

May 06 10 20 05 5

To: N J Mac.

The Air Base at Regina Falls is very important.

It is near the Canadian border and is important to Home Land Security. There are the Bridges which is a source of illegal crossings both from the U.S. and to the U.S.

There is the Power Plant in Regina Falls.

Over the years on many occasions the Reservists have been called up to go many places. Some because of military conflicts, some for humanitarian causes and some just to help people.

There has been hundreds of Reservists over the years that have been called up to serve different places. These people are loyal and dedicated. If the base cannot take where would they go, there are other

Because that's not only
one for the air force. There
are other things we do important
work. Now go to a woman she
hasn't really been to
be about money but no
matter where the person
and people go it will
cost money. What good
is it to put the money in
one place when they are
brought off in money.
If the country needs
penicillin why let them
go. The War is long for
them that countries are
necessary.
The way to be in
Washington look at a paper
and say something and
needed but the people in
their places from their work
and they are over
the way and over to be
part of it. Like that when
a decision is made make
they could listen to the
people who are close to

(3)

the situation and think about what is really important.

My husband was a Reservist for 30 years and I feel that he was an important part of the Niagara Falls Air Force Base and proud of it.

Florence Saffin
21 Thrain Court
Bronx New York
14150

June 2005

BRAC Commission
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 I urge the BRAC Commission to reverse this decision and remove the Niagara Falls Base from the 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 more costly Active Duty bases. Of all the bases to pick to close, how do you close the base whose unit was able to help rescue Jessica Lynch in Iraq because they are the lead night vision C-130 unit in the Reserves? You must also recognize:

- 1 The federal government has invested more than \$35 million in Niagara Falls since 1995 in new facilities.
- 2 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.
- 3 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.
- 4 Niagara Falls' existing infrastructure can accommodate eight (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.

I urge the Commission, in the strongest possible terms, to remove the 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,



Name

2766 ANSOFF RD APT 215

ORCHARD PARK, NY 14127

Address (mandatory)

615105

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

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 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,

Carole Martino
(A concerned Citizen)

CAROLE C. MARTINO

450 FLETCHER ST.

TONA, N.Y. 14150

*What are you
people thinking??*

BRAC Commission
Received
6/20/2005

____/____/____
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 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,

Dorothy Cook
(A concerned Citizen)

Cathy L. Leslie

May 30, 2005

 RECEIVED

06162005

Base Realignment and Closure Commission
c/o NIMAC, P.O. Box 231
Niagara Falls, New York 14304-0231

Dear Sirs:

I am writing in opposition to the closing of the Niagara Falls, New York Air Reserve Station because:

1. The Falls Air Base is strategically located on the U.S. - Canadian Border to provide strong assistance with Homeland Security should the Governor of New York need to stage relief in the event of terrorist attack or any other major disaster in New York or North-eastern states. Niagara County alone has four international bridges, two major power plants as well as chemical plants and a long water border with Canada.
2. The Falls Air Base has participated with distinction in Desert Storm as well as the current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Niagara 914th Air Light Wing is an "elite" unit with the ability to perform missions with night vision equipment. It will

111

8. The justification for closing all these bases by Bush and Rumsfeld is that they are too expensive. They are the first U.S. administration that thought they could go to war "on the cheap". Unfortunately we have seen how very expensive in lives and money this policy has been in Iraq and Afghanistan. We are still engaged in both conflicts. Now can we close down bases in the middle of a war against terror that will extend for years?

On this Memorial Day weekend I am saddened that the Bush Administration wishes to undermine the service of Patriotic Americans with unrealistic base closings. I wasn't in the military, but my father, grandfathers, and other ancestors, fought for this country. I hope their service was not in vain. Sincerely,

God
Bless
America

Ms. Ann P. Hutchinson
109 Windermere Rd.
Lockport, NY 14094-3425