

TOWN OF ROYALTON

5316 ROYALTON CENTER ROAD
MIDDLEPORT, NEW YORK 14105

Telephone (716) 772-2431
FAX (716) 772-2748

June 20, 2005



BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

06222005

To Whom It May Concern:

Enclosed please find a resolution adopted by the Town Board of the Town of Royalton, Niagara County, State of New York, on Monday, June 13, 2005. This resolution is in support of removing the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station from the BRAC list of base closures.

Please feel free to contact me at 716-772-2431 ext. 10 if you have any questions or require any additional information.

Thank you for your time and consideration regarding the significance of this resolution to our community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marie L. Little".

Marie L. Little
Royalton Town Clerk

Enclosure

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RESOLUTION SUPPORTING CONTINUED OPERATIONS AT THE NIAGARA FALLS AIR RESERVE STATION

WHEREAS, the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, New York, was established some fifty (50) years ago to assist the United States in protecting our country, and

WHEREAS, presently, the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station is home to the 914th Air Lift Wing, the 107th Air Refueling Wing, 865th Support Hospital, 238th Quartermasters and the Military Processing Site, and

WHEREAS, the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station employs 3,000+ full-time and part-time military and civilian personnel; is Niagara County's second largest employer; and has an estimated \$153 million economic impact to Western New York businesses, and

WHEREAS, the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station has admirably served our country and the Western New York region during the Korean War, Vietnam War, wars in the Middle East, the war in Iraq, as well as providing troops, equipment and supplies for humanitarian aid throughout the world, and

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Defense recently recommended that the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station be closed, and referred such recommendation to the Base Realignment and Closure Commission ("BRAC Commission"), and

WHEREAS, the BRAC Commission will be reviewing such recommendations, and will forward its report to President George W. Bush by September 8, 2005; President George W. Bush will have until September 25, 2005 to accept or reject the recommendations; and then Congress will have 45 legislative days to reject the recommendations or they become binding on the Department of Defense, and

WHEREAS, the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station is located in a unique strategic geographic location in Upstate New York, and serves to assist in border crossings from Canada, especially in the era of concern about Homeland Security and Global War on Terrorism, and

WHEREAS, the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station has the necessary trained, motivated and ready airmen and soldiers needed to defend our Nation; and has the employees training in night vision reconnaissance, and

WHEREAS, the following are additional reasons why the Federal Government should disregard the BRAC Commission recommendation and keep the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station open;

1. Closure of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station would reduce the Air Force presence in New York by 40%, and eliminate the last Federal Air Force flying mission in New York State;
2. Since 1995, the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station has been modernized with \$35 million in new facilities and lengthened runways which have improved the operational effectiveness of the wings. The Niagara Falls Air Reserve has also reduced its Base Operations Support costs by 33% (including 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 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;
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.

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NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that this Town Board hereby memorializes the BRAC Commission, the US Department of Defense, the United States Congress, the United States House of Representatives and United States President George W. Bush to remove the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station from the recommended list of base closures and to stop the continuing retreat of servicemen and employees from our region of the country, and **BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk be and is hereby authorized and directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to the BRAC Commission, 2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600, Arlington, Virginia 22202; President George W. Bush, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20500, Senator Charles E. Schumer, 520 Hart Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; Senator Hilary Rodham Clinton, 476 Russell Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; Congressman Thomas M. Reynolds, 332 Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515, Senator George Maziarz, 2578 Niagara Falls Boulevard, Wheatfield, NY 14304, Assemblywoman Sandra Lee Wirth, 5763 Seneca Street, Elma, NY 14059, and John A Cooper, Sr. Vice Chairman, NIMAC, P.O. Box 321, Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231.

COUNTY OF NIAGARA)
)
STATE OF NEW YORK)

SS:

I, Marie L. Little, Town Clerk of the Town of Royalton, do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Town of Royalton Town Board at their meeting conducted on the 13th day of June 2005.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 20th day of June 2005.



Marie L. Little
Royalton Town Clerk

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