

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 writing in reference to the Defense Department's recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base. This recommendation is obviously a mistake that was been based upon little insight into the units capabilities and accomplishments.

Closure of Niagara Falls Air Base would reduce the Air Force presence in NY by 40%, and eliminate the last Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. These units served honorably in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. The 914th Airlift Squadron maintained a 98% on-time flight ratio while flying 24/7 missions. The 914th is also the lead night vision C-130 unit in the entire Air Force Reserves.

Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with \$35M in new facilities and lengthened runways which have improved the operational effectiveness of both the 914th and 107th. 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. The infrastructure at Niagara can accommodate 8 additional C-130H aircraft without any military construction.

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. The newspapers having been saying that we are facing significant challenges in recruiting during war time, yet both the 914th and 107th have been a key element in military recruitment.

Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base faces no physical encroachment or air traffic control constraints and has acreage on the base and adjacent to the installation for expansion.

I urge the Commission to remove Niagara Falls ARS from the Pentagon's recommended list of base closures.

Sincerely,

William Muevina
name _____
address 68 Plaza Dr.
N. Falls, N.Y.

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Washington, D.C.
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Sincerely,

name Marcy Mulnera
address 68 Roper Dr.
N. Falls, N.Y.

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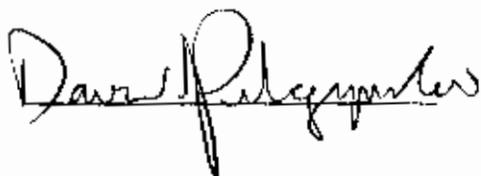
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Dave Pelczynski
489 Fletcher St
Tonawanda NY 14150

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Sincerely,

Kenneth Glynn
11 Evelyn Ct
Tonawanda, N.Y. 14150

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Anthony Williams
11 Evelyn Ct.
Tonawanda, NY 14150

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Kelly A. Jansen
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2 Evelyn Ct.
Tonawanda, N.Y. 14150

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Janne Jensen
2 Evelyn Court
Tonawanda, NY 14150

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John M. Walk
644 C Street
N.F., NY 14304

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Leo H. PeQueen
76 Hackett Pl.
Tonawanda N.Y.
14150

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Sincerely,

James Millie
5 Clarence Harden Dr.
Tonawanda, NY 14150

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R. W. Hoase Ret. U.S.M.C.

*202-1000-1000
A. Hoase Ret.
145228*

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Robert B. Hoe
157 W. Erie Ave. S.E.
NO TONA, NY-14120

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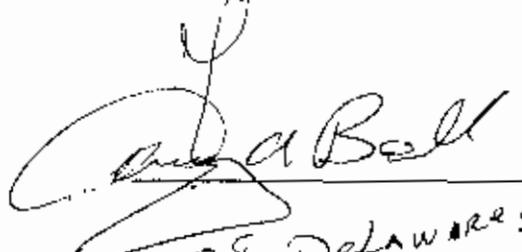
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83 Long Ave
Tonawanda NY 14150
716 - 693 5919

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Susan A. Donaldson
113 Brentwood Dr
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

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Closure of Niagara Falls Air Base would reduce the Air Force presence in NY by 40%, and eliminate the last Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. These units served honorably in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. The 914th Airlift Squadron maintained a 98% on-time flight ratio while flying 24/7 missions. The 914th is also the lead night vision C-130 unit in the entire Air Force Reserves.

Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with \$35M in new facilities and lengthened runways which have improved the operational effectiveness of both the 914th and 107th. 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. The infrastructure at Niagara can accommodate 8 additional C-130H aircraft without any military construction.

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. The newspapers having been saying that we are facing significant challenges in recruiting during war time, yet both the 914th and 107th have been a key element in military recruitment.

Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base faces no physical encroachment or air traffic control constraints and has acreage on the base and adjacent to the installation for expansion.

I urge the Commission to remove Niagara Falls ARS from the Pentagon's recommended list of base closures.

Sincerely,

Charles S. Foss
CHARLES S. FOSS
1247 SWEENEY ST
N. TONA. NEW YORK 14120

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

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Pr C. Bush
1130 Sweezy S.T.
N. Ton N.Y 14120

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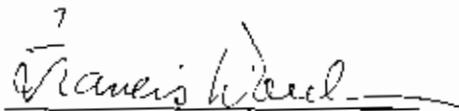
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