

DCN 6875

Marie P. Fehlow
AUG 03 2005
Plymouth, MA 02360-2125

Received

2005 Defense Base Closure 8/1/05
and
Realignment Commission
2521 South Clark St.
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

I am a L.W. Voter member
serving on a nuclear issues
study committee. With great
moxie we are poised to make
a community presentation, unbiased,
on this community's nuclear con-
cerns. These are many re security.

I have enclosed a recent edi-
torial, highlighted, which pretty
much explains my viewpoints & con-
cerns re the proposed Otis Base
Closure. Your serials office would
be extremely appreciated.

Marie P. Fehlow



Journal Post
27 July 05

A loss Plymouth can't afford

Communities rarely, if ever, welcome the news that the military plans to close a nearby base. Bases are firmly embedded in local economies.

The empty place left behind extends far beyond the perimeter.

It's not just people stationed on the base who are affected. The businesses that provide services to them, the stores where they shop, the restaurants where they eat, the gas stations where they fill their tanks, will feel the pain. The ripple effect will travel far over both Cape

bridges and a lot faster than summertime traffic.

Otis Air Force Base is on the Cape, not inside Plymouth's boundaries, but Plymouth's economy will feel the loss if it closes, as the Pentagon has recommended.

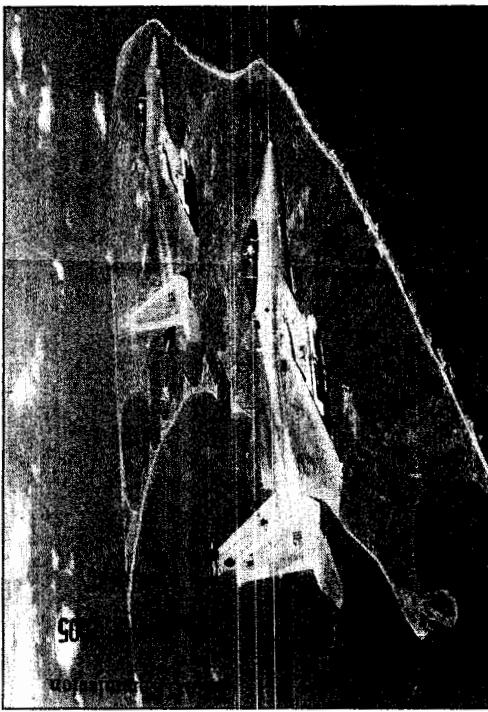
People who work at Otis live, shop and play in Plymouth. They're part of the community, and the community will miss them tremendously if that base closes.

But in Plymouth's case, the concern isn't simply economic. For the residents of Plymouth and surrounding towns, neighbors of the Pilgrim nuclear power plant, Otis Air Force Base provides some real reassurance since the world changed on Sept. 11, 2001.

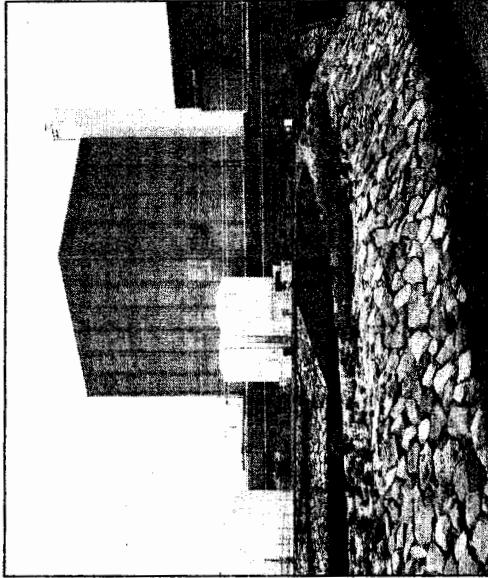
F-15 fighters from the 102nd Fighter Wing at Otis were the first to respond to the terrorist attacks on New York. The Massachusetts Air National Guard fighter wing provides a feeling of security, as well as real protection for a densely populated area of the Northeast.

The F-15s are literally seconds from

Pilgrim, a nuclear power plant located in



U.S. Air Force photo/Tom Ohs



File photo

a high profile town. The perception, whether it's real or imagined, is that Pilgrim is a harder target because Otis is so close. This is a case where perception could be critical.

Otis also shares its resources with the Coast Guard's Air Station Cape Cod, which provides vital public safety services on crowded local waters as well as additional security for Pilgrim. If the base closes and the 102nd Fighter Wing moves, the Coast Guard may not be able to support those services on its own. The additional cost to the Coast Guard alone is estimated to be at least \$17 million.

The Plymouth Area Chamber of Commerce is questioning the security of the Eastern seaboard. There are questions about

the real costs of what is supposed to be a cost-saving move. And there are legal questions about whether it's even legally possible, let alone wise, for the commission to dismantle Massachusetts' National Air Guard unit, which is under the governor's command.

The chamber of commerce is urging the public to write to the commissioners to oppose closing the base. The chamber and the Save Otis Coalition hopes for 10,000 letters to be delivered to the commission members, no later than Aug. 5. The address to write to the commission is 2005 Defense Base Closure and Re-

alignment Commission, 2521 South Clark St., Suite 600, Arlington, VA 22202. There is a form on the commission's Web site, www.brac.gov, for the public to submit comments. The Otis Coalition (www.savetoits.com) has suggestions for letter writing on its Web site.

This is something that will affect everyone who lives or works in Plymouth. Plymouth residents and businesses need to add their voices to the opposition, and the sooner the better.

Got an opinion? E-mail newsroom@mpgnews.com

Please reverse the Pentagon's plan to close
Ott's Air National Guard Base & I do not
think you should split up the 103rd Fighter
wing there you would have to double

up on their leaders - because you would
place them in two areas — more fl
just more to fly in and because of however
Ott's Base was near by - ~~I feel safe~~
Please do not let this happen

BRAC Commission

AUG 03 2005

Received

Gathering Don Long
38 Webster Geach
Fly in with Mac & Bob
(508) 294-0925

PO Box 3029
Pocasset, MA 02559-3029
1 August 2005

BRAC Commission

AUG 04 2005

Received

BRAC Commission
2561 South Clark Street Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Members of the BRAC Commission:

I am writing to air my concerns over the proposed closing of the 102nd Fighter Wing at Otis Air National Guard Base, Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

As a resident of Bourne, Massachusetts, for the past thirty years, I have very deep concerns. I have always felt "safe" hearing the fighters of the 102nd fly overhead. Their mission is to "protect" this part of the country twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

Since the 70's they were there to escort Russian Bears, the unfortunate incident of September 11th, and recently, on numerous occasions, several flights coming from Europe, not to mention the nuclear power plant in Plymouth, Massachusetts. Otis Air National Guard Base is also an alternate landing space for the space shuttle. If the 102nd is taken away from this area, who will be protecting this part of the country?

The 102nd's flying record is impeccable. There had never been any unfortunate situations here on Cape Cod.

For the reasons listed above, and many more too numerous to list, I feel it would be a grave injustice to dissolve the 102nd Fighter Wing, from protecting not only the Cape Cod area, but also the Northeast part of this great country.

Sincerely,

Kathleen N. Kelley
Kathleen N. Kelley

cc: Senator Edward Kennedy
Senator John Kerry
Congressman William Delahunt

Plymouth MA.
7/29/05
BRAC Commission

BRIG. GENERAL SUE E. TURNER,

AUG. 3. 2005.

Received

DEAR GENERAL TURNER,

I HAVE NEVER WRITTEN TO A GOVERNMENT COMMISSION BEFORE BECAUSE I ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT ONE LETTER WOULD MAKE NO DIFFERENCE. HOWEVER I AM COMPELLED TO WRITE TO YOU CONCERNING THE POSSIBLE CLOSING OF OTIS AIR FORCE BASE ON CAPE COD.

AS AN OLD MILITARY MAN IT WOULD SEEM TO ME TO HAVE AN ACTIVE FIGHTER WING SUCH AS THE 102 STRATEGICALLY LOCATED ON A PENINSULAR WITH IMMEDIATE ACCESS TO THE ENTIRE NORTHEAST FOR ANY CALL TO INTERCEPT INCOMING AIR TRAFFIC WOULD BE AN AMAZING ADVANTAGE FOR HOMELAND DEFENSE.

I SUBMIT MY OPINION THAT CLOSING OTIS A.F.B. WOULD BE A BIG MISTAKE.

RESPECTFULLY YOURS

Frederick J. Rippy
100 BLACK CAT RD
PLYMOUTH MA. 02360

31 JULY 05
BRAC Commission

To Whom It May Concern,

: AUG 03 2005

Received

THIS IS A LETTER IN RESPONSE TO THE CLOSING
OF OTIS AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE ON CAPE COD MA.

I AM A RESIDENT OF PLYMOUTH, MA. A TOWN
ABOUT 10 MILES NORTH OF THE BASE. IN MY TOWN WE
HAVE A NUCLEAR POWER PLANT, ONE OF THE FEW IN
OPERATION IN THIS GREAT COUNTRY OF OURS. IN THIS
UNFORTUNATE DAY AND AGE OF GLOBAL TERRORISM IT IS
A GREAT COMFORT TO KNOW THAT THE F-15's OF THE
102ND F.I.W. MA AIR NATIONAL GUARD ARE WITHIN SECONDS
OF THE PLANT IN CASE SOMETHING SHOULD HAPPEN.
THE SOUND OF F-15's IS BOTH A GREAT RELIEF AND
REASSURANCE TO ME AND MY FAMILY ALSO MY NEIGHBORS
AND FELLOW TOWNSPEOPLE.

BEING A FORMER MEMBER OF THE MA ARMY
NATIONAL GUARD 1973-1979 WITH THE 109TH SIG BN
CO.C AND THE 126TH SIG BN CO.A PART OF THE YANKEE DIV.
WE WOULD TRAIN AT THE BASE ON NUMEROUS
OCCASIONS. I ALSO DROVE FOR A LOCAL TRUCKING FIRM
AND DELIVER TO THE BASE ON OCCASION. IT MAKES
ME PROUD OF THE PROFESSIONAL NATURE THAT THE
MEN AND WOMEN WHO WORK AND SECURE THE
BASE ACT.

THE CLOSING I THINK IT WOULD BE A GRACE
DISERVICE TO THE FAMILIES AND BUSINESSES OF THE
REGION THAT THE 102ND F.I.W. PROTECT 24 HOURS A DAY

BRAC Commission

AUG 03 2005 •

Received

658 West Falmouth Hwy
PO Box 655
West Falmouth, MA
02574

Dear Commission,

We are writing to support the operations of the 102nd Fighter Wing at Otis Air National Guard Base on Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

It is our feeling that Otis plays a very significant role in providing national security along the eastern seaboard from Canada to Washington, D.C. The premier 102nd Fighter Wing is located in a key position to protect the many strategic targets throughout New England and the other eastern States from terrorist threats.

In addition, the Coast Guard makes numerous air rescue missions in the New England and New York area from the airstrip at Otis. If the 102nd Fighter Wing was relocated elsewhere in the country, the Coast Guard would have to operate an

airfield without the fundings and expertise of the 102nd Fighter Wing. This might result in the Coast Guard's relocation as well.

Many families, civilian and military, in the area earn their living directly from the operations at Otis. Should Otis be closed, many citizens will be forced out of work and will have to relocate. The business economy of the Upper Cape Cod area will suffer many losses.

In closing, we urge the commission to save Otis from closure.

Very truly yours,
Susan Williamson
Wilton E. Williamson Jr.

BRAC Commission

To the BRAC Commission,

AUG 04 2005

My name is Pamela M. Quinn. I live at 913 State Rd. in ~~Fairhaven~~, MA. (less than three miles from the nuclear power plant). Otis Air National Guard Base with the 102nd Fighter Wing are responsible for patrolling the skies of the Northeast. It was among the first to respond to the 911 disaster. As an American citizen whose family came to this country in 1621, I urge you to protect Plymouth (America's Hometown). The perfect target!!! If the nuclear plant is hit, then there is no chance for me or mine to survive. The National Guard has been here since 911. They try to assure me that I am safe. They say that they have planes for surveillance, however they do not have jets. The more educated soldiers do realize that we need Otis.

Otis is also vital to our economy. It operates the base airport; provides base security, fire services and water and sewer to all base tenants; and supports the Coast Guard's Air Station Cape Cod, the Coast Guard fisheries training center, the marine safety officer, Newport security personnel, And the Army National Guard's Camp Edwards.

If Otis is closed then our homeland security is at risk. I thought that Washington wanted to protect it's citizens. I know that my Mass. Officials have fought to protect the Northeast, now it is up to citizens like myself to make our voices heard.

Just a footnote; Boston was the first to raise the terror alert level, when London was bombed. The Northeast needs to be protected !!!!! DO NOT IGNORE US.

A concerned U.S. citizen,


Pamela M. Quinn