



June 8, 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 that the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, NY has been recommended for closure. 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 US 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.

The 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 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.*

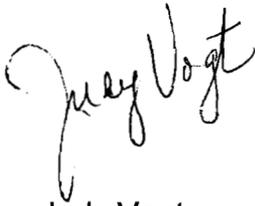
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Niagara Falls faces no physical encroachment nor air traffic control constraints and has acreage on the base adjacent to the installation for expansion.

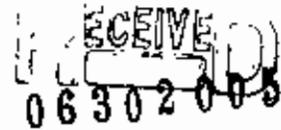
I humbly request that you strongly consider the decision to close the station. The fine men and women of the 107<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing and the 914<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing have been instrumental in securing the homefront and in fighting the War on Terror overseas.

Thank you for your time on this very important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Judy Vogt". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the left of the typed name and address.

Judy Vogt  
5309 Ashwood Ct  
Clarence NY 14031  
716-741-3219



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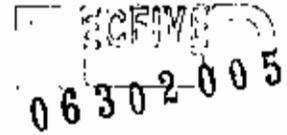
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Thank you for your time on this very important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terry Vogt". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Terry Vogt  
5309 Ashwood Ct  
Clarence NY 14031  
716-741-3219



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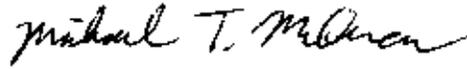
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Sincerely,



Mike McQueen  
23 Putnam Pl  
Attica NY 14011  
585-591-1675



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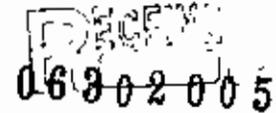
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Sincerely,



Thomas McQueen  
693 Lapp Rd  
Alden NY 14004  
Phone 585-937-9708



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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marcia McQueen". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and address.

Marcia McQueen  
693 Lapp Rd  
Alden NY 14004  
Phone 585-937-9708