security. I urge you and your fellow BRAC Commissioners to reverse this decision and remove them from the list.

I find it hard to understand and justify in my mind why the Air Force decided to close this base, take planes, missions and jobs from a base that ranks higher than other bases that are being kept open and, according to the Air Forces' own statistics, have a lower efficiency, higher utilities, lower manpower utilization and retention rates. The facts and figures of the cost analysis just don't justify the alleged projected savings for closure and therefore are very suspect. I also question why so many Air Reserve and Air Guard jobs, planes, and bases are being eliminated/transferred to a more costly active Air Force Base which is a thousand miles away and located in "tornado alley" and must have millions of dollars spent to accommodate these newly assigned aircraft and personnel. I feel that we might be hiding something from the public, is it similar to the old cannibalization program that was outlawed many years ago? Are we taking Air Reserve/Guard aircraft and personnel and transferring them to the active forces because Air Force/DOD does not want or have the money to replace active Air Force aircraft or personnel due to poor judgment or lack of money? Are we robbing from Peter to pay Paul? I cannot understand how a "judgment call" can outweigh the facts, the figures and the better ratings. The crews from Niagara helped in the rescue of PFC Jessica Lynch in Iraq because they are the lead night vision qualified C-130 Hercules units in the Air Force Reserve.

The Niagara air station is a relatively new station and has constantly removed and added buildings as the mission changed. Runways and taxi aprons are in immaculate condition. The main runway is the longest in the area, if not the state, and much of this runway and apron upgrading has been done without Defense Department monies. Niagara's combination of long main runway and adjacent shorter runway provide ideal training for C-130 aircrews. Niagara should be a prime candidate for expansion and increased mission requirements under the Department of Defense and Homeland Security Agency. Niagara could accommodate the Boeing C-17 Globemaster III aircraft, which has a similar mission but longer runway requirements and can carry heavier loads. This addition would enhance the potential of Niagara and the Air Force mission while staying closely related to what is already at Niagara. The retention of Niagara would support the additional mission of transporting the Army's 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, New York in a rapid response force for global missions.

While the Niagara serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically located and fully expandable to allow the addition of a fighter/helicopter squadron and a contingent of military police or rapid response force personnel to further secure America's northern border and northeast power grid infrastructure. Niagara lies in close proximity to four major border crossings between the United States and Canada. It has the New York State Power Authority's Hydropower and the Canadian Hydro complex, which harnesses the waters of the mighty Niagara River and supplies substantial power to the Northeast United States Power Grid, and has numerous chemical-processing facilities, which are of great importance to the United States economy. Niagara has also been chosen to be the home of the new joint service Military Entrance Processing Station that is presently under construction on the base to process new applicants into the United States Armed Forces. Niagara should be expanded rather than closed.

We are an international border city located in a geographical area that enables aircrews to cover a great part of the United States and Canada without fear of severe weather, such as tornados, hurricanes, drought and flooding. We have snow in the winter; fortunately our geographical location shields us from much of the snow and severe weather received in other parts of the state.

According to the Niagara Military Affairs Council:

- Closure of Niagara would reduce the Air Force presence in NY by 40%, and eliminate the last Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with \$35M in new facilities and lengthened runways and aprons, which have improved the operational effectiveness of the wings.
- We have also reduced our Base Operations Support costs by not less than 33% (to include a 25% reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- Closure of the base would also eliminate the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers in a region in which the units have both maintained in excess of 100% manning rates. These units have distinguished themselves and the United States Air Force in the performance of their duty while in Afghanistan and Iraq with no additional time needed for training. In short, "Our planes keep flying."
- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate 8 additional C-130H model aircraft and personnel without any military construction.
- Niagara Falls faces no physical encroachment or air traffic control constraints and has acreage on the base and adjacent to the installation for expansion.

I request that you strongly reconsider the decision to close this station. We are extremely proud of the fine men and women of the 107th Air Refueling Wing and 914th Airlift Wing and they have been instrumental in securing the home front and fighting the War on Terror. These young men and women are serving alongside their active duty Air Force counterparts. They are facing the same dangers as their brother and sister airmen. Our local "Citizen Soldiers and Airmen" and active duty military have paid an enormous price for our freedom in this War on Terror. We have lost 19 brave young "Citizen Soldiers" and active military people from this area because of the War on Terror; we owe to their memory more than "lip service". We claim them, their families and their fellow military as our neighbors. Rather than close this base and send our Western New Yorkers' to the corners of the United States, we should expand Niagara, increase the mission, and provide the necessary men, women, structures and equipment to support that increased military mission and support for Homeland security. I would also humbly ask if someone could explain and justify to me why we are sending everything south and west, and putting "all our eggs in one basket", does not the rest of the country count?

Thank you for your time and your consideration on what I consider to be a very important national matter. This is not a unilateral matter affecting just the Air Reserve/Air Guard station, but also one of saving a military installation that is an integral part of doing the most to effectively utilize our Air Reserve/Air Guard forces to support active military forces in times when rapid responses, and extended deployments are required for our National Defense, Homeland Security and the Department of Air Force.

Sincerely,

Donald E. Harris
United States Army Retired

BRAC Commission
Received
6/20/2005

BRAC Commission
Washington DC
C/o Niagara Military Affairs Council
P.O. Box 231
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

Jill Waz
6657 Royal Parkway South
Lockport, NY 14094

Dear Sirs:

It is unwise and unfair to close Niagara Falls Air Force Base.

- Niagara Falls Air Base is reassuring to a community who borders Canada, the great lakes and our fresh water supply, is home to many chemical plants, and Niagara Falls a world wonder and the major power supplier for the East Coast, which could be targets of terrorists.
- The Niagara Falls Air Force Base has been underutilized and has a tremendous amount of community support.
- The runway is long enough for the largest planes, C-5's, B-52's, F-16's etc. At 9,825 feet it's long enough to land anything that flies.
- The C-130 planes are more newly equipped than other bases and are very well maintained by full time ART staff and reservists.
- The Service people at Niagara Falls Base have been activated and effectively utilized for a great number of missions in its 50 year history. Closing the base and eliminating jobs is poor treatment for those who have sacrificed for our country.
- Niagara Falls Air Base has an illustrious history in aviation since the 1940's. Here the first helicopter and supersonic plane took flight.
- The Niagara Falls Air force Base is the second largest employer in Niagara County; and its closure would be devastating to the local and regional economy, which is already in a troubled state.
- It is unwise in the midst of the threat of terrorism, illegal border crossings, and a war overseas with no end in sight.

Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base must not be closed.

Jill Waz

BRAC Commission
Received
6/20/2005

BRAC Commission
Washington DC
C/o Niagara Military Affairs Council
P.O. Box 231
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

Jill Waz
6657 Royal Parkway South
Lockport, NY 14094

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- It is unwise in the midst of the threat of terrorism, illegal border crossings, and a war overseas with no end in sight.

Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base must not be closed.

Jill Waz

**BRAC Commission
Received**

6/20/2005

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Pentagon has recommended the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, New York be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with nearly 3,000 full and part-time workers, this would deliver another devastating blow to our region's economy.

The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossings between the U.S. and Canada, along with the New York State Power Authority's Hydropower complex which harnesses the waters of the Niagara and supplies substantial power to the Northeast United States Grid.

While the base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable to allow the addition of a fighter squadron to further secure America's northern border and power grid infrastructure. It should be expanded rather than closed.

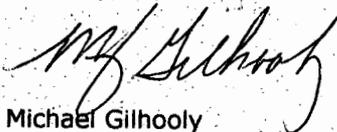
According to the Niagara Military Affairs Council:

- Closure of Niagara would reduce the Air Force presence in NY by **40%**, and eliminate the last Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with **\$35M** in new facilities and lengthened runways which have improved the operational effectiveness of the wings.
- We have also reduced our Base Operations Support costs by not less than **33%** (to include a **25%** reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the **most cost-efficient** facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- Closure of the base would also **eliminate the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers** in a region in which the units have both maintained in excess of 100% manning rates.
- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate **8 additional C-130H model aircraft** without any military construction.
- Niagara Falls faces **no physical encroachment or air traffic control constraints** and has acreage on the base and adjacent to the installation for expansion.

I humbly request that you **strongly reconsider** the decision to close the station. The fine men and women of the **107th Air Refueling Wing** and **914th Airlift Wing** have been instrumental in securing the home front and fighting the war on terror overseas.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this very important matter.

Sincerely,


Michael Gilhooly

- DATES 6-6-2005

37 Empire St.

Buffalo NY 14212

716-896-2135

Belinda Clark
2 Woodruff Street
Cuba, NY 14727

BRAC Commission
Washington D.C.
C/o NIMAC, PO Box 231
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

June 6, 2005

Dear Commissioners:

The Pentagon has recommended to the BRAC that the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, New York be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with over 3,000 full and part-time workers, this would deliver yet another devastating blow to our region's economy. In addition to the financial concerns, the community pride for our past and present military contributions can not be understated.

The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossings between the U.S. and Canada, along with the New York State Power Authority's Hydropower Complex which supplies substantial power to the Northeast United States Power Grid. The size and location of the base would also allow it to be used for responses to natural disasters or terror attacks in the Northeast United States. While the base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable. It should be expanded rather than closed.

According to the Niagara Military Affairs Council:

- Closure of Niagara would reduce the Air Force presence in NY by 40%, and eliminate the *last* Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with \$35M in new facilities and lengthened runways which have improved the operational effectiveness of the wings.
- We have also reduced our Base Operations Support costs by not less than 33% (to include a 25% reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- Closure of the base would also eliminate the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers in a region in which the units have both maintained in excess of 100% manning rates.
- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate 8 additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.

According to the Buffalo News article on May 25, 2005:

Top Air Force officials relied on their "collective judgment" in deciding to recommend their Niagara Falls base for closure, disregarding military value rankings that showed Niagara outperforming several other bases slated to remain open. Air Force spokesman Douglas Karas said the Air Force's "mission compatibility index" was just one of the factors considered in the base-closure decisions. Asked why at least nine bases with airlift missions were slated to stay open when they had lower "MCI" scores than Niagara, Karas said the Base Closure Executive Group sometimes deviated from its own rating system. "There were cases in the analysis process where lower ranked bases were retained," Karas said. "In those cases, the Base Closure Executive Group used their collective judgment, that, when combined with the MCI scores, resulted in the retention of lower-ranked installations. This was true in Niagara's case."

Chairman Anthony J. Principi ^{Colafas}
Base Realignment + Closure Com
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the students at
CSM, we are writing this letter out
of concern. Our concern is that the
Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and
Guard Base may be closed. The base provides
many jobs in western New York and also
gives us a feeling of security. We thank
the military for allowing us to live in
a free country.

A Concerned Citizen,
Jody Salmeri

Chairman Anthony J. Principi
Base Realignment + Closure Com
2521 South
Suite 60
Arlington, Va 22202

Dear Chairman Principi:

On behalf of the students
at CSAT we are writing
this letter out of concern.

Our concern is that the
Viagra Falls Air Force
Reserve at Guard Base
may be closed the base
provides many jobs in western
New York and also gives us
a feeling of security. We thank
the military for allowing us
to live in a free County
& a concerned citizen

Jabriel Freeman

6/2/05

Chairman Anthony J. Principi
Base Realignment + Closure Com.
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington Va. 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the students at CSAT,
we are writing this letter out of concern.
Our concern is that the Niagara Falls Air
Force Reserve and Guard Base ~~is~~ ^{may be} ~~being~~ ~~to~~ be
closed. The base provides many jobs in western
New York and also gives us a feeling of
security. We thank the Military for allowing
us to live in a free country.

A Concerned Citizen,

Thomas Voit

d. Thomas Voit

Charman Anthony J. Principi
Base Realignment + Closure Com
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, va. 22202

Date 6/2/85

Dear Charman Principi:

On the behalf of the student of
CAST, we are writing this letter
out of concern. Are concern is
that the Niagara Falls Air base Force
Reserve and Guard base maybe closed.
The base provides many jobs in western
New York and also gives us a feeling
of security - we thanks the military
for allowing us to live in a free country.
A Concerned Citizen

Bobby Epolito

6/2/05

Chairman Anthony J. Principe
Base Realignment + Closure
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA. 22202

Dear Chairman Principe,

On behalf of the Students at
C.S.A.T. we are writing this letter out of
concern. Our concern is that the Niagra
Falls Air Force might close. The base
provides many jobs in Western New York and
also gives us a feeling of security we thank
the military for allowing us to live in a free
Country.

A Concerned Citizen,
~~Melissa Gloss~~
Melissa Gloss

June 2, 2005

Chairman Anthony J. Principi
Base Realignment + Closure Com.
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, Va. 22207

Dear chairman Principi

On behalf of the students of CSAT, we are writing this letter out of concern. Our concern is that the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base may be closed. The base provides many jobs in Western New York and also gives us a feeling of security. We thank the military for allowing us to live in a free country.

A Concerned Citizen
Nicholas Staro
Nicholas Star

6-2-05

Chairman Anthony J. Principi
Base Realignment + Closure Com.
2521 South Clark street
Suite 600
Arlington, Va. 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the students of CSAI,
we are writing this letter out of concern.
Our concerns are that the Niagara Falls
Air Force Reserve and Guard Base
may be closed. The base provides many
jobs in Western New York and also
gives us feeling of security. We thank
the military for allowing us to live
in a free country.

A concerned Citizen
Michelle Hoover

6/2/05

Chairman, Anthony J. Principi Base Realignment +
Closure Com 2520 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, Va. 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the student at C.S.A.T,
we are writing this letter out of concern.
One concern is that the Niagara Falls
Air Force Reserve and Ground Base may
be closed.

The base provides many jobs in
Western New York, and also gives us feelings
of security. We thank the military for
allowing us to live in a free country.

A concerned Citizen.
Dexter Hunt

June 2, 2005

Chairman Anthony J. Principi
Base Realignment + Closure Com
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, Va. 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,
On behalf of the students of CSAT, we
are writing this letter out of concern.
Our concern is that the Niagara Falls Air
Force Reserve and Guard Base "maybe"
closed. The Base provides many jobs in
Western New York and also gives us a
feeling of security we thank the military
for allowing us to live in a free country

A Concerned Citizen
Kierra McClerkin
Kierra McClerkin

6/2/05

Chairman Anthony J. Principi
Base Realignment + Closure Com.
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 200
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chair Principi

On behalf of the students at C.S.A.T.,
we are writing a letter of concern. Our concern
is that the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and
Guard Base maybe closed. The base provides
many jobs in Western New York and also gives
us a feeling of security. We thank the military
for allowing us to live in a free country.

A concerned citizen,
Fabrae Hellams
Fabrae Hellams

Chairman Anthony J. Principi
Base Realignment + Closure com
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, Va. 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the students at
CSAT, we are writing this letter
out of concern. Our concern is that
the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserves
may be closed. The base provides
many jobs in western New York and
also gives us a feeling of
security. We thank the military
for allowing us to live for a
free country.

A concerned citizen,
Brendan Lee

Chairman Anthony J. Principi
Base Realignment & Closure Com
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, Va. 22202

Dear Chairman Principi

On behalf of the students at
CSAT, we are writing this letter out of
concern. Our concern is that the Niagara
Falls Air Force reserves may be closed.
The base provides many jobs in Western
New York and also gives us the feeling of
security. We thank the military for
allowing us to live in a free country.

A concerned citizen

Kevin Kalowski

6/2/05

Chairman Anthony J. Principi
Base realignment Closure com
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, Va. 22202

Dear Chairman Principi

On behalf of the students at
CSAT, we are writing this letter
out of concern. Our concern is that
the Niagra Falls Air Force Reserve
and guard base may be closed. The
base provides many jobs in western New York
and also gives us a feeling of security.
We thank the military for allowing us
to live in a free country.

A concerned citizen
Justin Morano
justin morano

6/2/09

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

Dear Chairman Principi

On behalf of the students at
CSAT, we are writing this letter
out of concern. Our concern is
that the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve
and guard base maybe closed. The
base provides many jobs in Western
New York and also gives us a
feeling of security. We thank the
military for allowing us to live in a
free country.

A Concerned Citizen,
Arien Black

June 2, 2005

Chairman Anthony J. Principi
Base Realignment + Closure Com.
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, Va. 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the students
at CSAT, we are writing this letter
out of concern. Our concern is that
the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve
and Guard Base may be closed. The
base provides many jobs in Western
New York and also gives us a
feeling of security. We thank the
military for allowing us to live in
a free country.

A Concerned Citizen,
Latasha

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

6-2-05

Dear Chairman Principi:

On behalf of the Students
of CSAT, we are writing this letter
of concern. Our concern is that the
Niagra Falls Air Force Reserve and
Guard Base may be closed. The
Base provides many jobs in Western
New York and also gives us a feeling
of security. We thank the military
for allowing us to live in a force
Country.

A Concerned Citizen,
Sara Harrod

Bruce mckenzie

6/02/05

Chairman Anthony J Principi
Base Realignment + Closure Com.

2521 South Clark Street

Suite 600

Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the students of the out CSat
we are writing this letter out of concern. Our
concern is that The Niagara Fall Air Force
Base and Guard Base may be closed.
The Base provides many jobs in western New
York and also gives us a feeling of
security. We thank the military for allow-
ing us to live in a force ~~center~~
country.

A concerned citizen
Bruce McKenzie

Lona L. Tobin
578 Locust Street Apt. 1
Lockport, NY 14094

June 3, 2005



Chairman Anthony J. Principi and
BRAC Commissioners
2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
2521 South Clark St. Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sirs:

I'm writing in response to the news that the BRAC is recommending the closure of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station.

Many of us are concerned about the negative impact on our local economy. That is a complaint that you will hear in most of the letters you're going to receive. And it's true that the base is a major employer in an area that is experiencing job losses anyway. The manpower numbers (military staff 115 and civilian 527) that you have published as expected to be lost seems small. It appears that this would be a very efficient airbase to keep open.

Our reservists come from all over western New York. These are mostly people with jobs and families that are established in this area. If our base closes, they won't be in a position to uproot their families and quit their jobs (also consider the spouse's job) to move out of state to maintain their part-time reservist or volunteer positions. You will lose these fine men and women. Also, by condensing your bases in one area, where will the pool of new recruits come from? Any one area can only provide a limited supply of volunteers. Who will fight the war that costs more than the base closings will save in any year?

I know that you would like to take the planes from the Air National Guard and the Reserve Airlift Wing to replace aging planes in other areas. Of course, you'll have to wait until they all come back from the middle east to get them - at that time you can let the men and women who were with the planes know that you no longer feel they and their families are important enough to keep - you only want the planes. Why aren't there enough reliable aircraft maintained in these other bases now?

As you can see, I am deeply opposed to closing this base. I'm asking that you reconsider the impact of your recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,

Lona L. Tobin

RECEIVED

06102005

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

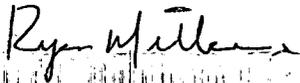
I was shocked and upset by the Defense Department's recommendation to close Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard base. This recommendation is a not in the nation's best interest and the BRAC Commission should reverse this decision and to remove Niagara Falls from the closure list.

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. I read that it is also one of the most successful recruiting bases in the country. Why would we want to close this base when it was one of only a few that was consistently meeting its goals?

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.

Overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,



Ryan Miller
8060 13th St #1301
Silver Spring, MD 20910

06102005
RECEIVED

Linda L. Tarnowski
2022 Swann Road
Ransomville, New York 14131

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners,

It's taking me this long to calm down enough after hearing about the Niagara Falls Airforce Base being on the base closing list AGAIN! What more do these men and women have to do to make sure this base stays open? What more does our community have to do to make sure this base stays open? What more does our state have to do to show it's a vital part of the Western New York State Region economically and for security?

Hours upon hours, weeks upon weeks, months upon months training and retraining when they received new H model C-130's, getting ready for Desert Storm, preparing for night vision to go to Iraq in all kinds of weather (we have four seasons) and countless of other in between "smaller" missions that were by no means smaller when your constantly leaving loved ones home and civilian jobs and at times losing them. All this and they came out with an outstanding record?!

Our community as a whole constantly supported them by outreach programs, offering discounted tickets to events, signs in store windows, house windows, car windows, a nice hug of encouragement from a stranger if they found out a loved one was away or things just weren't the same when they came back or a good slap on the back saying a job WELL done!

I can't tell you how many people I talk to that makes them feel good to hear them flying around here doing their training missions and it how many people I see at the end of the run way watching them take off and land at any given time. WE'RE AN EXTREMELY PROUD RESERVE COMMUNITY.

Not to mention the Airshows they put on for the community and the Prom Night program for the area school districts to save young lives and the Civil Air Patrol Organization.

It's going to have a tremendous economic impact the Western New York Region that is already struggling to stay afloat. It not only effects the city of Niagara Falls, but

also the city of Buffalo. Both cities are struggling with many of the industries moving away and parts of the cities are ghost towns and businesses are boarded up already. Yet, here we sit with a state of the art Airforce Reserve Base that \$35M has been put into new facilities and lengthened runways which have improved the bases' effectiveness of the whole wing! Base Operations Support have been reduced by not less then 33% (to include a 25% reductions in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Airforce Reserve Command. Now let me see..... Cost efficient, \$35M invested, ample air space, more acreage for expansion and plenty of room to park 8 more C-130s....., but we need to close it up and let all this sit there and send everything and everyone to a congested, certainly not as efficient (with all the air traffic), which means less training, less variety of training(weather),less recruitment because these places are obviously recruited out (Niagara Falls has excess of 100% recruitment rates) and a big waste of tax-payers money if you ask me. Doesn't sound like a good economic move if indeed you want cost efficiency!

There is also an issue of national security being right next to an international border. Just about a week and a half ago there was a scare of some kind of fumes coming out of a vehicle that they found counterfeit money in. Some of the custom workers were taken to the hospital. Guess who was there? The FIRE DEPT FROM THE NIAGARA FALLS AIRFORCE BASE!

I am indeed outraged by this BRAC recommendation. Unfortunately, it's like a lot of our government agencies, too far away to get the big picture. Here I've only listed a very few of the reasons this recommendation MUST be reconsidered. Hopefully, if enough of us take the time to put our two cents in, you'll get the BIG PICTURE from all of us.

Sincerely,
Linda L. Tarnowski
Linda L. Tarnowski

June 7, 2005

RECEIVED
06102005

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

Dear Chairman Principi & BRAC Commissioners:

As residents of Niagara County, New York, we are very upset by the Defense Department's recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve & Guard base. This recommendation could not come at a worse time and I would hope after careful consideration the BRAC Commission would reverse their decision and remove the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve & Guard base from the closure list.

I cannot understand why you would consider closing this base when it is positioned so close to the Canadian border and also at a time when our country is at war. As the only military installation in Western New York, Niagara Falls has been key to military recruitment. 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.

The impact of this decision will be devastating to the area and 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.

Our New York communities stand united and in full support for this base and its retention. Please overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep this base open.

Thank you for your consideration and time.

Sincerely,

Brian Mitchell

Brian Mitchell

Dolores Mitchell

Dolores Mitchell

71 Wickham Dr.
Williamsville, NY 14221
June 7, 2005

06102005

BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark St.
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

RECEIVED

Dear Sir:

The Pentagon has recommended the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, NY be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with nearly 3,000 full and part-time workers, this would deliver another devastating blow to our region's economy.

The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossings between the U.S. and Canada, along with the New York State Power Authority's Hydropower complex which harnesses the waters of the Niagara River and supplies substantial power to the Northeast U.S. Grid.

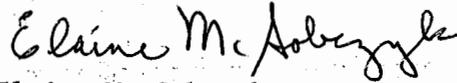
While the base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable to allow the addition of a fighter squadron to further secure America's northern border and power grid infrastructures. It should be expanded rather than closed.

According to the Niagara Military Affairs Council:

- Closure of Niagara would reduce the Air Force present in NY by 40%, and eliminate the last Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with \$35M in new facilities and lengthened runways which have improved the operational effectiveness of the Wings.
- We have also reduced our Base Operations Support costs by not less than 33% (to include a 25% reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- Closure of the base would also eliminate the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers in a region in which the units have both maintained in excess of 100% manning rates.
- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate 8 additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.
- Niagara Falls faces no physical encroachment or air traffic control constraints and has acreage on the base and adjacent land for expansion.

I humbly request that you reconsider the decision to close the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. The fine men and women of the 107th Air Refueling Wing and the 914th Airlift Wing have been instrumental in securing the home front and fighting the war on terror overseas.

Yours truly,


Elaine M. Sobczyk

Elaine M. Sobczyk

06102005

RECEIVED

June 3, 2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

As a former member of the 107th NYANG Unit I am troubled by the Defense Department's recommendation to close Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve base. The members of both the 107th and 914th are dedicated individuals with the best interests of our country in mind. What will happen to these men and women? Will they be let out of their commitments furthering the decline of needed military personnel?

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. How will the Department defend the region, and who will respond to man-made or natural disasters, when they occur after these massive cuts?

I urge the Commission to remove Niagara Falls AFB from the Pentagon's recommended list of base closures and to stop the continuing retreat of the military from our region of the country.

Sincerely,



Richard T. Lydo
114 Barbados Drive
Cheektowaga, NY 14227

06102005
RECEIVED

June 6, 2005

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

It is no secret that closing the base would have a devastating economic impact on our region. The base is Niagara County's second-largest employer with more than 3,000 full- and part-time military and civilian, with an estimated economic impact of \$150 million on regional businesses. It is also difficult 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.

The media has reported that the military is 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 National Guard and will make the Pentagon's efforts to recruit and retain military personnel even more difficult than it is now.

The Buffalo-Niagara business community stands in support of the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base, and its retention. I exhort you to please overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Very truly yours,



Brad K. Mazon
534 Main Street
Ebenezer, NY 14224



Established 1860

06102005

RECEIVED

June 6, 2005

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 do not agree with the Defense Department's recommendation to close 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 Niagara Falls from the closure list.

Closing the base would have a devastating economic impact on our region: The base is Niagara County's second-largest employer with more than 3,000 full- and part-time military and civilian and it has an estimated impact of \$150 million on regional businesses.

It is also difficult 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.

The military is 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 National Guard and will make the Pentagon's efforts to recruit and retain military personnel even more difficult than it is now.

The Buffalo Niagara business community stands with the Niagara Falls/Western New York community in support of the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base, and its retention. Overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,

Michael K. Walsh
Executive Vice President

WALSH DUFFIELD & M INSURANCE

801 Main St PO Box 5016 Buffalo NY 14205-5016 Phone (716) 853-3820 Fax (716) 847-1360 Web www.walshins.com



Established 1860

06102005

June 6, 2005

RECEIVED

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

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The military is 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 National Guard and will make the Pentagon's efforts to recruit and retain military personnel even more difficult than it is now.

The Buffalo Niagara business community stands with the Niagara Falls/Western New York community in support of the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base, and its retention. Overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,

John N. Walsh, III, J.D., CIC
Chairman & Chief Executive Officer

WALSH DUFFIELD & M INSURANCE

801 Main St PO Box 5016 Buffalo NY 14205-5016 Phone (716) 853-3820 Fax (716) 847-1360 Web www.walshins.com



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Established 1860

June 6, 2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

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The Buffalo Niagara business community stands with the Niagara Falls/Western New York community in support of the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base, and its retention. Overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,

Edward F. Walsh, Jr., CPCU, CIC
President & Chief Operating Officer

WALSH DUFFIELD & M INSURANCE

801 Main St PO Box 5016 Buffalo NY 14205-5016 Phone (716) 853-3820 Fax (716) 847-1360 Web www.walshins.com

Chairman Anthony J. Principi
Base realignment + closure com
2521 south Clark street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA. 22202

Dear chairman Principi,

On behalf of the students at
ESAT we are writing this letter
out of concern.

Our concern is that the
Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve
and Guard Base may be
closed. The base provides many
jobs in western New York and
also gives us a feeling of
security. We thank the military
for allowing us to live in a free
country

A concerned citizen
Alex Rodriguez

6-2-05

Chairman Anthony J. Principi
Base Realignment + Closure Com
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, Va. 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the students
at CSAT, we are writing this
letter out of concern. Are conce-
rns that the Niagara Fall
Air Force Reserve and Guard
Base may be closed. The base
provides many jobs in Western
Ny and also gives us a feeling
of security. We thank the
military for allowing us to live
in a free country.

A concerned citizen

by Nicholas
Wiesner

Date 1/2/05

Chairman Anthony G. Principi
Base Realignment + Closure Com.
2521 South Clark St.
Suite 600
Arlington Va. 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the students at CSAT, we are writing
this letter out of concern. Our concern is that
the Niagara Falls Force Reserve and Guard Base

Maybe Closed. The base provides many jobs in
Western New York and also gives us a feeling of
security. We thank the military for allowing
us to live in a free country.

A concerned citizen, Dale K. James

June 2, 2005

Chairman Anthony J. Principi
Base Realignment + Closure Com
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, Va. 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the students at
CSAT, we are writing this
letter out of concern. Our
concern is that the Niagara
Falls Air Force Reserve and
Guard base may be closed.

The base provides many jobs
in Western New York and also
gives us a feeling of security.
We thank the Military for
allowing us to live in the free
Country.

A Concerned Citizen,
Amber Durbach

6/2/05

Chairman Anthony J. Principi

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the students at CSAT, we are writing this letter out of our concern. Our concern is that the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base may be close. The base provides many jobs in Western New York and also gives us a feeling of security. We thank the military for allowing us to live in a free country.

A concerned Citizen,
Zhane Graves

June 2, 2005

Chairman Anthony J. Principi
Base Realignment & Closure Com
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, Va. 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the students at C.A.A.T., we are writing this letter out of concern. Our concern is that the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base may be closed. The base provides many jobs in Western New York and also gives us a feeling of security. We thank the military for allowing us to live in a free country.

A Concerned Citizen,
Courtney Barnes

6/2/08

Chairman Anthony J. Principi
Base Realignment + Closure Com
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, Va, 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the students at Csat we are writing
this letter out of concern is that the Niagara Falls
Air Force Reserve and guard ~~Force~~ may be closed. The base
provides many jobs in Western New York and also gives us a feeling of security.
We thank the military for allowing us to live in a free country.

A concerned Citizen,
Walter Kato

RECEIVED
05312005

Dear Chairman Anthony J. Principi,

I would like you to know
that I got 250 signatures for the
Air Base in Niagara Falls, N.Y.

In 1975 I was a civilian recruiter
and I had won the silver award
and the Gold Award and I had also
worked at the Bell Aircraft as a
tool clerk and on the planes.

I feel that we are going to
win. God Bless you!

Sincerely
(Ms) Florence Donato

P.S. - Would like to hear from you.
Louise Slaughter has been doing a
good job.

BN 5/29/05

Join the campaign to keep base open

Niagara County officials encourage Western New Yorkers to send the following letter to the Federal Base Realignment and Closure Commission at: BRAC Commission, Washington, D.C., c/o NIMAC, P.O. Box 231, Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231.

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I am deeply troubled by the Defense Department's recommendation to close Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. This recommendation is a terrible mistake, and I urge the BRAC to reverse this decision and remove the Niagara Falls Base from the list.

It is hard to understand why the Defense Department 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. Of all the bases to pick to close, how do you close the base whose unit helped rescue Jessica Lynch in Iraq, because they are the lead night vision C-130 unit in the Reserves? You must also recognize:

- The federal government has invested more than \$35 million in Niagara Falls since 1995 in new facilities.

- Base Operations Support costs have been reduced more than 33 percent (to include a 25 percent reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.

- Closure of the base eliminates the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers in a region in which the units have both maintained in excess of 100 percent manning rates.

- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate eight additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.

- Niagara Falls faces no physical encroachment nor air traffic control constraints and has acreage on the base and adjacent to the installation for expansion.

I urge the Commission, in the strongest possible terms, to remove Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station from the Pentagon's recommended list of base closures and to stop the continuing retreat of the military from our region of the country.



RECEIVED

06282005

118 Woodbury Dr.
Lockport NY
14094

May 26, 2005

NIMAC

Niagara Falls Air Base has been highly active in many instances and should be kept active.

The decision to put it on the list for possible closing in poorly based and needs to be reconsidered.

Truly
Walter G Baker

PAUL H. WINTER
38 BROCKETT DRIVE
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14223

May 3, 2005

The Niagara Military Affairs Council
P.O. Box 231
Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

Gentlemen:

I recently read the editorial by John Cooper Sr. in this past week's edition of Buffalo Business First, concerning the possible closing of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station.

As the second largest employer in Niagara County with over 2900 employees and a \$50 million annual payroll, this closing would have a devastating affect on the Western New York community.

This area certainly cannot afford to lose yet another large scale loss of employment. You may count on registering me in the community support to let the government know how very much we need this facility to remain open.

Yours very truly,

Paul H. Winter
Paul H. Winter

RECEIVED

05272005

RECEIVED

05272005



Melvin P. Sylvis
Box 308
Depew, NY 14043-0308

5/22/05

Base Realignment + Closure Commission

Dear Sir,

I am writing to show my displeasure on your proposal to close the Niagara Falls Air Reserve.

We citizens in Western New York are very proud of this air base and it has a record of serving our country well in times of war.

Don't let us down. Don't do that to us.

Sincerely

Concerned Citizen and X.WW2 Veteran

Melvin P. Sylvis
(USMC-953152)

ROBIN E. OTT
20 Hillcrest Drive
Lockport, New York 14094

(716) 433-1482

May 27, 2005

BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Gentlemen/Ladies:

The Pentagon has recommended the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, New York, be closed. Listed below are a number of factors supporting the military value of the Base to the well-being of the people of the United States.

The Base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossings between the United States and Canada, along with the New York State Power Authority's Hydropower Complex which harnesses the waters of the Niagara River and supplies substantial power to the Northeast United States Grid.

While the Base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable to allow the **addition of a fighter squadron to further secure America's northern border and power grid infrastructure. It should be expanded rather than closed.**

According to the Military Affairs Council:

- Closure of Niagara would reduce the Air Force presence in New York by **40%** and eliminate the last Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with **\$35,000,000** in new facilities and lengthened runways, which have improved the operational effectiveness of the Wings.
- Base Operations Support costs have been reduced by not less than 33% (to include a **25% reduction in utilities**) to make the Base one of the most **cost-efficient facilities** in the Air Force Reserve Command.

RECEIVED

RECEIVED

05312005

- Closure of the Base would also eliminate the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers in a region in which the units have maintained both recruitment and retention in excess of 100% manning rates.
- Niagara Falls' existing infrastructure can accommodate **eight additional C-130H model aircraft** without any military construction.
- Niagara Falls faces **no physical encroachment nor air traffic control constraints** and has acreage on the Base and adjacent to the installation for expansion.

I respectfully request that you strongly reconsider the decision to close the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. The fine men and women of the 107th Air Refueling Wing and 914th Airlift Wing have been instrumental in securing the homefront and fighting the war on terror overseas.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this very important matter.

Sincerely,

Robin E. Ott

Robin E. Ott

/reo

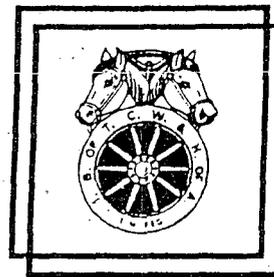
RONALD G. LUCAS
PRESIDENT
PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICER
WILLIAM C. McCRACKEN
SECRETARY-TREASURER
BUSINESS AGENT
KENNETH BRZEZINKSI
VICE PRESIDENT
TERRY HUGHES
RECORDING SECRETARY
RICHARD S. CARR
TRUSTEE
ANGELO FIORELLO, JR.
TRUSTEE
PAUL PARLATO
TRUSTEE
ROBERT BONILLA
BUSINESS AGENT
THOMAS W. DZIEDZIC
BUSINESS AGENT
BRADLEY R. HAAG
BUSINESS AGENT
RICHARD LIPSITZ
BUSINESS AGENT
LABOR MOVEMENT LIAISON
EDWARD T. McDONALD
BUSINESS AGENT
GLENN C. MILLER
BUSINESS AGENT
SCOTT CHISMAR
DIRECTOR OF
ORGANIZING / FIELD REP.

TEAMSTERS LOCAL UNION NO. 264

AFFILIATED WITH THE
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS,
TEAMSTERS JOINT COUNCIL No. 46
AND ITS VARIOUS TRADE CONFERENCES AND TRADE DIVISIONS

MAIN OFFICE:
35 TYROL DRIVE
CHEEKTOWAGA, NEW YORK 14227-2715
(716) 668-8007 Fax (716) 668-8122
1-800-773-9115

BRANCH OFFICE:
102 E. MAIN STREET
FALCONER, NEW YORK 14733
(716) 665-4014 Fax (716) 665-6006
1-888-458-1802



June 6, 2005

Senator George Maziarz
2578 Niagara Falls Blvd
Wheatfield, NY 14304

Dear Senator Maziarz:

The Pentagon has recommended the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, NY be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with nearly 3,000 full and part-time workers, this would deliver another devastating blow to our region's economy.

The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossing between the U.S. and Canada, along with the New York Power Authority's Hydropower complex which harnesses the Niagara and supplies substantial power to the Northeast Unity States Grid.

While the base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable to allow the addition of a fighter squadron the further secure America's northern border and power grid infrastructure. It should be expanded rather than closed.

According to the Niagara Military Affairs Council:

- Closure of Niagara would reduce the Air Force presence in NY by 40%, and eliminate the last Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with \$35M in new facilities and lengthened runways which have improved the operational effectiveness of the wings.
- We have also reduced our Base Operations Support costs by not less than 33% (to include a 25% reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- Closure of the base would also eliminate the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers in a region in which the units have both maintained in excess of 100% manning rates.
- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate 8 additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.
- Niagara Falls faces no physical encroachment nor air traffic control constraints and has acreage on the base and adjacent to the installation for expansion

I humbly request that you strongly reconsider the decision to close the station. The fine men and women of the 107th Air Refueling Wing and 914th Airlift Wing have been instrumental in securing the homefront and fighting the war on terror overseas.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this very important matter.

Sincerely,

Ronald G. Lucas
President

RECEIVED

06202005

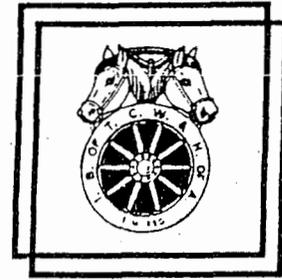


PLEASE DIRECT RETURN CORRESPONDENCE TO THE CHEEKTOWAGA, NY ADDRESS

RONALD G. LUCAS
PRESIDENT
PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICER
WILLIAM C. McCracken
SECRETARY/TREASURER
BUSINESS AGENT
KENNETH BRZEZINKSI
VICE PRESIDENT
TERRY HUGHES
RECORDING SECRETARY
RICHARD S. CARR
TRUSTEE
ANGELO FIORELLO, JR.
TRUSTEE
PAUL PARLATO
TRUSTEE
ROBERT BONILLA
BUSINESS AGENT
THOMAS W. DZIEDZIC
BUSINESS AGENT
BRADLEY R. HAAG
BUSINESS AGENT
RICHARD LIPSITZ
BUSINESS AGENT
LABOR MOVEMENT LIAISON
EDWARD T. McDONALD
BUSINESS AGENT
GLENN C. MILLER
BUSINESS AGENT
SCOTT CHISMAR
DIRECTOR OF
ORGANIZING / FIELD REP.

TEAMSTERS LOCAL UNION NO. 264

AFFILIATED WITH THE
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS,
TEAMSTERS JOINT COUNCIL No. 46
AND ITS VARIOUS TRADE CONFERENCES AND TRADE DIVISIONS



MAIN OFFICE:
35 TYROL DRIVE
CHEEKTOWAGA, NEW YORK 14227-2715
(716) 668-8007 Fax (716) 668-8122
1-800-773-9115

BRANCH OFFICE:
102 E. MAIN STREET
FALCONER, NEW YORK 14733
(716) 665-4014 Fax (716) 665-6006
1-888-458-1802

June 6, 2005

Senator Charles Schumer
313 Hart - Senate Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20510

RECEIVED
06 20 2005

Dear Senator Schumer:

The Pentagon has recommended the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, NY be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with nearly 3,000 full and part-time workers, this would deliver another devastating blow to our region's economy.

The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossing between the U.S. and Canada, along with the New York Power Authority's Hydropower complex which harnesses the Niagara and supplies substantial power to the Northeast Unity States Grid.

While the base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable to allow the addition of a fighter squadron the further secure America's northern border and power grid infrastructure. It should be expanded rather than closed.

According to the Niagara Military Affairs Council:

- Closure of Niagara would reduce the Air Force presence in NY by 40%, and eliminate the last Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with \$35M in new facilities and lengthened runways which have improved the operational effectiveness of the wings.
- We have also reduced our Base Operations Support costs by not less than 33% (to include a 25% reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- Closure of the base would also eliminate the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers in a region in which the units have both maintained in excess of 100% manning rates.
- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate 8 additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.
- Niagara Falls faces no physical encroachment nor air traffic control constraints and has acreage on the base and adjacent to the installation for expansion

I humbly request that you strongly reconsider the decision to close the station. The fine men and women of the 107th Air Refueling Wing and 914th Airlift Wing have been instrumental in securing the homefront and fighting the war on terror overseas.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this very important matter.

Sincerely,

William C. McCracken
Secretary-Treasurer



PLEASE DIRECT RETURN CORRESPONDENCE TO THE CHEEKTOWAGA, NY ADDRESS

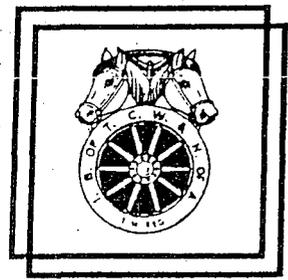
RONALD G. LUCAS
PRESIDENT
PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICER
WILLIAM C. McCracken
SECRETARY-TREASURER
BUSINESS AGENT
KENNETH BRZEZINKSI
VICE PRESIDENT
TERRY HUGHES
RECORDING SECRETARY
RICHARD S. CARR
TRUSTEE
ANGELO FIORELLO, JR.
TRUSTEE
PAUL PARLATO
TRUSTEE
ROBERT BONILLA
BUSINESS AGENT
THOMAS W. DZIEDZIC
BUSINESS AGENT
BRADLEY R. HAAG
BUSINESS AGENT
RICHARD LIPSITZ
BUSINESS AGENT
LABOR MOVEMENT LIAISON
EDWARD T. McDONALD
BUSINESS AGENT
GLENN C. MILLER
BUSINESS AGENT
SCOTT CHISMAR
DIRECTOR OF
ORGANIZING / FIELD REP.

TEAMSTERS LOCAL UNION NO. 264

AFFILIATED WITH THE
INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS,
TEAMSTERS JOINT COUNCIL No. 46
AND ITS VARIOUS TRADE CONFERENCES AND TRADE DIVISIONS

MAIN OFFICE:
35 TYROL DRIVE
CHEEKTOWAGA, NEW YORK 14227-2715
(716) 668-8007 Fax (716) 668-8122
1-800-773-9115

BRANCH OFFICE:
102 E. MAIN STREET
FALCONER, NEW YORK 14733
(716) 665-4014 Fax (716) 665-6006
1-888-458-1802



06202005

June 2, 2005

Senator Byron Brown
65 Court St., Rm 213
Buffalo, NY 14202

Dear Senator Brown:

The Pentagon has recommended the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, NY be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with nearly 3,000 full and part-time workers, this would deliver another devastating blow to our region's economy.

The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossing between the U.S. and Canada, along with the New York Power Authority's Hydropower complex which harnesses the Niagara and supplies substantial power to the Northeast Unity States Grid.

While the base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable to allow the addition of a fighter squadron the further secure America's northern border and power grid infrastructure. It should be expanded rather than closed.

According to the Niagara Military Affairs Council:

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- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate 8 additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.
- Niagara Falls faces no physical encroachment nor air traffic control constraints and has acreage on the base and adjacent to the installation for expansion

I humbly request that you strongly reconsider the decision to close the station. The fine men and women of the 107th Air Refueling Wing and 914th Airlift Wing have been instrumental in securing the homefront and fighting the war on terror overseas.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this very important matter.

Sincerely,

Ronald G. Lucas
President



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PLEASE DIRECT RETURN CORRESPONDENCE TO THE CHEEKTOWAGA, NY ADDRESS

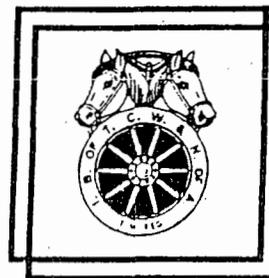
RONALD G. LUCAS
PRESIDENT
PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICER
WILLIAM C. McCracken
SECRETARY-TREASURER
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SCOTT CHISMAR
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AFFILIATED WITH THE
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(716) 668-8007 Fax (716) 668-8122
1-800-773-9115

BRANCH OFFICE:
102 E. MAIN STREET
FALCONER, NEW YORK 14733
(716) 665-4014 Fax (716) 665-6006
1-888-458-1802



June 6, 2005

Senator Hillary Clinton
476 Russell - Senate Office Bldg
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Clinton:

The Pentagon has recommended the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, NY be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with nearly 3,000 full and part-time workers, this would deliver another devastating blow to our region's economy.

The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossing between the U.S. and Canada, along with the New York Power Authority's Hydropower complex which harnesses the Niagara and supplies substantial power to the Northeast Unity States Grid.

While the base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable to allow the addition of a fighter squadron the further secure America's northern border and power grid infrastructure. It should be expanded rather than closed.

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- Closure of the base would also eliminate the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers in a region in which the units have both maintained in excess of 100% manning rates.
- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate 8 additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.
- Niagara Falls faces no physical encroachment nor air traffic control constraints and has acreage on the base and adjacent to the installation for expansion

I humbly request that you strongly reconsider the decision to close the station. The fine men and women of the 107th Air Refueling Wing and 914th Airlift Wing have been instrumental in securing the homefront and fighting the war on terror overseas.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this very important matter.

Sincerely,

William C. McCracken
Secretary-Treasurer



06202005



PLEASE DIRECT RETURN CORRESPONDENCE TO THE CHEEKTOWAGA, NY ADDRESS

**BRAC Commission
Received**
6/17/2005

June 13, 2005

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 writing in reference to the Defense Department's recommendation to close Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard base. It is difficult to understand what rationale there could be for closing this vital instrument for our homeland security.

I know that you must be aware that Reserve forces are currently some of the only resources we have to send to fight the war in Iraq. We have no others and recruiting efforts continue to fall short.

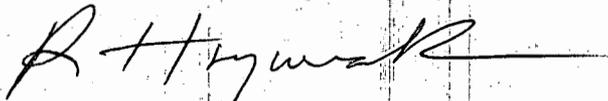
Our area is sensitive in terms of defending the homeland. We share major boarder crossings with Canada and our area generates the power that is used to power much of New York City. New York City is the only city in America that has actually been attacked!

Could anyone be seriously thinking of reducing homeland security in New York and exporting it to some other region of the country?

There are no political considerations that can justify this kind of reckless disregard for the safety of our region.

Please respond to my concerns at the address below.

Sincerely,



Ruth Hrywnak

525 Third St

Youngstown, NY 14174

BRAC Commission

3060 Delancey Road
Niagara Falls, NY 14303
June 14, 2005

Received

6/17/2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Base should be reconsidered.

Every now and then when I look up into a clear-blue sky - over Niagara Falls - I see contrails high, very, very high in the sky. They often come up from the East. Who are they? Where do they come from? Where are they going? Do they have a target?

Pictures in my books on World War II show such contrails in the thousands over Europe. These days I see only a few. But they are frightening.

Many years ago I was amused to hear Niagara Falls referred to as a "frontier town". But it is! It is on the very edge of the nation, on the frontier. It should be in the first line of defense.

Many local manufacturing plants are gone but there remains the huge power generating plant with its water conduits above and below ground, its reservoirs, its electrical switching, high voltage yards, its dynamos, its transmission systems.

And all of them are duplicated a few miles away in our neighbor, Canada.

During World War II, I served in the Army Air Corps in a Group that was dedicated to the repair and maintenance of heavy bombers. I worked thirty years at a local chemical-manufacturing complex. My wife was a secretary to the C.O. at a now vanished Naval Air Station.

If today's Air Base vanishes as well, I fear for the future defense of this frontier area.

Sincerely,



Joseph J. McDonald

Smith, Seaman & Quackenbush, Inc.

FUNERAL HOMES

117 MAPLE AVENUE
P. O. BOX 266
MONROE, N. Y. 10950

845-782-8185

515 ROUTE 32
P. O. BOX 495
HIGHLAND MILLS, N. Y. 10930

150 Years



EST. 1835

DAVID SMITH 1835
IRVING D. SMITH 1870
EDMUND SEAMAN 1909
T. A. QUACKENBUSH 1924
THOMAS P. SULLIVAN 1973
RICHARD J. SULLIVAN 1986
COLIN W. CAMPBELL 1997



06272005

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 applaud the BRAC Commission's foresight in recognizing the strategic and military importance of maintaining the military presence of the 105th Air National Guard base and Marine installation at Stewart International Airport. However, I have grave concerns about the recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard base.

Given the Niagara base's proximity to the Canadian border, major chemical plants, the Niagara Power Project and major cities of Buffalo and Rochester, homeland security issues dictate that the facility be kept open. In addition, our nation's armed forces are facing serious difficulties in recruiting. As the only remaining major military installation in western New York, Niagara Falls has been key to military recruitment. The impact of the decision to close this base 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.

I join with all New Yorkers who stand with the Niagara Falls/Western New York community in supporting retention of this base. I strongly urge the Commission to remove Niagara Falls Air Force Base from the recommended list of base closures.

Sincerely yours,

SMITH, SEAMAN & QUACKENBUSH, INC.

Thomas P. Sullivan



NEW YORK STATE
OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Bernadette Castro
Commissioner



June 21, 2005

06272005

2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
2521 Clark Street, Ste. 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I write to you as the Commissioner of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation, with stewardship over the premier attraction in the Niagara Region, and as an ad hoc member of the Niagara Tourism and Convention Corporation.

I am deeply troubled by the Defense Department's recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base. This recommendation appears to be based upon inadequate information, and I urge the BRAC Commission to reject this proposal and remove the Niagara Falls Base from the list.

As the Commissioner of an Agency that has overseen some \$40,000,000 in public and private investment in the Greater Niagara Region over the past ten years, I must believe that there are viable alternatives to the elimination of the planes, missions, and jobs from so many Air Guard and Air Reserve bases and deploy them on the more costly Active Duty bases. The Air National Guard's 107th Air Refueling Wing, based at Niagara Falls, has performed with honor and courage in the current conflict in Iraq, and has a critical role as the lead night vision C-130 unit in the Air Force Reserves. The 107th has stirred patriotic pride throughout the region, and is so closely identified with the Greater Niagara Region. Please consider the value of this unit, and of this base, to the Greater Niagara Falls Region as you finalize decisions affecting this asset of such Regional significance.

I also ask that you consider that:

- The federal government has invested more than \$45 million in Niagara Falls since 1995 in new facilities.
- Base Operations Support costs have been reduced more than 33% (to include a 25% reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- Closure of the base eliminates the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers in a region in

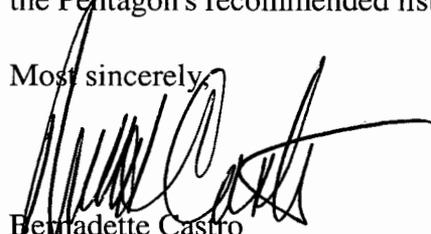
Empire State Plaza ••Agency Building 1 ••Albany, New York 12238
518-474-0463 ••FAX: 518-474-1365

which the units have both maintained in excess of 100% manning rates.

- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate eight (8) additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.
- Niagara Falls faces no physical encroachment nor air traffic control constraints and has acreage on the base and adjacent to the installation for expansion.

I urge the Commission, in the strongest possible terms, to remove the Niagara Falls AFB from the Pentagon's recommended list of base closures.

Most sincerely,



Bernadette Castro

Commissioner
State Historic Preservation Officer



Jonathan P. Booz, II
Financial Services Professional

Cathedral Park Tower Suite 500
37 Franklin Street
Buffalo NY 14202-4182
Tel (716) 852-1321 Ext 344
Fax (716) 842-1628
e-mail: jbooz@finsvcs.com

June 16, 2005

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

 **RECEIVED**
06262005

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

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

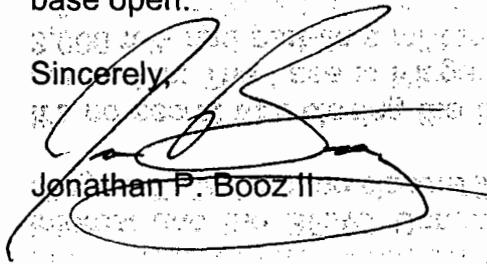
It's no secret that closing the base would have a devastating economic impact on our region: The base is Niagara County's second-largest employer with more than 3,000 full- and part-time military and civilian and it has an estimated impact of \$150 million on regional businesses.

That said, it is also difficult 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.

The media has reported that the military is 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 National Guard and will make the Pentagon's efforts to recruit and retain military personnel even more difficult than it is now.

The Buffalo Niagara business community stands with the Niagara Falls/Western New York community in support of the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base, and its retention. Overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,


Jonathan P. Booz II

Insurance Representative of Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company (MassMutual) and affiliates • Springfield MA 01111-0001
Registered Representative of and securities offered through MML Investors Services, Inc., a MassMutual subsidiary • Supervisory Office: Cathedral Park Tower 37 Franklin Street Suite 500 Buffalo NY 14202-4107 (716) 852-1321. The Buffalo Agency, Michael J. McDermid, CLU, ChFC, CLTC, General Agent

06072005

RECEIVED

June 1, 2005

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 deeply concerned that the Defense Department has recommended closing the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base. This recommendation is not in the best interest for the nation and especially for Western New York State. Therefore, I am officially requesting the BRAC Commission^{to} reverse their decision and maintain our Base and their protection especially now, let me explain.

Western New York is a prime target for terrorists, illegal aliens and large-scale crime activity since we reside across the border from Toronto, Canada, encompassed by Lake Ontario, Lake Erie and we also provide the majority of Turbo Electric Power from the Power Authority of New York State. Also known as P.A.S.N.Y.

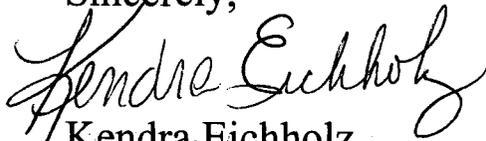
Our region has always been a major gateway in history for domination and control of resources also known as the battles that occurred in Youngstown, NY at Fort Niagara. This was a major port from Lake Ontario toward Niagara Falls and the Power Authority that is now located in between.

Throughout the years that I have learned about the Power Authority it has always been stated that this Turbo Power Plant would be a major target in wartime due to the ability of not only taking out the entire region with the demolition of it but by the crippling effects that would trigger a loss of electricity along the eastern coast.

With these thoughts in mind, I again appeal to the Commissioners sense of judgment in that "you don't take away the protection of our forces in a highly sensitive and powerful area to appease other areas that are not a stones throw away from another country".

Please reconsider this carefully and overturn the Pentagon's recommendation to leave us defenseless.

Sincerely,



Kendra Eichholz
513 59th Street
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

06072005 RECEIVED

June 3, 2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi and Members of the BRAC Commission:

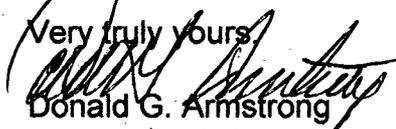
I wish to express my displeasure with the possibility that the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base may be closed and I respectfully ask that serious consideration be given to keeping this base open and operational.

My displeasure with seeing the Air Base on the recommended list of bases to be closed is based on the fact that over the past few years the Defense Department has put millions of dollars into improving the base facilities, particularly the lodging facilities. Most recently, I understand that the Armed Forces Recruiting Station in Buffalo is being moved to the Air Base because of its excellent facilities. Obviously, this too will cost money. It seems to me that putting all of the money into this Air Base over the past few years and then to close it within the next few years is a total waste of public money and does reflect well on the decision-making at various levels of government. I also understand that the airfield at our base is one of the longer runways in the force structure. If this is true, I have a hard time understanding the decision to close what appears to be a well run, well-supported and popular facility.

While I am sure that the Defense Department has a rationale for its realignment recommendations and feels it is in the best interests of the country in the long run, closing our air base is obviously unpopular to the local population. As it is most likely that not all facilities on the list will, indeed, be closed, I sincerely ask that you add my name to those who believe the Niagara Falls Air Reserve and Guard Base should be removed from the final list of bases to be closed. Is it really cost effective to include our air base on the final list after investing the millions of dollars to significantly improve its facilities?

I sincerely appreciate your listening to me and I pray that you will heed the many requests being made to keep our air base open.

Very truly yours,


Donald G. Armstrong
Concerned Citizen &
Colonel, USA, Retired

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

06072005
RECEIVED

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

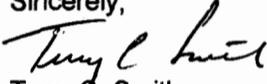
I am distressed by the Defense Department's recommendation to close Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard base. This recommendation is a not in the nation's best interest and the BRAC Commission should reverse this decision and to remove Niagara Falls from the closure list.

I feel that the base at Niagara Falls should be expanded if anything. I have lived in this area for 58 years. The only exception was when I served active Army duty from 66-69. I remember as a child the fighter jets that were at the Falls. In these troubled times I would think that fighter aircraft should be returned to the Niagara Falls base. What would happen if the power station here was attacked or destroyed? Has any consideration been given to the fact if that happened most of the Northeast USA, including New York City, would be without electrical power. Remember the blackout some years ago. What if the power were gone for months or even years?
We need more protection right here.

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. I served in Viet Nam and one of the reasons that I enlisted was because of the military awareness I had from living in this area. We are proud Americans in Western New York. Our people are paying a high price share in the present war as we have always done in past wars.

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,


Terry C. Smith
5375 Harris Hill Rd.
Clarence, NY 14221

Friday, June 03, 2005 America Online: T47SMITH

06072005

RECEIVED

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I am writing to express my objection to your decision to include the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard base on the list for closure. There are many reasons why this should not happen and I wanted to give you our view of what this base means to our community.

First of all our community has been well served by the 914th and the 107 National Guard. Our community has watched time after time, these men and women leaving their families to go and serve this nation, leaving families and jobs behind "because it was the right thing to do!" Their families gave their support, even though they knew that those they love would be put in harms way and also that they would suffer emotionally and financially while they were gone. They were in Desert Storm, they were in Afghanistan, And they were in Iraq. That is what they have done for our country.

They are also a tremendous asset to our community in other ways. They play a very important part in our Emergency Management Plan. Their Hazardous Material Team is depended on frequently. As recently as last week they were called to an emergency at the Rainbow Bridge which is one of the spans between Niagara Falls NY and Niagara Falls Ontario. Hazardous materials come through our area all the time because we are the "Home" of the only licensed hazardous waste disposal site in NY and many of the surrounding states. This is not a point that we as a community are happy about, but it is our reality and we have at least been able to feel like we have been prepared to deal with emergencies when they arise. The Air Base has worked well with our other local agencies to give this assurance to our area. I might add that our fire companies in the smaller towns are all volunteers. The base has a team at the ready 24 hours a day.

In addition, we are an international border community. After 911 we were told that at least one of the terrorists involved in that act of depravity came across our border from Canada. We also had the Lackawanna 6 living in our area. We have the NY State Power Authority which would be a perfect target for terrorists. It provides most of the power for the northeast.

Finally, consideration should be given to the financial hardship that would result from closing this base. Niagara Falls is already an economically depressed area. We have lost so many manufacturing jobs already. To close this base, which is the second largest employer in the area, could be the last straw for any hope of a recovery for this community. Please overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,

716-297-3708

Margaret Guiliani
4800 Klein Rd.
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

615105

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 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,

B.S.

(A concerned Citizen)

SIR,
IN REGARD TO THE ABOVE LETTER SENT TO AREA RESIDENTS, I AM NOT UPSET BUT RATHER RELIEVED THAT YOU WILL CLOSE THIS BASE. I FEEL CONSOLIDATING BASES ARE A WISE BUSINESS DECISION, AND IN THE LONG RUN WILL MAKE THE MILITARY MORE EFFICIENT AND ALLOW BETTER USE OF N.F. BASE FOR CIVILIAN ENTERPRISES.

BOB SMYTHE

RECEIVED
06072005

Robert A. MacPhee
Marguerite A. MacPhee
6322 Milleville Circle
Sanborn, New York 14132
716-731-5288

Dear :

Anthony J. Principi

I am the mother of Tech Sergeant Cory M. MacPhee. He is an Air Force reservist with the 914 Airbase at Niagara Falls, New York. Cory has been a reservist since 1985. You have had my son as a nineteen year old and have used him until he is now a man, a husband, a father, a brother and uncle and most of all our loving son. He has always believed he was doing his job as an American to keep his country safe. A place to raise his son in peace. His outfit was deployed in 1991 in the Gulf War. The 914 were again deployed to Tubuk in Saudi Arabia returning home to be re-deployed to Tallil Air Base in Iraq. In doing so he missed a year out of his son's life and returned to NO JOB. A job that he loved and was well paid for. When he did return home Dec of 2003 to NO JOB he was able to get a civilian job at the Airbase. He was home going on with family life, building a house then on May 13, 2005, it was announced that the Niagara Falls Air Base was on the chopping block. How could that happen? The 914 always made 98% of their flights in theater. Their C-130 was the first plane to land at Baghdad airport because they were the only unit that had night vision experience. Their C-130 picked up Jessica Lynch. Their C-130 flew the Joint Chief of staff. Their C-130 flew the US ambassador out of Baghdad. Their C-130 flew Hillary Clinton, Wayne Newton, and the Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld to name a few. The 914 has always been rated number one. In 1991 the Base was awarded C-130H airplanes because of their outstanding performance in theater. How can you in good conscience take a unit that has performed so outstanding and just dismantle and discard them.

I can't believe that my son who has given twenty years to the 914 Air Force is now being discarded like trash. What is to happen to him, his wife and son? To make matters worse our government has the nerve to deploy the 914 again in the next few months. Will they have place to come home to or will the base be closed while they are gone?

The nerve of my country to treat my son and all the son's of American citizen this way!!!! Now the government wants to move all our sons away from family and loved ones. Disrupt his life again.
WHEN WILL THIS EVER END?

Sincerely,

Robert A. MacPhee
Robert A. MacPhee
Marguerite A. MacPhee

Marguerite A. MacPhee

06072005
RECEIVED

June 1, 2005

3971 Lockport Road
Sanborn, NY 14132

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 very concerned over the recent announcement that the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base was included on the list of recommended base closings by the Base Realignment and Closure Commission. Please allow this letter to serve as my personal plea to reconsider this recommendation and remove the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base from this list.

Given the location of the base and the potential threat of terrorism resulting from border proximity and the power project that provides electricity to an enormous population within the north eastern region of the country, I am dismayed that a decision such as this has been made by the very entity charged with protecting our country from such threats. Additionally, this military installation has served as an inspiration for citizens to enlist in the armed forces, increased civilian support of those serving our country and has invoked a resurgence of patriotism as evidenced by flags proudly displayed on homes across the region.

I urge the Commission to reconsider their decision and remove the NFAB from the list of recommended base closings. Your consideration of this request is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Kathleen A. Saunders

RECEIVED

06072005

June 03 2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi, and BRAC Commissioners,

I am deeply concerned over the Defense Departments recent decision to close Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station (NFARS). I just cannot understand their rationale. Both units, (The 107th Air Refueling Wing, and the 914th Airlift Wing) continue to provide a vital service in the defense of our country. The 914th Airlift Wing served with distinction during the first gulf war, has been deployed several times during the latest gulf war, and is scheduled to return to the Middle East later this year (my son is going). Early on in the present gulf conflict the 914th was called upon to fly many dangerous night missions using night vision goggles. They were called upon because they were the only C-130 unit in theater that was fully qualified in their use. The 914th received many accolades for their performance during these missions. The 914th also participated in the rescue of Jessica Lynch. The 107th Air Refueling Wing has performed in an exemplary manner in support of air refueling operations worldwide (including the Bosnia operation, and the latest Gulf war. At the present time elements of the 107th support refueling operations out of Guam. The other day as I was reading an issue of the Air Force Times I came across a photo of a 107th tanker refueling a B-2 bomber over the Pacific near Guam. What a beautiful sight!

Sir, I have read that the purpose of this BRAC is to "cut the fat" so to speak so that existing resources can be utilized to the maximum. Cutting the NFARS makes no sense because dollar for dollar the Defense Department gets more bang for its buck (a fact that they will not admit) from the Guard, and Reserve units.

During my 34 year military career I served in both the active, and reserve force. This is not politically correct, but I will say it anyway. Guard and Reserve aircraft are better maintained and stay mission ready longer in combat operations. Reserve units have two things that set them apart from most regular units. These two things enhance combat capability. What I am talking about is expertise, and stability. They go hand in hand. Example: In a reserve unit the same personnel work together year after year (stability). This leads to a very high experience level (expertise). The end result is a better maintained, more effective weapons system. In a regular unit there is a constant state of flux. A new troop comes in, you spend two years training him/her, and either their enlistment is up or they ship out. There is little stability. The experience level is diminished. Consequently, mission capability is diminished.

Another decision made by the Department of Defense really troubles me. It is

their proposal is to transfer a great number of C-130 aircraft to Little Rock AFB and make it a "super base"(I believe the number of C-130 aircraft would be over 100). What a target for terrorists! You think we would have learned our lesson at Pearl Harbor when we lined all of our aircraft up in neat rows. A few dedicated terrorists attacking the "super base" could cripple our C-130 airlift capability. If not terrorists, then how about a natural disaster (tornado)? As we all know a tornado gives little warning before it hits. The base and the C-130 fleet could be wiped out in a matter of minutes. A super base is not a good idea!

Sir, in this era of limited funding the NFARS has also done a fine job in reducing the costs of running the base. Base operating support costs have been reduced more than 33 percent (that includes a 25 percent reduction in utilities). These reductions have made the NFARS one of the most cost efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve. One might ask what has this to do with combat capability? Well, it allows the savings to be spent on other more critical items.

Sir, I know that you will be visiting the NFARS later this month. I think the facilities, and the outstanding personnel will impress you. They are looking forward to your visit.

Chairman Principi: I've had my say, so I'll try to sum it up in a nutshell. The NFARS is a valuable national asset, manned by dedicated personnel, performing missions that are vital to the security of our country. The base gives our country an excellent return for the money spent. The Department of Defense decision to close the NFARS was a mistake. I urge you and the BRAC commission to reverse this decision.

Respectfully,


Robert C. Haring,
CMSgt USAF (Ret)

17 Appletree Cr.
Brunswick, ME 04011
6 June 2005

Mr. Anthony J. Principi
BRAC Commission
Polk Building Suites 600+625
2521 South Clark St.
Arlington, VA 22202

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06072005

Dear Mr. Principi:

I hope that your commission has all the pertinent facts concerning the fate of the Brunswick Naval Air Station. In my U.S. Army career I always seemed to be on a "hot seat". First I risked my life to save a floating Bailey Bridge across the Rhine River. Later I was under pressure to develop a continuous process to produce nerve agent at the Army Chemical Center. Next I was the officer questioned about the operation of a full scale plant to produce nerve poison at Rocky Mountain Arsenal. Next I was assigned to the United States Military Academy as the Director of Admissions where no candidate could be half admitted. For twelve years I had many questions from civilians, military persons, and from Members of Congress about why their candidate had not been selected.

My younger brother became a navy pilot who later was commissioned in the U.S. Coast Guard to fly rescue missions and was stationed at the Brunswick Naval Air Station. He once landed in a North Atlantic storm and rescued 23 men and a dog from a Portuguese freighter before it broke in half and sank.

With Maine having a shoreline longer than that of any other state, save Alaska, I feel safer against smugglers and terrorists with the protection of the flyers coming from the air base in Brunswick. I hope that your committee will see its duty to keep P-3's and future P-4's at Brunswick.

Sincerely yours,
Robert S. Day
Robert S. DAY
Col. U.S. Army Ret.

P.S. My daughter served in the
Navy at the Naval Communications
Center at Cutler, Maine.

RECEIVED
05

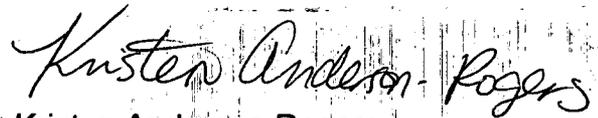
3183 Trenton Road
Hamburg, NY 14075
Erie County, USA

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Kristen Anderson-Rogers, I am a student at Buffalo State College, My husband Michael and I are desperately requesting that the Niagara Falls Air Base, in Niagara Falls, NY remains open. My father, SSGT Clifford D. Anderson Jr. is currently in Iraq servicing this great country and as an Army Reservist he reports to the Niagara Falls Air Base. My parents live in South Wales, and the drive to the Niagara County base is the most convenient for my father. If this airbase were to close he would have to drive a considerably longer distance for reserves.

I don't believe that these hard working men and women, who leave their families and many who give their lives, deserve this. Niagara County, Erie County, it doesn't matter where benefit from and need this airbase. Please keep the Niagara base open it is imperative in our continuing effort to defend our freedom. Thank You very much for your time.

Sincerely,



Kristen Anderson-Rogers

716-627-2120

Kmrmr@peoplepc.com

1680 Ridge Road
Lewiston, NY 14092-9753
June 6, 2005

RECEIVED

06102005

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 at a loss to understand the Commissions recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base:

We are next to the Canadian border which is vulnerable to terrorist infiltration or attacks. Not only do we have the State Power Authority located in this vicinity which controls the electrical power throughout New York State, New York City as well as parts of Canada but we have the Lake Ontario Ordinance Works which contains the residue of the Manhattan Project. One explosive would release 18,000 tons of nuclear materials plus 1/2 of the world's supply of pure radium.

Our area is in need of this Air Base for the general protection of this community. I am enclosing newspaper articles reinforcing the need to keep this Base open.

One newspaper excerpt proves the need of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station to assist our community in case of hazardous material that could be transported unknowingly thru Canada.

A former assistant secretary of defense under President Ronald Reagan, in his article to the press, reinforces the need to keep this Base open. Closing of a base on Long Island as it services a search and rescue Guard Unit, whereby the Niagara Falls Air Force Base has over the years been called upon to serve the country.

Brig. Gen. James C. Cook's newspaper account of the Niagara Falls Air Base gives additional support and the recommendation to keep this Base open and taken off the base closure.

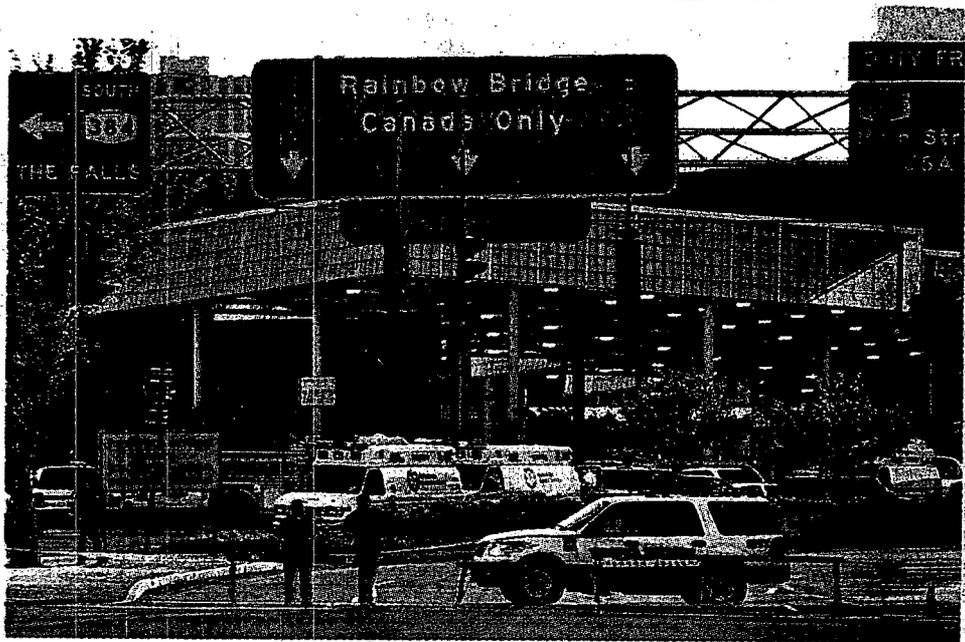
This Base has been given additional money to upgrade their facilities and has one of the largest runways of all U.S. Bases.

It would be foolhardy and waste of government funds to close this base and transfer or lose their trained and experienced personnel.

Sincerely a concerned citizen

Emily B. Latko
Emily B. Latko

Encs.



Robert Kirkham/Buffalo News

Niagara Falls police block access to the Rainbow Bridge on Sunday after the release of a suspicious powder resulted in the precautionary closing of the international span.

5/30/05 Buffalo News

Spill of suspicious powder forces Rainbow Bridge closing

BY MIKE KURLOVITCH
NIAGARA CORRESPONDENT

NIAGARA FALLS — A spill of suspicious white powder forced the shutdown of the Rainbow Bridge during the height of holiday traffic Sunday, triggering hazardous materials teams into action and prompting an FBI investigation.

The bridge was closed to traffic at 4:40 p.m., officials said, and had not opened late Sunday. Traffic was being rerouted to the Lewiston-Queenston Bridge.

Barry Morrissey, a spokesman for U.S. Customs and Border Protection, said some officers working on the bridge had throat

and nose irritation, though none required hospitalization.

The officers apparently were looking at cash that someone had hidden in their vehicle with some substance mixed with it that caused the irritation, FBI spokesman Paul Moskal said.

"It doesn't seem to be anything associated with terrorism," he said.

Hazardous materials teams from Niagara County and the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station were called to the U.S. end of the bridge.

Because officials were unable to immedi-

See Bridge on Page B2

Bridge workers are decontaminated

BRIDGE • from B1

ately determine the composition of the powder, a decision was made to decontaminate any personnel who had possibly come into contact with the material.

At one point, about 25 workers were going through the decontamination process, according to sources, who characterized the decision as "erring on the side of caution."

Agents from the FBI's Buffalo office were later dispatched to the

scene, as was a special team from the Buffalo Police Department.

Niagara Falls police reported traffic moving smoothly in the area despite the interruption.

The department had 10 officers already assigned to the area for traffic control because of the Three Dog Night concert, a free outdoor show at the former E. Dent Lackey Plaza that drew a large crowd downtown.

News wire services contributed to this report.

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Close base on Long Island, not in Niagara, says Pentagon official from Reagan years

By JERRY ZREMSKI
AND SHARON LINSTEDT

NEWS STAFF REPORTERS

A former assistant secretary of defense under President Ronald Reagan has rushed to the defense of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, saying the Pentagon should consider closing a base on Long Island instead.

Lawrence J. Korb, who oversaw personnel and base issues at the Pentagon from 1981 to 1985, wrote an op-ed article for the New York Times' Long Island regional edition Sunday that criticized the proposed Niagara closing.

He urged the independent commission that is reviewing the Pentagon's base-closure recommendations to instead consider shutting an Air National Guard station at Francis S. Gabreski Airport in Westhampton Beach.

"It should take a close look at Niagara and Gabreski," Korb wrote.

The two bases perform different

tasks. The Niagara base services a Guard unit that performs refueling missions and an Air Reserve unit that hauls cargo, while the Gabreski base services a search-and-rescue Guard unit.

Korb suggested that the search-and-rescue team be moved to Stewart Air Force Base in Newburgh, north of New York City, and that Niagara stay open for several reasons.

For one, he said, such a move would keep jobs in-state and prevent the Niagara operations from being dispersed to Arkansas, Maine and Georgia.

"Moreover, the Pentagon will need to spend a lot just to bring Gabreski up to minimum standards," Korb wrote. "Paradoxically, Congress allotted Niagara more than \$14 million last year for upgrades."

Korb, a native of Long Island, noted that while Gabreski contributes about \$100 million to Long Island's economy, the Niagara base generates more than

\$150 million. "Suffolk County is better positioned than Niagara to absorb the cutbacks," he said.

In an interview, Korb said he decided to write the opinion article after reviewing the Pentagon's proposed closures. "This just doesn't make sense" that Gabreski would stay open and Niagara would close, he said.

He said that it would be very difficult for part-time air personnel from Niagara to travel to out-of-state bases to train and that Long Island would be better able than Western New York to withstand a base closing economically.

Korb, now a senior fellow at the liberal-leaning Center for American Progress in Washington, is one of Washington's most prominent and oft-quoted defense experts.

In another development, the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority board of commissioners is throwing its

See **Bases** on Page B2

BASES • from B1

support behind efforts to keep the Niagara Falls base open — and will ask NFTA workers to do the same.

The NFTA board Monday unanimously approved a resolution backing the Niagara Military Affairs Council in its efforts to get the base off the list for closing.

Commissioners also approved a plan to send letters to the NFTA's 1,500 employees asking them to write to the Base Realignment and Closure Commission showing their support for keeping the base open.

"This is an important issue for the Niagara Falls community and all of Western New York. I think we need a full-court press," said Commissioner Henry M. Sloma, who represents Niagara County.

"It makes a lot of sense to show support," NFTA Chairman Luiz F. Kahl said of the USA Niagara-led effort to amass 10,000 let-

ters before a June 27 hearing in Buffalo on the Pentagon proposal.

Another voice / Base closings

6/05 Bof News

It would be a shame to shut down Niagara Falls unit

By BRIG. GEN. JAMES C. COOK

I wonder if the Department of Defense and the U.S. Air Force realize the talent, expertise and years of experience they are doing away with by closing the Air Reserve Base at Niagara Falls and disbanding its two major units, the 107th Air Refueling Wing and the 914th Airlift Wing.

I am a former commander of the 107th when it was a fighter squadron, and it has a long history. Members of the 107th were flying the F-100C at Niagara in 1968 when they were called to active duty by President Lyndon Johnson to support the conflict in Vietnam.

Niagara's Air National Guard unit was assigned to a fighter wing at Tuy Hoa Air Base in Vietnam. In a matter of a month and a half, a majority of the wing's shops

and docks were supervised by the Air National Guard unit's master sergeants.

In the 1970s, Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird instituted the Total Force Concept integrating active-duty, reserve and Guard forces. This doctrine has served the Air Force well. When it needs forces, it has experienced, combat-ready squadrons immediately available with little or no added training.

Just look at the number of call-ups of the Air National Guard squadrons and individuals in the last five to 10 years. This can-do attitude is something I do not think we should ignore, nor should we do away with these talented, experienced combat forces.

A few years ago, when the 107th became an air tanker unit, it was not fully capable to perform air refueling missions out of Niagara — its heavier aircraft could

not take off with a full load of internal fuel plus a full load of fuel for refueling. The Air Force spent millions of dollars to increase the length of the runway from 9,100 feet to 10,000 feet, thereby allowing the unit to fully perform its mission from Niagara Falls.

In addition, more ground fuel storage tanks were installed, and a second fuel pumping station was added to allow the 107th to refuel its own aircraft in the event the Air Reserves were not available.

I have addressed primarily the 107th, but the 914th has received its share of accolades through the years. I have worked with previous commanders of the 914th and found them to be proud of their accomplishments, especially of the unit's performance during Desert Storm and Desert Shield.

The transfer of the 914th's C-130s to

Little Rock, Ark., as the Air Force centrally locates a large number of aircraft at one base, does not sound strategically effective, a lesson we learned on Dec. 7, 1941. I believe the Little Rock AFB also is located right in the middle of tornado alley, causing concern for evacuation to protect these assets.

I suspect the skilled Air National Guard and Air Force reservists now at Niagara would not consider traveling long distances to fulfill the goal of a 20-year retirement. It is a tragedy to let these experienced backup forces go, leaving an enormous void in the defense posture of the United States.

Brig. Gen. James C. Cook NYANG (Ret.) is a former commander of the 107th Air National Guard unit at Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base.

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INNVEST

LODGING SERVICES, INC.

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

This Company is troubled by the Defense Department's recommendation to close Niagara Falls, NY Air Force Reserve and Guard Base. This recommendation is a not in the nation's best interest and appears to be a lack of interagency (Homeland Security) **coordination** considering the physical border location.

The BRAC Commission should reverse this decision and to remove Niagara Falls from the closure list.

From a community perspective, it is no secret that closing the base would have a devastating **economic impact** on our region. The base is Niagara County's second-largest employer with more than 3,000 full- and part-time military and civilian and it has an estimated impact of \$150 million on regional businesses.

The media has reported that the military is facing significant challenges in recruiting during wartime. 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.

The Buffalo Niagara business community stands with the Niagara Falls/Western New York community in support of the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base, and its retention. Overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,



Dennis P. Murphy
President

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00102005

June 4, 2005

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 angered by the defense Department's recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base. This decision 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 mind boggling 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.

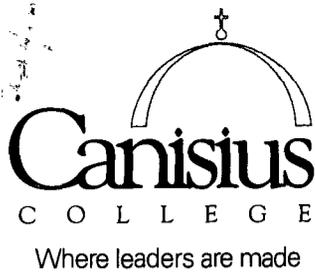
If this decision goes through, the impact will be devastating to the New York Air Force Reserve and the Air National Guard and will make the Pentagon's efforts to recruit and retain military personnel even more difficult than it is now.

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,

Lara Pallone

Lara Pallone
(A concerned Citizen)



06102005

RECEIVED
Richard J. Wehle School of Business
Office of the Dean

phone 716-888-2160 | fax 716-888-3211
email albera@canisius.edu

CORRESPONDENCE\GENERAL\NIAGARA FALLS AIR 06065

June 6, 2006

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 distressed to learn the recent recommendations regarding base closings included the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base. Although I am hardly an expert on such matters my intuition tells me this would not be a wise decision for several reasons.

The first and most important reason is the issue of home-land security. I would think with all the attention being paid to the country's borders that having an active base in this region is a good idea. The facility can serve as a marshalling point for redeployment of security forces and resources in the event of threats to the security of the area and acts of terrorism. As a military installation it is secure in ways that are not available to purely civilian installations.

A close second is the economic impact the closing will have in an area that is already suffering from many economic reverses. The base has been a stabilizing force for Western New York. A variety of economic initiatives are underway to revitalize the regional economy and this decision will reverse in one fell swoop efforts spanning several decades.

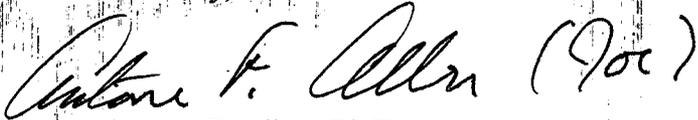
Third and not to be ignored is the work those responsible for the operation of the base have done to insure its efficient operation. I have been told that the costs to operate the facility have been reduced by approximately 33% in recent years. I also find it surprising this facility has been singled out for closure when \$35 million has been invested in base improvements in the last decade.

Anthony J. Principi
June 6, 2006
Page 2

Last but hardly least there are a number of local residents that serve in the reserves and operate out of this facility. They have served their country well and I am sure they and many others want to continue their active commitment to the reserves. Closing this facility will make this difficult for some and impossible for others.

I hope as further information is gathered that you will reconsider your initial recommendation and not close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base. Thank you for your service and your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Antone F. Alber, Ph.D.
Dean

393 Tracey Lane
Grand Island
NY 14072
6/7/05

06102005

RECEIVED

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I am very concerned that the Defense Department is considering a recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Reserve and Guard Base. It is not in our nation's best interest to do so.

The fact that this base is just minutes away from an international border and a major power project should be a very important reason to keep the Niagara Falls Base open. There would be no help from the military forces should an attack or threat be made from terrorist groups on either the power project or U.S.-Canada border.

The Niagara Falls Base is a vital part of the Western New York area. It plays a vital role in military recruitment.

Overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the Niagara Falls Base open. Please understand our concerns -

Very truly yours,
Clare S. Mammucci

To BRAC Commission:

May 20, 2005

RECEIVED
05272005

Regarding the proposed closure of the Niagara Falls Air Base: Although I am no great shakes as a letter writer and certainly am no Military Strategist, here are some random thoughts on this important issue.

Are these the thanks these devoted men & women get for multiple overseas deployments? Do we learn nothing from the past history - centralizing personnel and vital equipment I.E. for those of us old enough to remember Pearl Harbor! What a better terrorist target this would make after closures & centralization!!! The economic impact on the already extremely depressed Niagara area is no doubt of no concern to an administration that this was Kerry country. Not a political issue? Then how did Bush country (TEXAS & FLORIDA) fare in comparison, we all know the answer!

Dollar savings - of course no money is being wasted on the ill advised Iraq war: maybe the alleged savings can be used to further the profits of the likes of Enron & Haliburton!! How about the defense of the area in general & the border in particular?

Concerned Western New York Voters
Donald H. Dust & Martha E. Dust

Jonathan Hall
48 Chapel Woods
Williamsville, New York

RECEIVED

05272005

Dear Mr. Principi,

My name is Jonathan Hall and I am 9 years old. I live in Williamsville, New York near the Niagara Falls Air Force Base. I am very upset that the base is closing. I think this base is very important for many reasons.

The base is important because it protects Niagara Falls where power plants are and the power plants are important to the whole country. Second the base is important because many of the men and women have fought in Iraq. It's also important to the people so they can still have a job. There are not many jobs where I live.

If the base closes my best friend will have to move away because his Dad works on the base. I have been very sad since the news was announced. Ryan Moore and I have been friends for five years. We like to play all kinds of sports together. We spend lots of time at each other's houses and we went to Disney World together when his father came home from Iraq. Most of all Ryan is a kind person and he is always a good friend to me. If Ryan moved away I would feel very lonely.

That is why I think the base should stay open. Please do not close the base.

Sincerely,

Jonathan

From: (Karen Wade)
Date: 05/25/05 14:22:26
To: info@nimac.org
Subject: Niagara Air Base Closing Protest

RECEIVED

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Karen Wade () on Wednesday, May 25, 2005 at 14:22:24

05272005

zip: 14092

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners,

It is with mixed feelings that I submit this letter to you for your thoughtful consideration. I fully appreciate the transparent and independent review that the commission undertook on military base closings. The importance and efforts required of these reviews has not gone unnoticed. But I am disappointed the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station was included on the list for closing. But also very hopeful that by taking a closer look at what this base means to the local communities it will enable the commission to look to grow the Niagara base.

The Western N.Y. area has been, how shall I say, not very robust when it comes to the economic picture. If I could state some examples of the problems our area is now facing, and how continuing to maintain the base and even grow it would be such a boost for the local communities.

The counties of Niagara (which includes the base) and Erie do not have the corporate base for creating a vibrant successful community. You will find that the Niagara Air Reserve Station to be one of the largest employers in our area. The loss of this employer would deal another devastating blow to the local economy.

We have all heard the recent problems that General Motors is experiencing. Well GM is our other big employer.

The City of Buffalo a 20 minute drive from the base has been under a financial control board for close to a year now, because the city leaders could not manage the city effectively.

And now Erie County is on the verge of a control board because of poor fiscal management.

>From a pure economic point of view this argues two very strong reasons for keeping the base and growing the base. One, It maintains in our area a large employer. Additionally the local governments have shown they are unable to fiscally manage their respective

5/25/2005

communities. Thus closing the base and offering incentives to develop alternatives would not be a wise investment.

We understand and appreciate that the major function of this review is to insure effective military readiness to meet any and all threats against the United States. With the security of our nation paramount during these reviews and decisions. Our hope in the community is that there is an expanded role for the Niagara base in homeland security. We are situated within minutes and a couple hours of major border crossings with Canada where we know from September 11th that many of the terrorists transited. An expanded role for the base would not only help in addressing the economic issues listed above, but enhance the security of the Great Lakes region, where we have major power plant facilities, border crossing infrastructure and the Great Lakes themselves an important source of the nation's fresh water supply.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the extreme pride the community has that comes from having the 914th Airlift Wing, 107th Air Refueling Wing, 865th Support Hospital and 277th Quartermasters as neighbors in our community. It has been one of the major bright spots for sometime in our community. The yearly air show they put on "Thunder over Niagara" is enjoyed by families and attended by hundreds of thousands. We are extremely proud of the contributions to this nation and to our community that the men and women of these units have given over their storied history in Western New York. We hope that the commission will reconsider the closure of the Niagara Falls Air Force reserve base, while looking to expand its role.

Sincerely,
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Wade Jr.

submit: Send Letter

5/25/2005

From: (John B. Blyth)
Date: 05/25/05 12:11:02
To: info@nimac.org
Subject: Niagara Air Base Petition

RECEIVED

05272005

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by John B. Blyth () on Wednesday, May 25, 2005 at 12:11:00

platform: We oppose the Department of Defense recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Base

address1: 811 Kimball Tower

city: Buffalo

state: NY

zip: 14214-3079

comments: This base is vital to preserving the peace in the WNY area. The power authority alone needs defending!

submit: Submit Petition

From: (Jeffrey H Brodsky)
Date: 05/25/05 13:57:04
To: info@nimac.org
Subject: Niagara Air Base Petition

RECEIVED

05272005

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Jeffrey H Brodsky () on Wednesday, May 25, 2005 at 13:57:02

platform: We oppose the Department of Defense recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Base

address1: 170 Allen St

city: Lockport

state: NY

zip: 14094

comments: Enter your own comments here.

submit: [Submit Petition](#)

5/25/2005

RECEIVED

Harold Cummings
104 Woodside Ave
Buffalo, NY 14220
716-822-6762

BRAC Commission
Washington D.C.
C/o NIMAC; PO Box 231
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

05272005

Dear Commissioners:

The Pentagon has recommended to the BRAC that the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, New York be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with over 3,000 full and part-time workers, this would deliver yet another devastating blow to our region's economy. In addition to the financial concerns, the community pride for our past and present military contributions can not be understated.

The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossings between the U.S. and Canada, along with the New York State Power Authority's Hydropower Complex which supplies substantial power to the Northeast United States Power Grid. The size and location of the base would also allow it to be used for responses to natural disasters or terror attacks in the Northeast United States. While the base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable. It should be expanded rather than closed.

According to the Niagara Military Affairs Council:

- Closure of Niagara would reduce the Air Force presence in NY by 40%, and eliminate the *last* Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with \$35M in new facilities and lengthened runways which have improved the operational effectiveness of the wings.
- We have also reduced our Base Operations Support costs by not less than 33% (to include a 25% reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- Closure of the base would also eliminate the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers in a region in which the units have both maintained in excess of 100% manning rates.
- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate 8 additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.

According to the Buffalo News article on May 25, 2005:

Top Air Force officials relied on their "collective judgment" in deciding to recommend their Niagara Falls base for closure, disregarding military value rankings that showed Niagara outperforming several other bases slated to remain open. Air Force spokesman Douglas Karas said the Air Force's "mission compatibility index" was just one of the factors considered in the base-closure decisions. Asked why at least nine bases with airlift missions were slated to stay open when they had lower "MCI" scores than Niagara, Karas said the Base Closure Executive Group sometimes deviated from its own rating system. "There were cases in the analysis process where lower ranked bases were retained," Karas said. "In those cases, the Base Closure Executive Group used their collective judgment, that, when combined with the MCI scores, resulted in the retention of lower-ranked installations. This was true in Niagara's case."

A lobbyist for New York State on the issue, John M. Simmons, said the Air Force's response proves that the base-closure recommendations followed "a judgmental, and not an analytical, process." The Pentagon was supposed to judge each base primarily on its military value - yet in

this case the Air Force bypassed the tool it created for judging military value. "The Air Force in their response acknowledge that they themselves ignored the results of a key analytical tool . . . created for the BRAC process," Simmons said. "They simply took the position that their judgment trumped the analysis."

Considering these facts and figures; I am writing to remind you, our elected representative, of your obligation to use all means necessary in order to persuade the BRAC to reconsider the recommendation to close the station. The fine men and women of the 914th Airlift Wing and the 107th Air Refueling Wing have been instrumental in securing the home front and fighting the war on terror overseas and these highly-decorated units have served their country and represented our State and local communities well.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this most important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mark Simmons". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

RECEIVED

Melissa Cummings
104 Woodside Ave
Buffalo, NY 14220
716-822-6762

BRAC Commission
Washington D.C.
C/o NIMAC; PO Box 231
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

05272005

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The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossings between the U.S. and Canada, along with the New York State Power Authority's Hydropower Complex which supplies substantial power to the Northeast United States Power Grid. The size and location of the base would also allow it to be used for responses to natural disasters or terror attacks in the Northeast United States. While the base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable. It should be expanded rather than closed.

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Thank you for your time and consideration on this most important matter.

Sincerely,

Melissa S. Cummings

Arthur S. Fijalkowski
May 24, 2005
1259 French Road, Apt 6
Cheektowaga, New York 14043

BRAC Commission
Washington DC.
c/o NIMAC
P.O. Box 231
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

RECEIVED

05272005

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I am writing in reference to the Defense Department's recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base. This recommendation is obviously a horrendous mistake that has been decided based upon little insight into our units capabilities and our accomplishments. I am strongly urging the BRAC Commission reverse this decision and remove the Niagara Falls Base from the list immediately.

Why has the BRAC Commission decided to take our mission and our aircraft and put them on more costly active duty bases, when the guard and reserves have proven their capabilities to stand and fight proudly with our active duty counterparts, while operating at a fraction of the cost? Additionally, why are they moving these aircraft to more volatile locations where hurricanes and tornadoes are more prevalent?

Did the commission consider our involvement in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom? Our unit sustained some of the worst conditions while constantly being pulverized by sand storms and temperatures in the 130 degree range; yet we maintained a 98% on-time flight ratio while flying missions 24 / 7. While operating in Operation Iraqi Freedom, we participated in the largest gathering of C130's ever in one location and did you know that the 914th unit is the lead night vision C-130 unit in the entire Reserves? I have not even scratched

the surface on the countless missions and excursions our unit has participated in, as well as the well trained personnel that our unit possesses.

Additionally, the Commission should consider our allegiance to the mission and some of the greatest folks from any single unit. The Guard and Reserve has a sense of ownership to their assets that will never be found in any active duty unit; I know I am a proud Reserve member of the 914th, and spent 12 years on here in Niagara Falls and on active duty.

I urge the Commission in the strongest possible terms to remove Niagara Falls ARS from the Pentagon's recommended list of base closures and to stop the degradation of our military and its mission abilities.

Sincerely,



Arthur S. Fijalkowski
USAFR, 914th AW/MXMCF

David Thomann
6603 South Transit Rd
May 24, 2005
Lockport, New York 14094

RECEIVED

BRAC Commission
Washington DC.
c/o NIMAC
P.O. Box 231
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

05272005

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Additionally, the Commission should consider our allegiance to the mission and some of the greatest folks from any single unit. The Guard and Reserve has a sense of ownership to their assets that will never be found in any active duty unit; I know I am a proud reserve member of the 914th, and spent 10 years on active duty.

I urge the Commission in the strongest possible terms to remove Niagara Falls ARS from the Pentagon's recommended list of base closures and to stop the degradation of our military and its mission abilities.

Sincerely,

David Thomann Jr
USAFR

RECEIVED
5-23-05

JL

May 16, 2005

BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

To Whom It May Concern:

The Pentagon has recommended the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, New York be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with 3,000 full and part-time employees, this would be devastating to the region's economy.

I am a former resident of Lewiston, New York, who now lives in New York City. Fortunately, I endured 9-11 and its aftermath. The uncertainty of my safety and security was fortified because of the strength of our troops—in Western New York in particular. Why?

Remember, suspected Al Qaeda members were found in Western New York. Remember, four border crossings directly into Canada exist in Western New York. In fact, the U.S. Border Patrol constantly apprehends immigrants trying to enter the U.S. through Canada. Terrorists can and possibly have done the same. The U.S. Border Patrol and the U.S. Coast Guard cannot effectively protect us alone without the military support of the Niagara Falls Air Base. (Bear in mind, these two constituents are often stationed at the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station.) In the event of a terrorist attack or migration, we need to act quickly on all fronts. The Niagara Falls Air Base is therefore crucial.

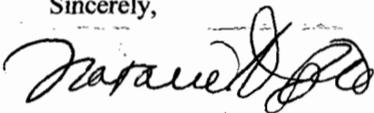
What's more, the Lewiston Power Vista distributes power to much of New York State. This as you know, makes Western New York a prime target for terrorism. I endured the blackout of a few years ago and I certainly do not think you would want our power to be compromised.

Lastly, I have attended several of the Niagara Falls Air Base International Air Shows. The thousands in attendance spoke for itself. The Western New York community, our Canadian neighbors, and even visitors, like me, understand the importance of our armed forces considering today's world events. The caliber of employees and troops of the Niagara Falls Air Base is second to none. Several MWR/Services awards have been given to both the military and civilians, Family Support awards have been granted, and the 914th and 107th sections of the air base have been recognized with numerous Air Force awards.

The reality is the outstanding men and women of the 107th Air Refueling Wing and 914th Airlift Wing have been instrumental in securing the home front and fighting the war on terror overseas. I implore you to lend your support and ensure that the Niagara Falls Air Base remains open.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Natalie Slipko
41-15 46th St., 4d
Sunnyside, NY 11104
Kiksplitt29@aol.com
(917) 716-5848

[Faint, illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]

RECEIVED
5/23/05
KJ

441 Morgan Drive
Lewiston, NY 14092
May 19, 2005

Dear BRAC Commission:

I have been employed for the past ten years as a Marketing Director for the MWR/Services department at the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. I was very surprised when it was announced by the Pentagon that the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station was listed on the BRAC closure list. As Niagara County's second largest employer with nearly 3000 full and part-time employees, this would deliver another devastating blow to our region's economy.

I totally understand that the Pentagon wants to reduce operating costs, but at what price? From what I have read, units here at Niagara Falls are being moved to different locations throughout the country. However, has anyone thought of how this decision is going to affect the Reservists and Guardsmen? These units are not being relocated to a base that is near Niagara, but thousands of miles away. My co-workers will now have to commute thousands of miles in order to serve their country. Not to mention, these Reservists and Guardsmen will have to relocate in order to find a new full time job at their new duty station. Otherwise, they will have to spend their paychecks to pay for travel costs every month for their drill. It really does not make any sense. Along with this, definitely from my experience in dealing with the troops stationed here at Niagara, their morale will decline. I thought my job as well as DoD in general was to support our troops at any costs? I feel that the troops' morale has not been a factor in this decision and it should have been a major factor.

The Niagara Falls ARS is the only base in the U.S. that is located near four border crossings along with the New York State Power Authority Hydropower complex that provides power to the Northeast United States Grid. Many of the 250,000 citizens in the Greater Western New York area feel much safer with the Base located here because it provides a military presence in the area.

Over the years, the USCG as well as the U. S. Border Patrol not only trained here at Niagara, but also, they have launched their helicopters from Niagara. Let us not forget, terrorists have been arrested in Buffalo a few years ago as well as the U.S. Border Patrol constantly arrest people trying to sneak into the U.S. from Canada. The Base is strategically located to support the War on Terror and to patrol our borders. In my opinion, to secure our border even better and that the Base has one of the longest runways in the Northeast, the Base should host a fighter wing to patrol our borders. Therefore, it should not be closed, but expanded to accommodate this additional military unit.

The closing of Niagara Falls would reduce the Air Force presence in NY by 40% and eliminate the last Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. Since 1995, the Base has been modernized with \$35M in projects as well as operating costs have been reduced by at least 25% (Data furnished by the Niagara Military Affairs Council). In addition to these facts, Niagara is the best AFRC installation in recruiting with over a 100% manning rate. This means that the installation is doing its job well with recruiting new members as well as keeping current reservists enrolled in the military.

Along with the strategic location of the Niagara Falls ARS on four border crossings, the Base faces no physical encroachment or air traffic control constraints. This means that the Base could handle additional aircraft and air traffic. The Base also hosts many other Federal Government agencies, military units and civic organizations for training purposes. Therefore,

the Niagara Falls ARS is being used by many other various agencies instead of strictly by the Air Force.

According to the Pentagon's closure list, it seems like the military units that are located in the northern part of the U.S. are being moved south. Why is this being done? Bases in the north like Niagara Falls do not have as extreme weather conditions as people experience in the south such as tornados, hail, and even hurricanes. Back in the early 1990s, bases like Homestead AFB were damaged due to Hurricane Andrew. A few military installations were damaged last year due to hurricanes while bases in the north like Niagara Falls did not close or were damaged due to inclement weather. Years ago, Niagara Falls once hosted aircraft from other bases that were being hit with a hurricane. Besides this, should not our troops be trained in all different types of weather instead of hot weather all of the time?

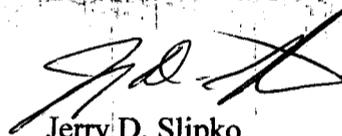
In regards to the 914th and 107th, both of these units have won numerous Air Force military and civilian awards along with being recognized in the local community. By relocating these units, I am sure that DoD will lose many of these highly skilled individuals because if the troops are ordered to relocate, there is a possibility that they will either resign or retire from the military. Again, the closing of this base will hurt troop morale. As far as the civilians that are employed on the base, many of them will probably chose not to relocate and enter into the civilian job force. This means that DoD will lose all of this corporate knowledge.

By closing many Reserve bases, the Pentagon is really hurting the local communities financially, support for the military, and the Employer Support the Guard/Reserve program (ESGR). Bases that are located in small towns and cities seem to foster "grass roots" support for the troops because these troops live in the community. Local companies support the ESGR program by permitting the Reservists to serve our country. The way the world is today, the military needs as much community support as possible. By combining many of these bases, the Pentagon will lose this support as well as it will definitely have a negative impact on towns like ones surrounding Niagara Falls.

In closing, I humbly request that you strongly reconsider the decision to close the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. The outstanding Reservists and Guardsmen of the 914th Airlift Wing and 107th Air Refueling Wing have been instrumental in securing the home front as well as fighting the war on terror overseas. By consolidating Reserve units into active duty bases really does not support Reservist's troop morale.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this very important topic.

Sincerely,



Jerry D. Slipko
Jds915@msn.com
716-754-8465

RECEIVED

Dwight C. Rascoe
96 State Street
Ossining, NY 10562

05272005

May 26, 2005

D. B. C. and R. C.
2521 South Clark Street
Arlington, VA

Dear Sir:

I am a military buff.

Where will the 914th Airlift Wing transfer to when Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station closes?

Within the next 5 years what military installations be in New York and California?

Will the Niagara Falls property be given to any government agency?

A kind reply will be valued.

Dwight C. Rascoe

Received
6/12/2005

Date: Friday, May 27, 2005 9:53 AM
From: F100C@aol.com
To: info@nimac.org
CC: CBROWN7447@aol.com
Subject: Niag Falls Air Base

To whom it may concern

I enlisted in the NY Air Guard March of 1949 shortly after its inception in December of 1948 .

I served on active duty when we were Federalized for the Korean Conflict.

With extension time served I was Honorably discharged in 1952.

I re enlisted in 1963 under the "Try One" Program. And shortly after, became an air technician until 1967. Again with an Honorable Discharge.

I had a hard time merely accepting the 107th going from a fighter squadron to an air refueling wing. Now the closing of the Air Base is just unimaginable.

A long history of activation after activation and the Niagara Falls Air Bases support of the overall picture supporting both Domestic and foreign duties should speak for its self. Not only for the 107th but also the 914th of which is at the same locale

The amount of money recently spent to upgrade this Air Base is of importance as well. Improved runways larger fuel depot etc. too many to mention.

In short the NFAB has more than done its duty and now with the massive improvements should continue to do so.

I respectfully request you NOT close this base.

Robert E Wright
Fmr S/Sgt NYANG

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