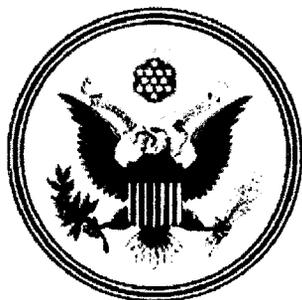


DCN 5568

06102005



Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission

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Contact Us

Thank you for your interest in contacting the 2005 BRAC Commission. Please provide your message in provided below. If you wish to send an attachment, please mail it directly to us at the following address:

2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
 2521 S. Clark St., Ste. 600
 Arlington, VA 22202

If you submit attachments that are copyrighted (e.g., digital or other photographs, graphic files, satellite maps, pictorial images or drawings, blueprints), please clearly indicate the nature of the copyright protection, what materials it applies to, the limits, if any, on the copyright protection of such material (e.g., time limit with the name and contact information for the copyright holder or person or entity authorized to permit the licensing of such copyrighted material. Failure to indicate this information with any attachments or submitted to the BRAC Commission will result in the material(s) being entered into the public record without notice of copyright protection, as may be appropriate, and the possible resulting loss of such protection.

Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required

* Subject:

Base/Installation/Facility:

State:

* Comment:

I am a mother of 2 children and a grandmother of 4 grandchildren. I live in Oregon City, Oregon. I am appalled and petrified, to think that you would even "THINK" to reduce our protection here in the Northwest. By keeping on two F-15 fighter jets, and getting rid of the other 16 jets you are setting us up for another 9-11 attack!!!!!! We would be horribly vulnerable. Also, Oregon has the second ^{to} highest unemployment rate in the United States. By cutting 1,000 jobs from the Portland base, it would only ^{add} to the already poor economy that our state is suffering from. ~~PLEASE~~
 "DO NOT" touch the Portland International Airport Guard Station base. Leave it totally alone!!!!

By law, any information that you choose to provide to the 2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission must be incorporated into the public record. The information you provide will be used to BRAC Commission's evaluation of the recommendations of the Department of Defense regarding re and closure of defense installations and to formulate the recommendations of the BRAC Commission. If you do not want your contact information to be incorporated into the public record, do not include that information in your submissions to the BRAC Commission. The BRAC Commission will not redact such information from once it has been submitted. The BRAC Commission will not consider any information provided by the is obscene or otherwise violates the law. Obscene or otherwise unlawful submissions will not be incorporated into the public record.

The BRAC Commission website does not collect any permanent data other than that which you deliberately provide in an electronic message.

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6/7/05

When I tried to submit my comment, it stated "Unable to load requested page. It may have been renamed or removed, or an error may have occurred while processing. Please make sure that the URL is spelled correctly."

— Please read my comment !!

Thank you,

Sincerely,

Alpha Ann Kasnia

13456 Barclay Hills Drive

Oregon City, OR 97045

Home (503) 650-8265 cell # (503) 348-1947

E-mail address: bophayley@comcast.net

Jason Hoover

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06292005

June 23, 2005

Page 1 of 4

BRAC Commission
Regarding: Portland Air National Guard Base
Portland, Oregon
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

To Whom It May Concern:

The Portland Air National Guard Base in Portland, Oregon has done an excellent job protecting the Pacific Northwest airspace and helping out other air bases over the years. They have a great location to protect Washington, Oregon, and the Pacific. I am sure they will continue to do a great job in the future if given the opportunity to do so by the B.R.A.C commission and officials. However, as you are aware, this could all change. The B.R.A.C. commission has recommended dismantling the Portland Air National Guard Base. This is shocking and unrealistic in today's world. I am surprised that the B.R.A.C. commission would consider such a move to realign the Air Guard Station and split up the 142nd Fighter Wing and other groups and move them out of the Portland/Vancouver Area to save money and make the Air Force more balanced with reserves and active personal at the risk of our "Homeland Security."

As an American Citizen, I am concerned that this will happen. **I am also concerned that the only part of the United States that won't have full-time air protection is the Pacific Northwest if the Portland Air National Guard Base becomes realigned. In turn, this will open the door to possible trouble in the Northwest. Furthermore, as a citizen of the United States and a Civilian, I do not support the recommendations of the B.R.A.C. commission to realign the Portland Air National Guard Base especially the 142nd Fighter Wing and would like to see the decision reversed for these reasons.** (My letter is based on what I have heard and read.)

First, by realigning the Portland Air National Guard Base will leave major Northwest cities at at-risk and open the door to possible future problems. By dismantling the 142nd Wing, moving other groups from the Portland Air National Guard Base, and moving 8 KC-135R airplanes and 15 F-15C airplanes out of the Northwest to the East Coast and Central United States and not replacing these aircraft is not a good Homeland Security solution. In fact, I believe the current plan is not in sync with "Homeland Security" in the United States.

412 W. 44th St.
Vancouver, WA 98660 – 1739

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Jason Hoover

June 23, 2005

Page 2 of 4

How can the F-15C airplanes protect us from the East Coast/Central United States? From my understanding, the Northwest will be the only region in the country that will **not** have full-time air patrol aircraft and considerable less aircraft than any part of the United States. This is alarming and does not make any sense since Washington and Oregon our border states! I do not understand why the B.R.A.C. commission wants to open the door to possible problems for large metropolitan areas such as Seattle/Tacoma, Portland/Vancouver, Spokane, and other cities in the Pacific Northwest. Isn't the security of the Pacific Northwest important?

Yes, from my understanding, there we will be two fighter jets at the Portland Air National Guard Base in the event of an emergency. However, what if there is a problem and more is needed where seconds count? From what I heard, it would take over 85 minutes for fighter jets to fly from Fresno, CA to the Northwest and probably more time if needed to go to Seattle and depending on the weather. I ask you, is this acceptable? As an American citizen, this concerns me and the response time is not acceptable. Again, Fresno is too far for a response if we need help in an emergency!

Next, the Portland Air National Guard Base is in the **middle/Western part of the Northwest. The Air National Guard Station has an excellent location to protect Northwest airspace.** In addition, the Portland Air National Guard Base can share facilities with Portland International Airport (PDX). I am sure the Air National Guard Base saves money by sharing facilities with PDX. For example, the 142nd Fighting Wing shares runways designed for larger planes designed to land at PDX. In addition, the Air National Guard has recently invested in the Portland Air National Guard Base (for example, by building noise proof structures where noise will not affect area residents).

Third, the Portland/Vancouver Area will lose several jobs to other regions/states. As you aware, according to <http://www.af.mil/brac/oregon.asp>, 564 jobs will be lost that will not be replaced.

- The Portland/Vancouver Area will lose several military personal. I think I read the Vancouver area will lose 35 jobs. Also, the Portland Air National Guard Base will lose several units under 142nd Fighter Wing. The 304th Rescue Squadron and the 939th ARW (AFRC) are being forced to move because the flying groups are moving out-of-state. We will lose 112 military jobs in all. From what I heard in the news, most will retire and will not relocate. However, what about those Airmen who will not retire? They will have to relocate causing their families to move. I am sure most or all of the Portland Air Guardsmen enjoy working in the Pacific Northwest and consider Washington and Oregon home. Air National Guardsmen and their families should not

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June 23, 2005

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have to move across the state or move across the country to protect and work for their country.

By retaining the flying groups, will allow the 304th Rescue Squadron and the 939th ARW (AFRC) units to stay and help continue protecting the great Northwest! Washington residents who live in Southwest Washington can serve in the Air National Guard part-time (especially those who want to work with planes) easily without traveling long distances or relocating due to cost of travel. Full-time Washington Air National Guardsmen (for example, a pilot) who live in Washington can continue to work for the Air National Guard without leaving the state and continue to protect the Northwest. They would not have to move their families or retire. Moving can be very difficult for families (for example, changing schools).

- As far as civilians losing their jobs, I see it as 452 fewer jobs in the metropolitan area and people looking work or leaving the area. This is not good for these civilians and their families. I do not support the loss of jobs. Civilians who work at the Portland International Airport Air Guard Station may be forced to relocate (with their families) leaving the area where they consider the Portland/Vancouver Area home

Finally, I understand the importance of spending money more wisely and reorganizing the Air Force to be more effective and balanced. However, I ask you, at-the-risk of our national security and Northwest jobs? Homeland Security is important to Northwest Americans as of any other Americans in other regions of the United States. I personally do not think we should be closing any bases and realigning others at this time especially Air National Guard Bases that help protect our airspace in America. **I am sure most or all Americans would rather see the Air Force purchase more aircraft and hire more pilots versus risking Homeland Security in America.**

In closing, realigning the Portland Air National Guard Base could be a dangerous mistake. We should be protecting our borders not taking risks. **If you polled every Oregonian and Washingtonian, I am sure most or all of the residents would be concerned with Northwest Homeland Security if the Portland Air National Guard Base no longer existed and patrolled our Northwest Skies.** The Portland Air National Guard Base is an important asset in Homeland Security in the Pacific Northwest. They should be allowed to continue provide top-notch Homeland Security for Oregonians and Washingtonians. If we allow Portland Air National Guard Base to stay, then we will be proactive to problems. If we allow the base to be dismantled, then if there are any problems, we will be reactive.

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Vancouver, WA 98660 – 1739

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Jason Hoover

June 23, 2005

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Thank you for taking the time to read my letter. I urge you not to dismantle the Portland Air National Guard Base. Please allow the Portland Air National Guard Base in Portland, Oregon to remain open and not go through realignment, so the Portland Air National Guard Base may continue to help protect Oregon, Washington, and the Pacific. Also, please feel free to share this letter with appropriate personnel and officials. I look forward from hearing from you. You may contact me at my email address, hoover215@comcast.net and/or my mail. Have a great day!

Regards,



Jason Hoover

CC: B.R.A.C. Commission; President of the United States of America/The White House; Brian Baird (WA); Senator Maria Cantwell (WA); Senator Patty Murray (WA); Air National Guard Bureau; Portland Air National Guard Base, Portland, OR

412 W. 44th St.
Vancouver, WA 98660 – 1739

Email hoover215@comcast.net

06212005

Attention: Mr Anthony Principi

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5-18-05

Dear Sir,

I am strongly opposed to the closure of the Portland Air National Guard Base! This action could leave the Northwest virtually unprotected against a terrorist attack, Another Pearl Harbor in the making. The rationale of the Department of Defense that the closure of this base will save money is unrealistic in putting civilians at risk to save a buck.

The Airforce Reserve and Air National Guard Units have dedicated their lives to protect the Northwest region. Their presence fills me with pride and when I hear an F-15 doing a flyover I feel less vulnerable to an attack.

I implore you, Mr. Principi, to do all that you can to preserve this very important base in preserving the safety of the Northwest. Thank you.

Sincerely

Mary Lou Welsh

199 E Avenue, #105,

Lake Oswego, OR 97034

06212005

RECEIVED

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5-18-05

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Sincerely

MaryLou Welsh

199 E Avenue, #105,

Lake Oswego, OR 97034

Archpriest Father Shahe Altounian
6072 North Seventh Street
Fresno, California 93710-5820



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07 0 1 2 0 0 5

June 29, 2005

Anthony J. Principi
Chairman the BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
The Polk Building, Suite 600 & 625
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi:

We, as concerned citizens for the security of the United States bring the following request to your consideration.

We are writing to express our support for Oregon's military installations. These installations play a crucial role in securing the nation's borders and protecting the United States from terrorist and non-conventional threats.

Our specific concern is regarding the Department of Defense recommendation for realignment of the Portland, Oregon Air National Guard Base.

As you know this is home for the 142nd Fighter Wing. Geographically speaking these F15 Eagles – on 24 hour alert – provide continuous air defense and superior capabilities as part of the North American Air Defense System patrolling air space from the Canadian Border south to the California Border.

Therefore, for the security and wellbeing of our citizens in the Pacific Northwest and indeed across the nation it seems imperative that this base and fighter wing remain intact and operative.

We, therefore, respectfully request your careful consideration and positive action in this all important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Rev. and Mrs. Shahe and Mary Altounian".

Rev. and Mrs. Shahe and Mary Altounian