

ST. TIMOTHY'S CHURCH
565 East Park Drive
Tonawanda, New York 14150

BRAC Commission

JUL 13 2005

Received

July 7, 2005

Base Realignment and Closure Commission
Anthony J. Principi
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

RE: Niagara Falls Air force
Reserve and Guard Base

Dear Chairman Principi:

As a resident of Erie County, New York and citizen of our great Country, the United States of America, I am very seriously concerned by the US Defense Department's recommendation to close this base and ask that your Commission consider reversing their decision.

This base's location is close to our border with Canada. It is also only a few short miles away from the Niagara Power Authority complex generating electrical power to the region as well as its massive extent of its power-generating grid could become a very vulnerable terrorist target.

You might say that this base is not properly outfitted for any or all direct potential attacks. However, within a very short period of time the proper Aircraft and equipment could be installed to bring it up to speed. Personnel could be adjusted, as well, to fulfill its needs.

Please add my name to those who are asking that you and your Commission immediately further your research into the vulnerability of the entities I have mentioned. Within minutes, you will agree that the closure of the Base at Niagara Falls, NY would be in the worst possible interest of the security of the United States of America.

Respectfully submitted,


MSG John Kempczynski

JUL 13 2005

Received

June 8, 2005

Chairman Anthony J. Principi
Base Realignment & Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Subject: Possible Closure of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The possibility of closing the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base as recommended by Pentagon officials, causes me great consternation for the safety of the citizens of the Western New York Region and our Country's combat readiness. This is a big mistake.

I find it appalling that the active duty forces have seen fit to take planes, missions and jobs away from so many dedicated and militarily proficient members of both the Air Force Reserve and the New York Air National Guard based at the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base. Their unit histories are replete with successes in meeting and exceeding the Active Duty Force's expectations, particularly when called upon to perform in combat theatre of operations. Most reasonable and informed citizens interpret the Pentagon's actions as declaring "war" on the reserve forces. Don't let this happen. Their future is in your hands.

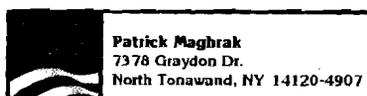
I also find it appalling to accept a reduction in the combat ready reserve forces and resources at a time when our Country is militarily over extended with world challenges and commitments ranging from Afghanistan to Iraq, along with numerous other countries.

I join with fellow Western New Yorkers in voicing in the strongest terms possible to remove the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base from the Pentagon's recommended list of Base closures. I am sure you realize the 914th Airlift Wing is the last Air Force Reserve-flying unit in New York State. Unfortunately, our State has experienced a constant history of cut backs in Air Force activity. The history of the 107th Air Refueling Wing, New York Air National Guard is as impressive as any active duty organization, operating at a fraction of the cost of an active unit.

Thank you for your attention.

Regards,

Pat Magbrak



BRAC
DENISE
MARSHALL
COUNTY LEGISLATOR
Trusted Leadership In Challenging Times.

JUL 12 2005
Received

BRAC Commission

JUL 12 2005
Received



"When the full-time military personnel and reservists from this base were called upon to serve their country in Somalia, Bosnia, Haiti, Honduras, Afghanistan and Iraq they responded with patriotism, professionalism, and a sense of duty. Now it is time for us to show our support for these brave men and women."

Please complete and return to: Legislator Denise Marshall, 5580 Broadway, Lancaster, New York 14086
or place in the collection box located nearby.

July 5, 2005

Chairman Anthony J. Principi
Base Alignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The Defense Department's recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base is not in the best interests of our nation. As a concerned citizen and American, I urge the BRAC Commission to reverse this decision and remove the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base from the closure list.

I, along with many others, have difficulty in understanding why the Air Force has decided to take missions, jobs and planes away from so many Air Guard and Air Reserve bases and relocate them to more costly active duty bases.

With newspapers reporting that we are facing significant challenges in recruiting personnel during wartime, this action can only hinder our nation's efforts. As the only remaining major military installation in Western New York, Niagara Falls has been a key to military recruitment. The impact of this decision will be devastating to the New York Air National Guard and will make efforts to recruit and retain military personnel even more difficult.

The entire Western New York community is united in its support for retaining the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base, and I am respectfully asking that you overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep this important base open.

Sincerely,