

JOIN THE RACE TO SAVE OUR BASE!

MAKE NO MISTAKE...

The realignment of Eielson Air Force Base would deal a severe blow to our community.

BRAC Commission

My good friend, the late Sen. Terry Miller, told me many years ago that the loss of "public law 874" would be devastating to the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District. Public law 874 is the law that gives the school district funds for each child whose active duty parents are stationed at Eielson Air Force Base or Fort Wainwright. This money goes into the school's general fund, so that *all of our students benefit*. The downsizing of Eielson would mean a significant loss of revenue for our schools. And don't forget, when we lose enrollment in our schools, the state of Alaska also decreases its contribution per student.

It is important for the whole community to get out and attend the BRAC Commission Hearing on June 15th. I'll see you there!

Buck Nystrom
Head Football Coach, North Pole High School

YOU CAN HELP.

Attend the **BRAC Commission Hearing**
Wednesday, June 15
12:30 p.m., Carlson Center

**SAVE
EIELSON
AIR FORCE BASE**



Fairbanks Daily News Mirror June 11, 05

EIELSON

AIR FORCE BASE SCHOOLS

The district operates **three schools**
at risk of **shutting down** if
Eielson Air Force Base **closes**...

These schools:

- ▶ Anderson Elementary
(Grades K-3)
- ▶ Crawford Elementary
(Grades 3-6)
- ▶ Ben Eielson Jr/Sr High School
(Grades 7-12)

- ✓ Score above average on national and state assessments.
- ✓ Employ almost 200 community members
- ✓ Enjoy small classes and great attendance
- ✓ Have safe and modern facilities
- ✓ Had 100% of their seniors graduate
- ✓ Enjoy strong parent and community involvement.

The district is proud to be involved with the community and we are proud to provide great schools and an excellent environment for our students.



PLEASE JOIN US AT THE 'SAVE EIELSON' RALLY WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15 AT 12:30 P.M.

**The School District Administrative Center will be minimally staffed so employees may attend the presentation.*

July 9, 2005

2005 BRAC
Arlington, Virginia

Dear Sirs:

The Nation's defense should be the first and foremost consideration in any base closures or realignments. If it is in my country's best interest to change the way the Air Force uses Eielson Air Force Base then the change should be made.

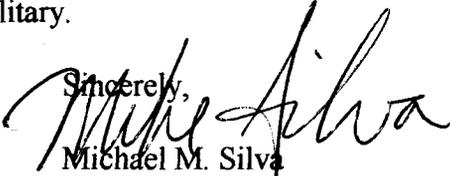
As you know the proposal for Eielson has the community of Fairbanks, Alaska in a dither. I have enclosed a couple of sample newspaper ads that were running before your visit. Patriotism runs about as deep as the impact on many citizens and businesses pocket books. I am sure that most of these folks agreed with the 2 ex generals who made the case for maintaining the status quo at Eielson since it would have been information citizens never considered. If you agree with these men then pocketbooks will not be impacted. Given what little I know about human nature I am afraid your decisions may be unduly influenced by the perceived economic impact of a closure or realignment.

If the government (military) knows they can fight our wars and defend this country in this new age of warfare and beyond by making changes to the way they do business then they should be told to move forward. Communities will simply have to pick up the pieces and move on themselves.

I was pleased to hear that you were questioning the Air Force about the need to maintain Galena and King Salmon airports and facilities.

Ft. Wainwright Army Base in Fairbanks has always seemed to me to be a misplaced facility. It was vital during World War II during the Lend Lease campaign but I am not sure how it has been an asset since. It seems like the Stryker Brigade that is stationed here could be in a more practical place. Their vehicles cannot leave a road up here and travel cross country because the wet bog would immobilize them quickly. They train for this war by moving all their vehicles by rail from Fairbanks to Fort Polk to train. That sure doesn't look economical or efficient. Someone should run the numbers on Ft. Wainwright as well.

I appreciate your service to my country in the matter. Hopefully we will be defended by a much more efficient and economical military.

Sincerely,

Michael M. Silva
862 Highlander Drive
Fairbanks, Alaska 99712