

A note from...

BRAC Commission President **Topoulos**

AUG 01 2005

7/29/05

Received
To Whom it may Concern,

I am urging BRAC to reverse the Pentagon plan to close Otis Air National Guard Base.

It was the first on scene on 9/11 and is one of the top fighter wings in the Air National Guard. It provides homeland security to all of the North east section of our country, and will leave us defenseless. I ask that you do everything

Northern
Leopard frog



(over)

in your power to keep
Otis open and keep us
in the north east safe

Thank you,
Mrs Irene Topoulos
5 Belmont St
Wareham, MA 02571

7-28-05

DEAR SIR OR MADAM:

STOP Closing "Otis Air Base".
"OUR 102nd FIGHTER Pilots Stay"
Along with Coast Guard and
National Guard.

GET SUN ON August 1/2005

BE ON GUARD FOR September 11-2005.

DON'T LET IT HAPPEN AGAIN ON
September 11/2001 ATTACK in New
York. DON'T WANT THAT HAPPEN AGAIN

STOP CLOSING

"OTIS AIR BASE"

Thank You
Ruth Houston

BRAC Commission

AUG 01 2005

Received

July 27, 2005

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

RE: Support of Otis Air National Guard Base

Dear BRAC Commission:

Otis ANG Base is an integral and valued part of the Sandwich community and the entire Cape Cod region. Most importantly, the military missions it fulfills are of utmost importance to the safety and protection of the United States, in general, and the Northeast, in particular.

Otis ANG Base and F-15s from the 102nd Fighter Wing were the first military aircraft to reach the World Trade Center during the September 11, 2001 attacks. They regularly provide a myriad of military and homeland security functions, as well as vital support to the U.S. Coast Guard at Air Station Cape Cod, one of the busiest installations in the country. Otis ANG Base is the host installation for all of the military and homeland security operations at the MMR, including U.S. Army Guard training at Camp Edwards and numerous Coast Guard operations. It is clear the loss of Otis would severely damage the shared infrastructure and resources currently found on the MMR.

We appreciate your consideration.

Very truly yours,



Suzanne O'Connor and Florence O'Connor
39 Grand Ave
Falmouth MA 02540

ROBERT W. PARADY
P.O. BOX 81-515 COUNTY ROAD
MONUMENT BEACH, MA 02553-0081

Telephone: (508) 759-5806
E-Mail: Bobplawyer@aol.com

Telefax: (508) 759-5806
Telefax: (775) 218-8360

July 30, 2005

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

BRAC Commission

AUG 01 2005

Received

RE: Support of Otis Air National Guard Base

Dear BRAC Commission Members:

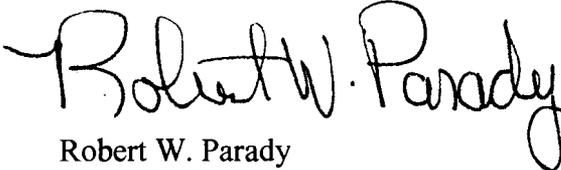
I am a lifetime resident of the Town of Bourne. The Otis ANG Base is an integral and valued part of the Bourne community and the entire Cape Cod region and southeastern Massachusetts. More importantly, the military missions it fulfills are of utmost significance to the safety and protection of the United States, in general, and the Northeast, in particular.

Otis ANG Base and F-15s fighter jets from the 102nd Fighter Wing were the first military aircraft to reach the World Trade Center during the September 11, 2001 attacks. They regularly provide a myriad of military and homeland security functions, as well as vital support to the U.S. Coast Guard at Air Station Cape Cod, one of the busiest installations in the country. Otis ANG Base is the host installation for all of the military and homeland security operations at the Massachusetts Military Reservation ("MMR"), including U.S. Army Guard training at Camp Edwards and numerous U.S. Coast Guard operations. It is clear the loss of Otis ANG Base would fatally damage the shared infrastructure and resources currently found on the MMR and would be detrimental to the nation's military preparedness and resources.

I most strongly urge the Base Realignment and Closure Commission to remove Otis ANG Base from the list of military installations being considered for closure and/or realignment. Otis ANG Base is too important for our nation's defense and homeland security to be relocated.

Thank you for your consideration of this input. If you have any questions about my support for retaining the Otis ANG at the MMR, please do not hesitate to contact me at (508) 759-5806.

Very truly yours,


Robert W. Parady

BRAC Commission

AUG 01 2005

Received

July 29th, 2005
4 Westminster St.
Nantucket, MA, 02554-3600

BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark St., Suite 600
Arlington, VA, 22202

To Whom It May Concern;

This letter is in regard to the proposed closing of the Otis Air National Guard base on Cape Cod, Massachusetts. This is a matter of considerable concern to a large number of people in this area for several compelling reasons. As a resident of Nantucket Island I have a reason, based on personal experience, to hope that this closing will not occur.

As recently as 30 years ago there was no helicopter or ready airlift off of the island in case of emergency. A local flight service had to remove seats from a small plane to accommodate a stretcher and pray that there would be no fog. Nantucket, located 30 miles out at sea, is often a densely foggy place. One summer day 30 years ago I was extremely lucky that there was no fog. I was suddenly stricken with a serious problem that needed attention beyond what could be given here at that time. Had the fog come in and made it impossible to fly me off in that little plane, I would not be writing this letter today.

The island population now is far greater than it was back then and is continually growing. Particularly in the summer months I hear that helicopter from Otis fly over my home en route between the landing pad at the hospital and Boston. Closing Otis will have a serious impact on the safety and security of not only the residents but also the thousands of people who visit us in the warm months. This proposed closing is a threat to our safety.

Sincerely yours,

Adrienne A. McCalley

Adrienne A. McCalley

TO whom it MAY concern:

Mr. Anthony J. Principi, James H. Bilbray, Philip C. Boyle,
Adm. Harold W. Gehman Jr. JAMES V HANSEN, Gen. James Hill
Gen Lloyd W. Newton, Samuel K. Skinner & Brig. Gen Sue Turner

Below are the reasons for not closing Otis
A.F. Base. IT is very impuTive as a safeguard for
The East Coast of The USA. For IT to stay open
not to mention the nuclear plants that need guarding.

The Mozinski
family Ruth E.
Mozinski
Bernad L.
Mozinski

Sandi
Jensen



all
voters

Please
keep
it
opened

Talking Points: Save Otis
Letter Writing Campaign

• Urge the BRAC to reverse
Pentagon plan to close Otis Air
National Guard Base and split up
the 102nd Fighter Wing.

• The 102nd Fighter Wing is
responsible for patrolling the
skies of the northeast for home-
land defense. It is the closest 24
hour alert unit to intercept air
traffic coming to USA, and has
been activated on a regular basis.
It was among first on the scene
on 9/11 and is one of the top
fighter wings in the entire Air
National Guard.

• The Otis Coalition contends
that it makes no sense for our
Country to dismantle one of its
best fighter wings and close one
of the nation's most important air
defense installations, especially
while our nation is at war.

• Otis ANG Base has a direct,
indirect and induced annual eco-
nomic impact of \$82.3M in
Massachusetts, most specifically
on the Cape and south
shore/coast.

• Otis ANG Base operates the
base airport; provides base secu-
rity and fire services water and
sewer to all base tenants. Supports the Coast Guard's Air
Station Cape Cod, Coast Guard
fisheries training center and
marine safety office, and new
port security personnel; Army
National Guard Camp Edwards.
If Otis goes, then it means that all
military, homeland defense and
public safety operations —
including the Coast Guard —

are at risk.

• Other users of MMR include:
Upper Cape Solid Waste Transfer
Station; Cape Cod Septic System
Test Center; Bourne Schools, VA
National Cemetery; Barnstable
County House of Corrections;
USDA R&D facility; Air Force
FAVE PAWS radar; Upper Cape
Water Supply Reserve; FAA Air
Traffic TRACON facility etc.

• GAO study documents cost of
closing Otis to Coast Guard is at
least \$17 million and 100 new
personnel. Cost to all other ten-
ants not yet known. There is ques-
tionable cost savings.

• The servicemen and women
of Otis ANG are neighbors, fam-
ily, friends and part of our business
community. Their departure will
hurt our communities.

• Full time employment at Otis
provides almost 500 jobs, repre-
senting more than 1 percent of
total employment in the adjacent
communities of Falmouth,
Bourne, Mashpee and Sandwich.
In the absence of robust job
growth statewide, the loss of these
full-time, benefited jobs is
extremely meaningful.

• If Otis closes there are no
plans to operate the MMR base
services that all military tenants
require to perform their missions.
We do not know who will provide
water and sewer to the 600 mili-
tary housing units; base security;
operations of the airport; support
to the FAA and the VA.

• There are no plans to provide
replacement fire services to all
MMR users, PAVE PAWS, or to

suppress future fires in the north-
ern 15,000 acres of the base, leav-
ing the towns exposed to a signif-
icant public safety hazard.

• Closing the Otis ANG means
loss of a strategically important
airfield for defending the north-
east. It is on Cape Cod, juts out
into the Atlantic, providing almost
immediate and unencumbered
access for fighter jets.

• The MMR has a long range
master plan — with initial clear-
ances from local state environ-
mental agencies. It modernizes
training facilities, establishes bet-
ter homeland security training
facilities for military and other
first responders; and provides a
home for expanded Coast Guard
operations.

• Under construction is a new
base fire station. Under design is a
new air traffic control tower.
Future construction plans at the
MMR call for modernizing other
military facilities to help build
cost efficiencies and savings.

• The methodology for the
BRAC review of Otis failed to
take into account all the strategic
military values of the installations
and the value of all homeland
defense operations prior to the
Pentagon's recommendation. Otis
was not given the same fair shake
as other bases during this round of
proposed base closings.

• We urge the BRAC to remove
the Otis Air National Guard Base
and save the 102nd Fighter Wing
as part of its 2005 Base
Realignment and Closure
Recommendations.

BRAC Commission

AUG 01 2005

Received

July 23, 2005

BRAC Commission

AUG 01 2005

Received

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

RE: Letter in Support of Otis Air National Guard Base

Dear BRAC Commission:

As an informed and extremely concerned tax payer I strongly urge the Base Realignment and Closure Commission to remove Otis Air National Guard Base from the list of military installations being considered for closure and/or realignment. Below are the reasons I am requesting this action be taken.

- The 102nd Fighter Wing is responsible for patrolling the skies of the northeast for homeland defense. It is the closest 24 hour alert unit to intercept air traffic coming to USA, and has been activated on a regular basis. It was among first on the scene on 9/11 and is the top fighter wing in the entire Air National Guard.
- It makes no sense for our Country to dismantle one of its best fighter wings and close one of the nation's most important air defense installations, especially while our nation is at war.
- Otis ANG Base has a direct, indirect and induced annual economic impact of \$82.3M in Massachusetts, most specifically on the Cape and south shore/coast.
- Otis ANG Base operates the base airport; provides base security and fire services water and sewer to all base tenants. Supports the Coast Guard's Air Station Cape Cod, Coast Guard fisheries training center and marine safety office, and new port security personnel; Army National Guard Camp Edwards. If Otis goes, then it means that all **military, homeland defense and public safety operations --- including the Coast Guard --- are at risk.**
- Other users of MMR include: Upper Cape Solid Waste Transfer Station; Cape Cod Septic System Test Center; Bourne Schools, VA National Cemetery; Barnstable County House of Corrections; USDA R&D facility; Air Force PAVE PAWS radar; Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve; FAA Air Traffic TRACON facility etc.
- GAO study documents cost of closing Otis to Coast Guard is at least \$17 million and 100 new personnel. Cost to all other tenants not yet known. There is questionable cost savings.
- The servicemen and women of Otis ANG are neighbors, family, friends and part of our business community. Their departure will hurt our communities.
- Full time employment at Otis provides almost 500 jobs, representing more than 1 percent of total employment in the adjacent communities of Falmouth, Bourne, Mashpee and Sandwich. In the absence of robust job growth statewide, the loss of

these full-time, benefited jobs is extremely meaningful.

- If Otis closes there are no plans to operate the MMR base services that all military tenants require to perform their missions. We do not know who will provide water and sewer to the 600 military housing units; base security; operations of the airport; support to the FAA and the VA.
- There are no plans to provide replacement fire services to all MMR users, PAVE PAWS, or to suppress future fires in the northern 15,000 acres of the base, leaving the towns exposed to a significant public safety hazard.
- Closing the Otis ANGB means loss of a strategically important airfield for defending the northeast. It is on Cape Cod, juts out into the Atlantic, providing almost immediate and unencumbered access for fighter jets.
- The MMR has a long range master plan --- with initial clearances from local state environmental agencies. It modernizes training facilities, establishes better homeland security training facilities for military and other first responders; and provides a home for expanded Coast Guard operations.
- Under construction is a new base fire station. Under design is a new air traffic control tower. Future construction plans at the MMR call for modernizing other military facilities to help build cost efficiencies and savings.
- The methodology for the BRAC review of Otis failed to take into account all the strategic military values of the installations and the value of all homeland defense operations prior to the Pentagon's recommendation. Otis was not given the same fair shake as other bases during this round of proposed base closings. This was PROVEN through the usage of the Pentagon's OWN software, and methodology, as expertly expressed by Col. Worcester in the BRAC meeting in Boston on 06 July. The fact is, Otis should NEVER have even been looked at for realignment.
- The Air National Guard by definition is a STATE entity. Therefore it only makes sense that the leading State official, and the leading State military member should be consulted prior to a proposal to close a State unit. This was clearly NOT done, and the fact is, it may not even be legal for this to be done. Legality aside, decision's impacting Massachusetts, especially homeland defense and security issues should be routed and ultimately approved by the Governor, Mitt Romney.

Otis ANGB and F-15s from the 102nd Fighter Wing were the first military aircraft to reach the World Trade Center during the September 11, 2001 attacks. They regularly provide a myriad of military and homeland security functions, as well as vital support to the U.S. Coast Guard at Air Station Cape Cod, one of the busiest installations in the country. Otis ANGB is the host installation for all of the military and homeland security operations at the MMR, including US Army Guard training at Camp Edwards and numerous coast Guard Operations. It is abundantly clear the loss of Otis would severely damage the shared infrastructure and resources currently found on the MMR.

The 102nd FW has the distinction of being the most experienced F-15 Air Supremacy unit in the entire Air Force! The pilots have an average of 1700 hours each, and most have actual combat experience. To simply close this unit down and lose this experience is completely ludicrous. This level experience cannot simply be taught to F-16 pilots who

have NEVER been required to be intimately familiar with the subtleties, and techniques inherent in every Air Superiority pilot. Additionally, to move an Air Superiority unit as ideally positioned as the 102nd FW is completely illogical. These pilots have unobstructed access to the best training airspace in the United States. The idea to move them to the busiest airspace in the nation is foolish. These pilots will lose an unbelievable quantity of quality training to this mistake. All of these factors ultimately lead to a LESS safe America at NO real cost savings (per independent analysis, and GAO estimates).

Again, I strongly urge the Base Realignment and Closure Commission to remove Otis ANG Base from the list of military installations being considered for closure and/or realignment. Simply put, Otis ANGB is too important for our nation's security and homeland defense to be closed.

Thank you for your consideration of this input.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kater Wittmer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

KATHERINE A. WITTMER
Training and Curriculum Coordinator, GS-9
RAF Lakenheath UK

BRAC Commission

AUG 01 2005

July 25, 2005

Received

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

Dear BRAC Commission:

I am writing you today to express my concern about Homeland security. I live in Cape Cod, Massachusetts and I am a proud supporter of the retention for Otis Air National Guard (Otis ANG) Base and other operations at the Massachusetts Military Reservation (MMR). The MMR has a long-range master plan --- with initial clearances from local state environmental agencies. It modernizes training facilities, establishes better homeland security training facilities for military and other first responders; and provides a home for expanded Coast Guard operations. Under construction is a new base fire station. Under design is a new air traffic control tower. Future construction plans at the MMR call for modernizing other military facilities to help build cost efficiencies and savings. Otis ANG Base is an integral and valued part of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the entire Cape Cod region. Most importantly, the military missions it fulfills are of utmost importance to the safety and protection of the United States, in general, and the Northeast, in particular.

The 102nd Fighter Wing is responsible for patrolling the skies of the northeast for homeland defense. It is the closest 24-hour alert unit to intercept air traffic coming to USA, and has been activated on a regular basis. It was among first on the scene on 9/11 and is one of the top fighter wings in the entire Air National Guard. Otis ANG Base operates the base airport; provides base security and fire services water and sewer to all base tenants. Supports the Coast Guard's Air Station Cape Cod, Coast Guard fisheries training center and marine safety office, and new port security personnel; Army National Guard Camp Edwards. If Otis goes, then it means that all military, homeland defense and public safety operations --- including the Coast Guard --- are at risk. Other users of MMR include: Upper Cape Solid Waste Transfer Station; Cape Cod Septic System Test Center; Bourne Schools, VA National Cemetery; Barnstable County House of Corrections; USDA R&D facility; Air Force PAVE PAWS radar; Upper Cape Water Supply Reserve; FAA Air Traffic TRACON facility etc.

I have watched many of the hearings on CSPAN. And I constantly hear the terms Military Value, Strategic location And Joint ness. It is apparent to me that this is the very make up of the MMR. The methodology for the BRAC review of Otis failed to take into account all the strategic military values of the installations and the value of all homeland defense operations prior to the Pentagon's recommendation. Otis was not given the same fair shake as other bases during this round of proposed base closings. The recent Attacks in England and Egypt has Elevated the terror alerts to increased levels. Yet, here we deliberate whether or not we should have an Air Superiority Assignment in the Northeast to provide protection for the Northeast. I have done my research on the 102nd FW stationed at the Otis ANG Base. This is an example

setting Unit for the Air National Guard and the Air Force. They should be proud of what this Unit has been able to accomplish in comparison with its Active Duty counterparts.

Furthermore, I feel that removing the Otis ANG Base is very bad for the recruiting and retention efforts in Southeast New England. This Unit has career fields that attract highly intelligent individuals to the military. Southeast New England has a large number of technical high schools that are valuable resources for the future of our military. Taking away the Otis ANG Base from Cape Cod, Ma could add to the growing problem our nation is facing with recruitment. Also, Otis ANG Base has a direct, indirect and induced annual economic impact of \$82.3M in Massachusetts, most specifically on the Cape and south shore/coast.

In closure I would like to strongly urge the Base Realignment and Closure Commission to remove Otis ANG Base from the list of military installations being considered for closure and/or realignment. Simply put, Otis ANG Base is too important for our nation's security and homeland defense to be relocated. Thank you for your time I know how important it must be.

Very truly yours,

Curtis B. Pierson Jr.
Cape Cod Resident

July 23, 2005

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

BRAC Commission

AUG 01 2005

Received

RE: Letter in Support of Otis Air National Guard Base

Dear BRAC Commission:

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- It makes no sense for our Country to dismantle one of its best fighter wings and close one of the nation's most important air defense installations, especially while our nation is at war.
- Otis ANG Base has a direct, indirect and induced annual economic impact of \$82.3M in Massachusetts, most specifically on the Cape and south shore/coast.
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- The servicemen and women of Otis ANG are neighbors, family, friends and part of our business community. Their departure will hurt our communities.
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these full-time, benefited jobs is extremely meaningful.

- If Otis closes there are no plans to operate the MMR base services that all military tenants require to perform their missions. We do not know who will provide water and sewer to the 600 military housing units; base security; operations of the airport; support to the FAA and the VA.
- There are no plans to provide replacement fire services to all MMR users, PAVE PAWS, or to suppress future fires in the northern 15,000 acres of the base, leaving the towns exposed to a significant public safety hazard.
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have NEVER been required to be intimately familiar with the subtleties, and techniques inherent in every Air Superiority pilot. Additionally, to move an Air Superiority unit as ideally positioned as the 102nd FW is completely illogical. These pilots have unobstructed access to the best training airspace in the United States. The idea to move them to the busiest airspace in the nation is foolish. These pilots will lose an unbelievable quantity of quality training to this mistake. All of these factors ultimately lead to a LESS safe America at NO real cost savings (per independent analysis, and GAO estimates).

Again, I strongly urge the Base Realignment and Closure Commission to remove Otis ANG Base from the list of military installations being considered for closure and/or realignment. Simply put, Otis ANGB is too important for our nation's security and homeland defense to be closed.

Thank you for your consideration of this input.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Wittmer', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

DANIEL J. WITTMER, Capt, USAF
Chief, 48 FW, Strategic Plans
F-15C Aircraft Commander

Defense Base Closure & Realignment Commission
2521 South Clark St. Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

BRAC Commission

AUG 01 2005

Received

July 29, 2005

Dear Commission,

I am a resident of Plymouth MA and a person who recognizes that the Commission receives many opposition letters whenever a military base is on a list for closure. However having said that, I will proceed with stating my opposition to the closing of the Otis Air National Guard Base on Cape Cod.

The Massachusetts Air National Guard F-15 fighters from the 102nd Fighter Wing at Otis provide security and protection for a densely populated area of the northeast.

The F-15s are seconds away from Plymouth's Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant which is a high profile town, especially noting, that Plymouth's House of Correction held the "Shoe Bomber" after September 11, 2001. Additionally, Otis shares it's resources with the Coast Guard's Air Station Cape Cod, which provides public safety services on crowded waters as well as security for Pilgrim Nuclear Plant.

I urge the BRAC to reconsider the closing of Otis Air National Guard Base and save the 102nd Fighter Wing. I hear them in the sky.....

Judith C. Manton
87 Summer Street
Plymouth, MA 02360

AUG 01 2005

Received

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

Dear BRAC Commission:

I am a resident of Plymouth, Ma. I write today to express my concerns on the DoD recommendations to close Otis ANG base. The servicemen and women of Otis ANG are neighbors, family, friends and part of our business community. Their departure will hurt our communities. Otis ANG Base has a direct, indirect and induced annual economic impact of \$82.3M in Massachusetts, most specifically on the Cape and south shore/coast. The GAO study documents cost of closing Otis to Coast Guard is at least \$17 million and 100 new personnel. Cost to all other tenants not yet known. There is questionable cost savings. The projected savings for closing Otis just does not seem to add up here.

Closing the Otis ANG means loss of a strategically important airfield for defending the northeast. It is on Cape Cod, just out into the Atlantic, providing almost immediate and unencumbered access for fighter jets. The 102nd Fighter Wing is responsible for patrolling the skies of the northeast for homeland defense. It is the closest 24-hour alert unit to intercept air traffic coming to USA, and has been activated on a regular basis. It was among first on the scene on 9/11 and is one of the top fighter wings in the entire Air National Guard. Also, the town of Plymouth, Ma we currently have a Nuclear power plant. I would think that this is something you would want to provide protection for.

Otis ANG Base operates the base airport; provides base security and fire services water and sewer to all base tenants. Supports the Coast Guard's Air Station Cape Cod, Coast Guard fisheries training center and marine safety office, and Army National Guard Camp Edwards. If Otis goes, then it means that all military, homeland defense and public safety operations --- including the Coast Guard --- are at risk

The methodology for the BRAC review of Otis failed to take into account all the strategic military values of the installations and the value of all homeland defense operations prior to the Pentagon's recommendation. Otis was not given the same fair shake as other bases during this round of proposed base closings. And, I Urge the BRAC to reverse Pentagon plan to close Otis Air National Guard Base and split up the 102nd Fighter Wing.

Very truly yours,

Adam Deane
Plymouth, Ma Resident