



BARNSTABLE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

BOARDMAN-POLANDO FIELD

480 BARNSTABLE ROAD, 2ND FLOOR

HYANNIS, MA 02601

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Quincy "Doc" Mosby, Airport Manager
Frank Sanchez, Asst. Airport Manager

Barnstable Municipal
Airport Commission:

Michael A. Dunning,
Chairman

John T. Griffin, Jr.,
Vice Chairman

Arthur F. Kimber,
Commissioner, Clerk

Margarete V. Maillho,
Commissioner

Larry F. Wheatley,
Commissioner

Robert L. O'Brian
Commissioner

Anthony J. Balsamo
Commissioner

June 7, 2005

Mr. Anthony Principi, Chairman
BASE CLOSURE & REDEVELOPMENT COMMISSION
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

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Dear Mr. Principi:

I am writing you to underscore the fact that the Barnstable Municipal Airport Commissioners have in no way contemplated the relocation of the airport to any site outside the existing property on which it is now located. Nor have we participated in discussion for study to do so. As a citizen of the Town of Barnstable and as commissioner, I would have strongly recommended against either action as, I believe, would my fellow commissioners. We do not view the closure of Otis as a potential opportunity, but a **loss** of an important national and local resource.

Unfortunately, over the years, our elected representatives have chosen to play politics with our bases and now, perhaps, too late, they are now in support of keeping these installations open. The 102nd Fighter Wing among others, deserve better than "just closing up shop". In my mind, I cannot seem to reconcile the closing of installations such as Otis and others to be a factor in improving national security or a method of supporting our military.

On a more personal note, I lived at Otis as a child (my father was in the Air Force approximately 30 years and stationed at Otis in the early 60's); I find it sad that this once vibrant and vital installation is now also slated for closure. My father's final resting place is at the National Cemetery located at Otis. I have always viewed it as a privilege to have been a "military brat" – it provided an education in itself and as such, to leave these contemplated closings un-remarked would be an insult to not only to the legacy of my father, but hundreds of thousands of those like him who have served humbly and proudly over the many years.

I respectfully request that Otis be allowed to remain open and continue as a vital and vigilant part of not only our local community but the global community in which we all live. There are some things that should not be compromised and the strength of our military is one of them.

Sincerely,

Margarete V. Maillho

Margarete V. Maillho
Commissioner