

05272005

Dear President Bush,

For the love of my Grandad who fought in Spanish Am. War and a great Uncle on my Mom side who is in Arlington for being a 1<sup>st</sup> W.W. Hero For my dearly loved Uncles who fought in the 2<sup>nd</sup> W.W. and my <sup>Present</sup> Dad who left his 4 young children to do some spy work for our Country due to his photo and art ability during the 2<sup>nd</sup> W.W. My Beautiful Mom who helped build planes at Bell air mutual. For my sister's and my self who collected newspapers roll up foil to help the war effort and my older, dead, loved cousin who was in the service during Korea along with many many friends for my Sister Susie frame who died in Korea for a dear friend who threw him self on a grenade in Korea & saved others who also is in Arlington for my loved little cousin & baby sis who went thru

the  
 Tell in Vietnam for my Cousins Some  
 several of them who been in Iraq & Afghanistan  
 I'd just like to know who in the Pentagon  
 think closing our Air Base is a good idea  
 Where did the terrorist say they hid 1st and  
 where did they hid 1st you got it N.Y.  
 Oh really then I and all my beloved  
 family dead or alive would like to  
 know how come you think its ok to  
 open all the windows, doors and even  
 give the keys to our power plant so  
 they can walk right in & blow it up or  
 too say nothing of what they could do to  
 Niagara Falls.

I remember you said at 9/11 What  
 ever it takes I'll back you I worked  
 for you & now I'll scream to you  
 my precious Grandson at FIT and  
 9/11 will graduate 5/24/05 but some  
 of his friends in apt near the tower who  
 asked you stand on world. My Son  
 who was on the ground that day flew  
 after out of Lager I said me of the  
 (America War)

innocent men women or children  
 who just got in a plane to Disney World  
 that dreadful day. I want my precious  
 Grand kids & my family protected  
 like my family protected others.  
 My Dad the greatest in all the  
 world put him self in danger for his  
 young & others and this land he so  
 loved. I also thought after W.W. 2  
 we would never have too many eggs  
 in one basket or we could have  
 another Pearl Harbor. Everything in Arizona?

Either you care or you don't  
 this Country & its people's need to  
 come 1<sup>st</sup> for prosperity, health and  
 safety if you can't do that you  
 can't do what ever it takes.

Protect my 6 year old Grand Son  
 & my 3 month old Great Grand daughter  
 and my precious 97 year old Uncle only  
 W.W. 2 family member left a Flying Tiger  
 Our young old poor need what ever it takes  
 no more 911 Mandy Lemay one

Protect our Borderline. Neopam Valle  
is one place they proceeded to Hob,  
How could you stand on Hillside  
ground & meet women & prisoners  
Children asked & had members  
protection for our land & the  
people. If need you to be the  
Man & welcome you to be and  
say no to the Perogation  
Neopam Valle the Base  
in cloning Neopam make it better.  
Our country needs to come  
job in many Health & Safety  
if we can turn any country or  
war.  
If no need you to be one  
of the United & all over J. J.  
Means a draft & 3 or 4 of my  
young there some might have to go  
some prisoners children & adults  
need to be ~~detained~~ protected!  
Neopam Valle

To: BRAC Commission  
Washington, D. C.

I feel it would be a  
dangerous mistake to close the  
Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base  
for the following reasons:

1. Proximity to Canada & 3 international bridges
2. Longer runways
3. The power project - ours & Canada's - which would be prime targets for terrorists.
4. Training can be done here in various kinds of weather not possible in other areas.



5. The local economy would suffer greatly - it's already poor.

We all feel safer having the base here & hope it never closes.

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Please reconsider this closing especially in this dangerous world situation.

Sincerely,  
Carol H. Brett

A Note From

**CHRISTINE**

A Note From

**CHRISTINE**

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I can hear the planes from the base and on clear days, can see them. They always make me feel safer, knowing they are there. Now safe are we going to be with a base hundreds of miles away in case of an invasion or pilot error? You can ~~save~~ military spending by not being where we are not wanted costing lives and money.

Put ~~some~~ of that money back to Homeland Security and teching immigrating people. Fences do not stop illegals or radicals.

I am 52 (61 grade) with S.S. Disability of less than \$700 a month and a house that I inherited but lived in most of my life.

I understand the economy of closing the Niagara Falls AFB would hurt the region.

I have ~~watched~~ watched Buffalo and Niagara Falls become deserted and dilapidated.

But the most important reason not to close the base is Homeland Security.

My house is ~~about~~ <sup>less than</sup> 15 minutes from the Peace Bridge and ten-fifteen minutes from ~~Ten~~ <sup>Ten</sup> Border Bridge.

You don't have to have elaborate bases or luxury features for soldiers either. Comfortable housing and good food should be sufficient. You can't cure the loneliness that is a big problem.

Make sure defense contractors are doing their jobs. I'll bet there are more old ~~er~~ <sup>er</sup> Bridge and roads and buildings standing than newly built and with material that should be stronger.

Ms Christine Malinowski

Ms. Christine Malinowski  
24 Reservation St  
Buffalo, NY 14207-2922

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Date 5/17/05

NIAGARA FALLS MILITARY AFFAIRS  
COUNCIL  
PO. BOX 231  
NIAGARA FALL NY 14304-0231

DEAR BRAC COMMISSION

I AM WRITTING TO AS A  
CONCERNED CITIZEN OF THE FALLS.

WE LIVE ON AN INTERNATIONAL  
BORDER, AS WELL AS A POWER PLANT  
SITE. IF THIS BASE IS CLOSED WE  
ARE LEFT VULNERABLE TO TERRORIST.

THIS COMMUNITY NEEDS THE BASE  
HERE, TO PROTECT OUR BORDER, IN  
BOTH PEACE AND WAR TIME. SUSPECTED  
TERRORIST HAVE ALREADY BEEN CAUGHT  
TRYING TO ENTER THIS COUNTRY FROM  
CANADA. THIS COMMISSION IS NOT  
ONLY PLAYING WITH THE LIVES AND  
SAFETY OF THE COMMUNITY, BUT ALSO WITH  
BASE PERSONNEL AND THEIR FAMILIES.

THE BASE PLAYS A VALUABLE  
ROLL IN THIS COMMUNITY, AS WELL  
AS CONTRIBUTING TO THE ECONOMY  
PLEASE DONT PUT US IN DANGER  
BY PLAYING WITH OUR SAFETY

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME

Sign Below To Save Our Base!

Name:

Address:

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Mary [unclear]

7 W. White Rd. O.N.Y.

Cindy Beames

7647 Gow Rd Appleton

Lynn Hight

7367 W. Somerset Rd.

Barbara Piggins

3834 Branks Rd, Gasport, N.Y.

Marianne [unclear]

41 Bmi Dr Depew NY 14043

Cindy [unclear]

5673 Bommeller Rd Lockport NY

Janet [unclear]

1408 Quaker Rd. Barker NY 14094

Carol Benoit

1 Pebble Court, Middleport 14105

Priscilla Dechepus

10390 Freeman Rd Medina

Dora Manuel

9932 Ridge Rd, Middleport

Elizabeth Schaal

297 Lo Drum Rd, Middleport 14105

Paul L. Gorenov

PO Box 85 Barker NY

Cuth Anne Labort

4201 Wickes Rd. Lockport NY 14094

Joseph Bunsens

58 Hubbardston Amherst 14228

W. Gilman

58 Hubbard St Amherst, 14228

Charlene Muddock

4745 Sunset Terrace Gasport, NY 14067

Mark Muddock

4745 Sunset Terrace Gasport NY 14067

Linda Snell

4079 Hoffman Rd. Medina NY 14103

Dora Townsend

4990 Sharpshoe Lockport, NY 14094

John Smith

9309 Ridge Rd Middleport NY 14105

John [unclear]

9 Alfred St Middleport 14105

Karen Schian

7885 Haight Rd Barker NY 14012

Bub Schian

7885 Haight Rd Barker NY 14012

Robert [unclear]

24 General Smith Sacot Harbor NY

Cindy Baker

1 W. Hartland St. Middleport, NY 14105

Carolyn Larkin

3420 Ewing Rd Lockport NY 14094

Colin S. Zimmerman

16479 Roosevelt Hwy Kendall NY 14476

Carolander

8950 Ridge Rd Gasport, NY 14067

Robert Andin

8980 Ridge Rd Gasport NY 14067

J. D. R.

7974 Chestnut Ridge Gasport 14067

Jan [unclear]

61 Ave #4 Lockport NY 14094

Gloria Hefferon

4225 Hartland Road Gasport 14067

Richie Hefferon

4225 Hartland Rd Gasport, NY 14067

KEEP MAILBOX AIRBASE OPEN!

UNIT-547

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5/16/05

| Print Name           | ADDRESS                  | LOCALITY                                    |
|----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| CONRAD, TOTA         | 6958 TOWNANDA Ct Rd      | W. Hillam C. Guildwist; 670thysian Ave, 676 |
| William C. Guildwist | 670thysian Ave, 676      | W. Hillam C. Guildwist                      |
| Maelys P. Rite       | 6958 Townanda Ct Rd      | W. Hillam C. Guildwist                      |
| Patricia Q. Lowes    | 4 Hallackyn. Townanda NY | W. Hillam C. Guildwist                      |
| Patricia A. Stonish  | 93 Calvert Blvd          | Townanda NY                                 |
| CHARLES A STANISH    | 93 CALVERT TOWNANDANY    | Stonish                                     |
| Michelle D. Spryck   | 8009 3rd Ave             | N.F., NY                                    |
| CAMELA TESCO         | 8009 3rd Ave             | N.F. NY                                     |
| Denise Tesco         | 160 2nd St               | NY                                          |
| Tom Royer            | 130 62nd St              | N.F. NY                                     |
| NETTE BRUNS          | 1680 PKEY FT             | ENIEDUTRUS                                  |
| HAELLE HARRIS        | 142 3rd St               | N.F. NY                                     |
| DEVIN ROYER          | 636 2nd St               | N.F. NY                                     |
| AMBER HARRIS         | 142 62nd St              | N.F. NY                                     |
| Grand Morris         | 134 42nd St              | N.F. NY                                     |
| Carol Honyok         | 2166 Syron               | Place N.F., N.Y.                            |
| William G. Doss      | 3718 Oppenheim Ct        | WHEATFIELD                                  |
| Valerie A. Carr      | 2718 Oppenheim Ct        | NTom. NY 14120                              |
| Charles W. Spahn     | 12776 Ste Tree Rd        | E. Aurora NY 1405                           |
| Terry Houser         | 7898 Boston State Road   | lot 7 Hamburg, NY 14076                     |
| Dale Houser          | 50 Bellhurst Rd.         | Townanda, NY 14150                          |
| Sandra Carlson       | 30 Pheasant Lane         | Cheektowaga, NY 14227                       |
| Merrie Carlson       | 30 Pheasant Lane         | Cheektowaga, NY 14227                       |
| LEONARD D. SMITH     | 2873 Lewiston Rd         | NIA. Falls, NY 14305                        |
| Marcia Popaduck      | 7052 Nags Rd             | Mo. Tom, NY 14120                           |
| Karen L. Bauer       | 1412 Elderberg Pl        | N.F. NY 14304                               |
| Sharon Budnik        | 1252 95th St.            | N.F. Falls NY 14304                         |

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| Print               | Address                                  |
|---------------------|------------------------------------------|
| Megan Larwood       | 290 Lamarck Drive                        |
| Daniel D. Gustek    | 4897 Best Street Hamburg 14075           |
| JAMES BRANNAN       | 7009 PLAZA DR NIAGARA FALLS NY           |
| JESSE U. Mc GEE     | 219-69TH ST, NIAGARA FALLS, NY           |
| MARY JAYES          | 6023 Robinson Rd. Lockport N.Y.          |
| James S. Stephens   | 78 Steele Circle NE, NY 14304            |
| Barbara Amour       | 82 Steele Circle NE, NY 14304            |
| Joanne Shemik       | 5200 Mayle CT, NE, NY 14304              |
| Kimberlee R Larwood | 290 Lamarck Dr. Amherst NY 14226         |
| Francine Boore      | 1030 Upper Mtn Rd. Lewiston 14092        |
| Susan Fisher        | 8015 Colonial Dr NE NY 14304             |
| Kevin Fisher        | 203 LOVERING BUFFALO NY                  |
| Barbara Fullford    | 780 Schenck St. Tonawanda 14120          |
| John Kinney         | 2657 NORTH Ave NE NY 14305               |
| Diann Mayhew        | 1291-80th St NY NY 14304                 |
| NANCY CHERICO       | 182 GARY LANE, CHEEKTOWAGA, NY 14227     |
| JOE CHERICO         | 182 GARY LANE, CHEEKTOWAGA, NY 14227     |
| Michael Bell        | 9314 Cayuga Drive NIAGARA FALLS NY 14304 |
| Clayton P. Jason    | 6310 Ridge Rd Lockport, NY 14054         |
| Marie Little        | 9317 Link Road, Akron, NY 14001          |
| Ruth Gleason        | 3901 Fair Court W. Saratoga 14132        |
| Richard R. Heenan   | 3901 Fair Ct W. Saratoga NY 14132        |
| Tom Rando           | 2535 NICOLE DRIVE NE NY 14304            |
| Barb Rando          | 2535 Nicole Dr NE NY 14304               |
| Harold Long         | 356 72 St NIAGARA FALLS NY               |
| Judy Rando          | 2478 Westside, N.F., NY 14305            |
| Kim Parth           | 2288 Lancelot Dr. NE NY 14304            |
| KENNETH GENS        | 9512 COON RD. GOWANDA NY 14070           |

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Mary Goodwill 242 Coventry Rd Ken 14217 ~~Mary J. Goodwill~~

DARIA STERNER 1221-86<sup>th</sup> St. N.F. NY 14304 ~~April~~

Roger G. Matiosh 1632-98<sup>th</sup> St. N.F. N.Y. 14304 ~~Robert Matiosh~~

Sammy Hauney-Rose 4618 Lockport Rd Lockport NY 14094 ~~Sammy~~

Walter Megard 141 Nelson Ave. Blasdell N.Y. ~~Walter~~

Russell Nicholson 61 Price St Lockport NY ~~Russell~~

Kathleen Campbell 1425 E. Robinson - NT, NY 1420

~~James Campbell~~ 1425 E. Robinson - W.T. N.Y. 1420

Edward F. 205 EAST AVE N. TONAWANDA, N.Y. 14120

Phronzie Byland

Stu Wilk 2026<sup>th</sup> N.F. NY

LISA RATHER 202 68<sup>th</sup> N.F. NY

Linda Alanexic 8020 Colgate Dr. N.F. NY

MOSAIC'S 1387 101<sup>st</sup> N.F. NY

TOM CONNOR 1803 18<sup>th</sup> N.F. NY

Janet Wolanske 10309 Dorettaw N. Falls

Mary Anderson 110 East Felton St. N. Ton. N.Y. ~~Mary Anderson~~

Muane Churchill 3 Hardy St. Tonawanda, NY 14150

AUDREY ELDRIDGE 916 Cayuga Rd. Tonawanda, NY 14150 ~~Audrey Eldridge~~

Charlie Durham 46 SAINT PAUL MALL BUFFALO NY 14209

Barb Charenzy 2442 Pierce Ave, Niagara Falls NY 14301

Maureen Fellick 586 Hillside Dr./Lewiston NY 14092

Jean Kelleck 422 Aberdeen Rd. Lewiston N.Y. 14092

Gwynne Fulk MAIN ST NEWFANE NY 14108

Nan Northcott 154 60<sup>th</sup> St. Nia. Falls NY 14304

Sharon Northcott " " " "

Maureen Gravel 147 56<sup>th</sup> Niagara Falls N.Y. 14304

Tsgt. Scot Northcott Dyess AFB TEXAS

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| Print Name          | ADDRESS                                                              | SIGN               |
|---------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Gary Chapman        | 240 Branch St Lockport 14094                                         | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| Ricky Ostrom        | 8627 ERNEST RD, GARFERT 14669                                        | Ricky Ostrom       |
| MILKE BOECHLICHIN   | 1685 JANE DR, A-5 NIAGARA FALLS NY <sup>14304</sup> <del>14174</del> | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| DONNA SEGAVIA       | 1025 Youngstown - Wilson Rd <sup>14304</sup>                         | Donna Segavia      |
| Carolyn Laskay      | 3272 Southway SANBORN NY 14132                                       | Carolyn Laskay     |
| Marion Irwin        | 2035 Lockport Rd. NF NY 14304                                        | Marion Irwin       |
| Cheryl Killian      | Gate Coffee Shop<br>2028 Lockport Rd. NF NY 14304                    | Cheryl Killian     |
| MILK Y BAKER        | 1373 Carroll Rd NF 14132                                             | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| Fred Coar           | 5243 HEWITT PKWY LEWISTON 14092                                      | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| RAT WILSON          | 402 95th St N.F. NY 14304                                            | Rat Wilson         |
| GEORGE SCHIEDER     | 332 Remondt Kenmore NY <sup>14217</sup>                              | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| Carol Lemhart       | 4276 Irish Lockport NY                                               | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| Chuck Giles         | 1031 Remington Dr N. Ton NY                                          | Chuck Giles        |
| Joela Collette      | 40 Kenton Dr Kenmore N.Y. 14217                                      | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| Mary Lou Colley     | 34 Kenton Rd Kenmore, NY 14217                                       | Mary Lou Colley    |
| PAUL C. TRACY SR.   | 1225 PK NF. 14132                                                    | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| Mario P. Tonellato  | 1434 Byrd Ave Niagara Falls N.Y. 14305                               | Mario P. Tonellato |
| Mal Needh           | 864 CASTROVA N. TONA NY                                              | Mal Needh          |
| Diane Giordano      | 67 Walnut Kenmore, NY.                                               | Diane Giordano     |
| Juni M. Giordano    | 278 Glenhurst Rd Tona, N.Y.                                          | Juni M. Giordano   |
| Joan Skotnicki      | 3130 Krueger Rd Wheatfield                                           | JOAN SKOTNICKI     |
| Ralph DiPaul        | 6929 William Rn. N.F. NY                                             | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| Georgia A Brannigan | 7009 Plaza Dr. #4                                                    | Georgia AB         |
| George DeFendi      | 531-23rd St NF NY                                                    | George DeFendi     |
| SUSAN WARNER        | 531 23rd ST NF NY 14301                                              | Susan Warner       |
| Raymond Rossano     | 615-34th St N.F. NY 14301                                            | <i>[Signature]</i> |
| Richard Whittell    | PO Box 475 Ransomville NY 14131                                      | <i>[Signature]</i> |

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MICHAEL JARZAB 311 PORTAGE RD. WENT 14303 Michael Jarzab

Susan M. Finger 5261 Garlow Road N.F. NY 14304 Susan M. Finger

ROBERT C BUNCE 1079 29th St N.F. NY 14304 Robert C. Bunce

MICHAEL A. JANDA 430 MAIN ST. TON, NY 14150 Michael Janda

URSULA E ZIMMANN 815 5th St N.F. NY 14304 Ursula E. Zimmann

ROBERT A HOU 3176 West Lake Rd Wilson R.N.

Douglas Walck 1842 N. NIAGARA AVE NIAGARA FALLS Douglas Walck

Mitch BRADT 156 Greenwood N.Y.

John Rowles Baseline Rd. BRADT Ist.

William Stine 295 Tremont St N. Tona. NY 14120

Regina Johnson 2932 Nevada Ave N.F. NY 14305

John & Schales 602 Riverside Dr. Ut. W. 14303

Terence Beereng 9314 Cayuga Dr. N.F. N.Y.

Ted Kolago - 570 - 73 St N.F. N.Y.

Robert Heisler 2710 N.F. Blvd W. Kentfield 14304

Mary Woodring 9337 Buffalo Ave N.F. NY 14304

JERRY WOODRING 9337 Buffalo Ave. N.F. N.Y. 14304

Deb Duncan 6020 WAlmore Rd SANBORN NY 14132

Phil Duncan 6020 WALMORE Rd. SANBORN NY 14132

Barbara Wilson 2233 Western Ave N.F. NY 14305

Bill Kaufman 20 Depot St COFFO NY 14036

Sharon E Casey 2024 Pine Ave N.F. NY 14301

Linda Tonillato 1424 Dundee N.Y. NY 14303

Jennifer Bauer 2430 Grand Ave Niagara Falls, NY 14301

Lauree Rebon 741 - 59th St Niagara Falls, NY 14304

Mary Jean Prochala 738 - 59th St N.F. NY 14304

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Michaelne La Penelle 6047 Edward Ave A-5 Newfane 14108

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Wayne La Penette, Sr 6047 Edward Ave Apt A5 Tonawanda <sup>14108</sup> New York

Thomas Szczerbacki 1763 A <sup>LAKE RD</sup> Youngstown, N.Y. 14174

Mary Lanton 2962 Ontario Ave, Niagara Falls, NY 14305

Kelli Bennett 96 Iliac St Tonawanda NY 14150

Marie S Ciavatta 4030 Cliff St. N. F. N.Y. 14305

Madeleine S. Buono 55 Steele Circle N. F. NY 14304

Gary T. Engstrom 7162 SCHULTZ RD N. T. NY 14120

Carl W Landan 49 Bradley St Buffalo NY 14213-22

CHARLES TODARO 1234 PAYNE AVENUE N. TONAWANDA

ALIEN J. TARAPCZYNSKI 2629 NIAGARA ST N. F. NY 14303 <sup>14120</sup>

CAROL TARAPCZYNSKI 2629 NIAGARA ST N. F. NY 14303

JEROME J. Tenhasz 2413 FOXBURY DR CATZVILLE, NY 14068

Ian McLennan 663 Cindy Lane W. Seneca NY 14224

Caitlyn McLennan 603 Cindy Lane W. Seneca NY 14224

Robert L. Merhoff 410 Walcott Dr. Tonawanda NY 14120

Jerrard Gervase 1460 Edgemoor Rd 14072

Catherine E. Roberto-Abel 29 Oliver St., Lockport 14094

Frank Sparks 791 S. Niagara St Tonawanda, NY 14150

PATRICIA PHILLIPS 173 RUMBOLD ST NY 14120

Susan M. Phillipon P.O. Box 36 N. Tonawanda NY 14120-0036

Wita C. Anderson 1460 E. Erie Rd, Grand Island, N.Y. 14172

Harold C. Anderson, 1460 E. Erie Rd, Grand Island NY 14172

Dorothy Pulger 1432 Mall St. N. Tonawanda <sup>14120</sup>

Mel J. Quinn 817 ST. LAWRENCE AVE BUFF NY 14215 <sup>N.Y.</sup>

Marie S. Krieger 31 Steele Cir NF 14304

Felicia Reese 408 A Street C.V. N.F., NY. 14304-1911

JAT GALL - 3034 Mackleu Ave NF 14305

Bill Holby

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Michael Egan 7277 LAKEVIEW G. PENNSLVANIA, NY 14120  
Lee Oel 2071 Ridge Rd Lewisboro NY  
William Cowan 1250 Brighton Rd. Ton. N.Y. 14150  
Jean Aureli 7200 Williams Rd Apt 326 LI F NY  
Michael Grubbs 44 Catona Ct, APT 3 Buffalo NY 14220  
Lynn Sadovsky 196 Joseph Drive, Ton. NY 14150

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SAVE NIAGARA AIR BASE PETITION

| NAME                                             | ADDRESS                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Beatrice Buczowski                               | 6763 Hatter Rd Newfane NY 14108                |
| Amanda Sattlerberg                               | 6341 Charlotteville Rd Newfane NY 14108        |
| Kim Harrington                                   | 2314 Birch Lane Newfane N.Y. 14108             |
| Kristen Schultz                                  | 9194 Ridge Rd Mdpt, NY 14108                   |
| Terry Barcys                                     | 291 meadowbrook Ln, Newfane 14108              |
| Kim <del>Titus</del>                             | 4240 Freeman Rd Middleport NY 14105            |
| Brian FRET                                       | 2603 William St. Newfane NY 14108              |
| JoAnne Brossait Mully                            | 5024 ESCARPment Dr Lockport NY 14094           |
| Jillie Thompson                                  | 207 maine St. Rochester NY 14609               |
| Paul Starich                                     | 576 wall St N. Tonawanda, NY 14120             |
| Rosalyn Smith                                    | 2320 Birch Lane Newfane NY 14108               |
| Albert Willberger                                | 3600 Day Rd Lockport NY 14094                  |
| Steny Ewald                                      | 17 Sunset Island, Wilson NY 14112              |
| Debra Pelletier                                  | 2487 Lockport-Olcott Rd Newfane                |
| Erin Reeson                                      | 6041 Edward Ave Apt B2 Newfane                 |
| Christa Miller                                   | 15608 Lockport Olcott Rd Olcott NY 14108/14126 |
| Angelia Gayne                                    | 4791 E. Lake Burt NY 14028                     |
| Laurie Aubrey <del>Janni Anderson</del>          | 2323 main St. Newfane NY 14108                 |
| MARK E. MUNDY <del>Mark E. Mundy</del>           | 542 93rd St. Niagara Falls NY 14304            |
| Daniel Hefferon                                  | 1441 Hosmer Rd. Barker, NY. 14012              |
| Dina M High                                      | 304 Cottage St Lkpt NY 14094                   |
| Arcel Owlsby                                     | 8664 Huntington Bldg Barker NY 14012           |
| Cynthia G. Burgess                               | 8708 High St Barker, NY 14012                  |
| James Pearson                                    | 1381 Johnson Creek Rd. Barker                  |
| Johnsen                                          | 9676 Hall Rd Barker NY 14012                   |
| Debi Jakes                                       | 815 Chapman Rd Wapport NY 14067                |
| Grace Farnin                                     | 7072 Lake Rd Appleton, NY 14008                |
| Michael Campbell                                 | 1960 Madford Rd Appleton                       |
| Basilqa Sutich                                   | 2591 Hoeme Rd Appleton N.Y. 14008              |
| Paul D. Miller                                   | 1713 PALLISTEK BARRE NY 14012                  |
| Joan Morgan                                      | 7871 W Somerset Rd Appleton NY 14008           |
| DEBRI LEE DEARBORN <del>Debra Lee Dearborn</del> | 7740 W. SOMERSET APPLETON NY 14008             |

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SAVE NIAGARA AIR BASE PETITION

|                        |                                       |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Thomas P. Stadler Jr   |                                       |
| Alan Milton            | 9284 Haight Rd Barker NY 14012        |
| Kathi Hilton           | 9284 Haight Rd Barker NY 14012        |
| Becky Harding          | 6502 Drake Sett Rd Appleton 14008     |
| Holly Bigelow          | 9826 Lower Lake Rd Barker, NY 14012   |
| Donna Reisman          | 9201 Lake Rd Barker, N.Y. 14012       |
| Joseph G. Reisman      | 9201 Lake Rd Barker, N.Y. 14012       |
| Patricia A. Alvarez    | 8724 Coleman Rd. Barker N.Y. 14012    |
| Adam C. Stadler Jr     | BARKER COMONS                         |
| Barbara A. Snell       | 1138 Quaker Rd Barker NY 14012        |
|                        | 309 Cottage St. Lockport, NY 14094    |
| Christine M. Hotaling  | 1365 Quaker Rd. Barker, N.Y. 14012    |
| Patricia A. Rosekellia | 2707 Quaker Rd. Gasport, NY 14067     |
| Joan Beaman            | 8707 COLEMAN RD BARKER NY             |
| Gloria Sutch           | 881 Coleman Barker, NY 14012          |
| Cynthia Albee          | 3297 Mill Rd. Gasport, NY 14067       |
| Mary Rinker            | 8496 Lake Rd. Barker                  |
| James L. Gow           | 2349 Lake Rd Appleton 14008           |
| Beverly C. Dickinson   | 8713 Haight Rd Barker NY 14012        |
| Daryl G. Hansen        | 1449 Quaker Rd. Barker, NY 14012      |
| Ronnie L. Hefaul       | 8691 Lake Rd #19 Barker, NY 14012     |
| Mariah LeBeau          | Garden St. Lockport NY 14094          |
| Chris Dietz            | Pallister, Barker, NY 14012           |
| Gail Damon             | 9142 Lower Lake Rd Barker NY 14012    |
| Donna Sanchez          | 6983 West Ave. Appleton, NY 14008     |
| Antia Sanchez          | 6983 West Ave. Appleton, NY 14008     |
| Shirley Longmeyer      | 9761 Lake Rd Barker NY 14012          |
| Marie W. Conley        | 8961 Lower Lake Rd, Barker NY 14012   |
| Robert Brownhead       | 8776 Lockport Ave Barker NY 14012     |
| JAMES S. TORGESEN      | 393 DAVISON ROAD # LOCKPORT, NY 14094 |
| Sue & Bill Hamal       | 7600 Ridge Rd Gasport NY 14067        |
| Ernest Helen Boresen   | 9236 Coleman Rd. Barker, NY 14012     |

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# KEEP NIAGARA AIR BASE OPEN!

| <u>Print NAME</u>  | <u>ADDRESS</u>                                  | <u>SIGN</u>       |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| MARY Schieder      | 332 Tremont Kenmore                             | Mary Schieder     |
| Frank FB uchaltz   | 100 Thompson BFLC                               | Frank + Buechaltz |
| MICHAEL A MARCHESI | 40 GARDEN RD CHEEK NY                           | Michael Marchesi  |
| JAMES W. ROSTEN    | 464 VICTORIA BLVD KENMORE N.Y.                  | James W. Rosten   |
| GLENN WASLEY       | 813 PIONEER DR, NT NY                           | Glenn Wasley      |
| Russell D. Bova    | 460 Getzville Rd Amherst                        | Russell D. Bova   |
| MARY A REASINGER   | 410 95 <sup>th</sup> ST. N.F. N.Y.              | Mary A Reasinger  |
| Robert W. Waldon   | 376 Hinman Ave BFLC                             | Robert Waldon     |
| PAUL BEAMER        | 60 HEATH ST BUFFALO 14214                       | Paul Beamer       |
| JACKIE BEAMER      | 60 HEATH ST Buffalo 14214                       | Jackie Beamer     |
| FRANKLIN GINTY     | 4864 WATERFORD PL. LOCKPORT, N.Y. 14094         | Franklin Ginty    |
| MARIE DEMBITSKY    | 281 SPINA DR. NIAG. FALLS NY 14304              | Marie Dembitsky   |
| ELAINE K. GINTY    | 4864 WATERFORD PL., LOCKPORT, NY, 14094         | Elaine Ginty      |
| ROBERT L. SODANO   | 5896 MILLER PL. NIAGARA FALLS, N.Y. 14304       | Robert L. Sodano  |
| Chris Aulet        | 325 Smallwood Dr. Amherst, NY 14226             | Chris Aulet       |
| Laura Marra        | 345 North 7 <sup>th</sup> St Lewiston NY 14092  | Laura Marra       |
| Michael MARRA      | 345 North 7 <sup>th</sup> St Lewiston, NY 14092 | Michael Marra     |
| Jack Fell          | 609-31 <sup>st</sup> #2 Nia. Fls NY, 14301      | John Fell         |
| CHARLES J. FELL    | 261 WASHINGTON ST. LOCKPORT NY, 14094           | Charles Fell      |
| Darlene Schmiede   | 1157 Balmer Rd. Youngstown N.Y. 14174           | Darlene Schmiede  |
| Marlene Janda      | 430 Main St Tonawanda NY 14150                  | Marlene Janda     |
| Jean A. Socha      | 9414 Cayuga Dr. #6 Niagara Falls, N.Y.          | Jean A. Socha     |
| MOUI S. KNIPLER    | 862 C ROBIN RD AMHERST, N.Y. 14228              | Molly Knipfler    |
| Marty Abramson     | 1846 Niagara Ave N.F. NY. 14305                 | Marty Abramson    |
| Vernon Fildford    | 97 Jasper dr. Amherst N.Y. 14226                | Verna Fildford    |
| Rick + Patty Fiden | 2219 Katherine Dr. Niagara Falls, NY 14304      | Patty Fiden       |
| Brianne Wilson     | 134 69 <sup>th</sup> St. Niagara Falls, NY      | Brianne Wilson    |
| Doug Schuelles     | 600 Rice-Sole Dr. N.F. N.Y.                     | Doug Schuelles    |

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William R. Abel 29 Oliver St Lockport  
 Renee S. Kinney 2651 North Ave., NY, 14305 Renee Kinney  
 Laurie Bartolomeo 284 Franklin St, NY 14150 Laurie Bartolomeo  
 JOHN BARTOLOMEO SR 284 FRANKLIN ST. TONAWANDA NY 14150  
 Timothy Prawl 3409 Champlain Ave Nia Falls  
 Karl A. Bauer 2430 GRAND AVE<sup>APT. 2</sup> NIAGARA FALLS, NY 14301  
 FRANK BUSHARDT 357 SKILLER ST BUFFALO NY 14207  
 Charles Rebon Jr. 1763 LAKE RD. YASTA. NY. 14174  
 James A Ryan 4823 Tuscarora Rd Town of Niagara, NY 14304  
 Carmo Buccarelli 2595 Jerauld Ave Niagara Falls, NY 14305  
 Janine Blackburn 5848 Pearl St Sanborn NY 14132-0473  
 Jusley Battaglia 215 main st. N. TONA. 14120  
 David R. Kogo 2592 N. main st. newfane, 14108  
 Alicia Kogo 2592 N. main st. newfane 14108  
 Annika Burholt 1300 92nd St. NF, NY 14304  
 Nancy Strat 6033 Regal PK WY N Lockport  
 Rebecca M. Bayne 55 Raintree Ave., Apt. 12, Tonawanda, NY, 14150  
 Judith M. Bayne 185 Walnut Ave, Kenner NY 14217  
 Shirley Stanley 13390 Cedar Ed Clarence Ctr 14032  
 Mal D Brown 2708 Welch Ave Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14303  
 Marianne Brown 2708 Welch Ave Niagara Falls NY 14303  
 Beverly James 2184 Violet Circle, Niagara Falls N.Y. 14304  
 Stewart E. Russell 922 91 ST. NIAGARA FALLS, NY 14304-3534  
 Dr Robert J. Koko 1006 91st NF. NY 14304-2876  
 Ann M. Koko 1006 91st Niagara Falls NY 14304

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Name:

Address:

Carrinne Weatherbee

Ransomville Ny.

Debbie Cockayne

Newfane, Ny

Shelly Stranges

Lockport, N.Y.

Ms. Arlene McDonald -

Lockport, N.Y.

KEVIN HANNA

NEWFANE NY

Wayne

Barker Ny.

Paul C. Nicholas

Newfane N.Y.

James E. Nicholas

Newfane NY

Russell Aubrey

2823 main st.

Mark Mundy

Newfane NY 14108

Doris Whitwell

542 93rd St.

Niagara Falls, NY 14304

Wendigo Sharpes

6786 Union Road

Lockport, N.Y. 14094

Thomas Fret

Lockport, NY

John Phillips

Newfane N.Y.

Virginia Carston

LOCKPORT, N.Y. 14094

Virginia Carston

Wilson N.Y. 14172

Maude Munn

Wilson N.Y. 14172

Ann Munn

Wheatfield NY 14120

Cathy Hefner

Buffalo, Ny 14216

Ben Hefner

Newfane NY 14108

Becky Hardman

Lockport

Evelyn R. Suck

Lockport

John Williams

Wilson, N.Y. 14172

Julie Latoral

Lockport NY 14094

Deborah Sims

Newfane, NY 14108

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Cheryl Woodmanay

Niagara Falls Ny 14305

2745 Quaker Rd Lockport 14067

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Name

Address

|                    |                                           |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Heather Ecker      | 8486 Lake Rd, Barker 14012                |
| Carol Hurlbough    | 6138 Ketchum Ave, Newfane 14108           |
| Renee Ward         | 8080 Church St, Barker 14012              |
| Ron Seifert        | 6043 East Canal Rd Lockport 14094         |
| Kathleen Hurlbough | 6138 Ketchum Ave Newfane 14108            |
| Ann Schulze        | 2030 Old Coomer Rd, Burdett 14028         |
| Heather Gardiner   | 2833 S. Main St. Apt 2 Newfane 14108      |
| D. Maybach         | 6010 Dutton Place Newfane 14108           |
| Dave Finell        | 76 MADISON AVE, Blossell                  |
| Ann Raskopf        | P.O. Box 296 Olcott 14126                 |
| INNA HERLAN        | 6187 HOWELL AVE NEW FANE 14108            |
| Corey Galore       | 1513 W. Somerset Rd, Appleton 14008       |
| John Raskopf       | P.O. Box 296 Olcott NY 14126              |
| Ronald H. Mael     | 3196 SHARON ALI NEW FANE NY 14108         |
| Jane Verminick     | 717 Elliott Rd, Lockport, NY 14094        |
| Sylvia Marshall    | 2540 West Creek Rd Newfane NY 14108       |
| Marilyn J. Olsen   | 2804 S. Main, Newfane NY 14108            |
| Carolyn            | 2512 Transit Rd Lockport, NY 14094        |
| Margaret Stark     | 6078 East Ave Newfane, NY 14108           |
| Patricia E. Ditch  | P.O. Box 827 Olcott NY 14126              |
| Andy Webb          | 3618 Lkpt-Olcott Rd. Lkpt NY 14094        |
| Amanda Fisher      | 7328 Ridge Rd. Lkpt NY 14094              |
| Pat Stephenson     | 6061 EDWARDS AV Newfane NY 14108          |
| Chris Kelahan      | 508 Lake St Wilson NY 14172               |
| Krista Lehrer      | 3093 Lkpt-Olcott Rd, Newfane NY 14108     |
| Carly Paterson     | 1550 Crescent Heights Olcott NY 14126     |
| Richard W. Kutt    | 2070 Main St Newfane, NY 14108            |
| Kimberly Sullivan  | 2090 Lkpt-Olcott Rd Newfane NY 14108      |
| Bonnie J. Spjut    | 6468 Phillips Rd Newfane NY 14108         |
| Jacky Hunter       | 7918 Leunin Rd Appleton 14008             |
| Robert W. Eckhart  | 6900 Charlottesville Rd, Newfane NY 14108 |
| Mandy Horvath      | 6137 Poplar St Newfane NY 14108           |
| David Kerwin       | 444 Lake St. Wilson, NY 14172             |

~~Help!!~~ Help!!

Sign Below To Help Save Our Base!

Name:

Address:

Kenneth Snee

841a Haight Id Butler 14012

Jill Siford

6903 Lake Geneva Ct. N. F. N.Y. 14804

Aiden Siford

" " " "

Paula Feh

6276 Corwin Station Newfane <sup>14108</sup> NY

Gene Austin

6344 Charlottsville Rd.

Mary Ellen Kavanaugh

509 Applewood Dr. Lockport, NY

Richard D Lee

3225 Coomer Rd. Newfane

Jean See

3525 Coomer Rd Newfane

Christa Miller

1568 Airport Scott Rd

Lawrence R Mille Cambridge 48103. Lockport NY

Susan Malisane

2715 Transit Rd Newfane

Tammy Delano

2695 Maple Ave #1 Newfane

Krista Kirby

6379 Dale Rd Newfane

Anna Choops

7605 Chestnut Ridge Rd, Lkpt

Chris Sattelby

6341 Charlottsville Rd Newfane

JACQUE Knight

6672 Wheeler Lockport 14094

Diane Woodcock

23 Bobo Link Lane Lockport NY 14094

Gaine Howell

2549 N. Main St. Upperapt. Newfane NY 14108

Spurline Baker

6180 East Avenue Newfane NY 14108

Dora Chapman

3811 Chase Rd Middleport NY

Cassidy Dean

4370 N. Ridge Rd. Lockport

Deb Davis

639 G. Main Middleport N.Y.

Carye Haughtling

2570 Transit Rd - Newfane N.Y.

Stephen J. Henderson

48 THE Common Lockport, N.Y.

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| Name:                       | Address:                                                            |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ashley Heinz<br>Sarah Drier | P.O. Box 183 Barker, NY 14012<br>1623 Quaker Rd<br>Barker NY, 14012 |
| Angela Towne                | 3691 Lake Barker NY 14012                                           |
| PAMELA McDONALD             | 1396 Quaker Rd.<br>Barker, N.Y. 14012                               |
| Stella DeCarlo              | 9679 Lake Rd Barker 14012                                           |
| Jan Kent                    | 1707 Pallister Ave Barker 14012                                     |
| Ann Dierz                   | 9762 Haight Rd. Barker NY 14012                                     |
| Robert E. Dierz             | 9762 Haight Rd. Barker, N.Y. 14012                                  |
| Billy Stratten              | 8704 High St Barker N.Y. 14012                                      |
| Brandon Sardellini          | 8512 Lake Rd Barker NY 14012                                        |
| ANDREW STEEL                | 1705 PALLISTER AVE BARKER NY 14012                                  |
| Michelle DeWart             | 5656 Cleman Rd Barker, Ny 14012                                     |
| Christel Watts              | 2747 W. Creek Rd Newton NY 14105                                    |
| Tim Hoffman                 | 8770 Lower Lake, Barker, N.Y. 14012                                 |
| Lois Hildebrandt            | 1432 Quaker Rd Barker NY 14012                                      |
| Al Dierz                    | 4830 HAIGHT RD BARKER N.Y. 14012                                    |
| Victoria J. Andrews         | 31 Bicky Pl. Medina 14103                                           |
| Kam Char                    | 105 John St Rockport 14099                                          |
| Jean W. Anderson            | 1127 Quaker Rd., Barker, N.Y. 14012                                 |
| Malcolm Anderson            | 1127 Quaker Rd., Barker, N.Y. 14012                                 |

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| Name:                 | Address:                             |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Carol M Santosk       | 5616 West Bluff, POB344, Ocott       |
| Cornelia Steen        | 6084 Exchange St Newfane NY          |
| Faun Clayton          | 6124 East Ave Newfane                |
| Francine Mc Cuchen    | 2031 Quaker Rd. Bakers, NY           |
| Alexandria Matcalawag | 1968 Creedsid Dr Burt NY 14028       |
| Salvatore Zepano      | 2744 Calabrous St Newfane            |
| Michelle Mumper       | 6119 Hutchinson Ave Newfane          |
| Quiterman             | 6400 Charlotteville Newfane          |
| Deborah Molyett       | 6009 King St. Newfane ny 14108       |
| Carol Ann             | 5974 Railroad Ave Burt 14108         |
| Kim Schuler           | 1720 Ballister Ave. Bortor, NY 14012 |
| Ann Schuler           | 5404 Stone Rd Louport                |
| Paula Allen           | 5400 Stone Rd Lockport NY            |
| Paul King             | 6801 State Rd Cyprien 14008          |
| Rosalind J. HAUSE     | 6169 Howell Ave Newfane NY 14108     |
| Phyllis Laurent       | P.O. BOX 427 OLCOTT NY               |
| Molly Faber, MD       | 303 Madisbroke Road Newfane NY 14108 |
| Margaret Woodman      | 2637 Merritt St Newfane NY           |
| Stephania Harmon      | 4788 Side Rd. Wilcox, NY             |
| David Miller          | 4295 North Ridge Rd. Burt NY         |
| Jean Wolfe            | 6070 Fair Ave. Newfane, NY 14108     |
| Margaret Ernst        | 6132 Corwin Ave Newfane NY 14108     |
| Dorothy Hopkins       | 2327 W. Creek Rd Newfane NY 14108    |
| Sarah Hooper          | 3005 WEST-OLCOTT Rd Newfane NY 14108 |
| Melanie Patrowska     | 6070 Corwin Ave Newfane NY 14108     |
| Blaine S. Wang        | 6193 Bixler Rd, Newfane, NY 14108    |
| Thomas Woodruff       | 6080 Exchange St. Newfane NY 14108   |
| Leola Deen Dickstein  | 1893 W Creek Rd. Burt 14028          |
| Deborah               | 150 Washington St - Burt, NY         |
| Dorothy DeLong        | 3319 Ewing Rd Newfane NY 14108       |
| Doreen Ann            | 6294 Duke Street. Newfane, NY 14108  |
| Dorothy Anne          | 2766 West ave, Burt NY 14108         |
| Ward J. Ann           | 2625 N. Main st Burt NY 14108        |

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| Name:            | Address:                |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| Cathy Schumacher | 10217 Mill Rd           |
| Janis Jacquin    | 9216 Starwood Rd        |
| Becky Leder      | 3222 Zerkow Rd          |
| April Gow        | 7349 Lake Rd, Apple     |
| Jindy Koepsel    | 24 Kelly Ave, In        |
| Bill Koepsel     | 24 Kelly Ave 9          |
| Edy Hoening      | 4591 Plant Rd, Lkt      |
| John M. Rumb     | 8686 Coleman Rd Bar     |
| Wm E. Devereaux  | 1430 Quaker Rd 2        |
| Frank P. ...     | 1430 Quaker Rd 2        |
| John P. ...      | 6448 Hope Lane Rd       |
| Clare ...        | 2255 1st Avenue         |
| Lynne Wolentzski | 8699 LAKE RD 10         |
| Julie Obermiller | 8691 Lake Rd #9 Barker  |
| Anna Lou Dean    | 6559 ROYAL PKWY N LOCKE |
| Jan Buffington   | 2036 Hartland Rd N      |
| ouis Mead        | 1945 Quaker Rd Bar      |
| Tom ...          | 281 Hamilton Blvd Ke    |
| Mani Vass        | 321 Hamilton Blvd       |
|                  | 1341 102nd St N.E. NY   |

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Name: Mrs. White Address: 314 Pine St  
Lockport NY 14094

Patty White 95 Trowbridge St. Lockport NY 14094

✓ Teresa Hayner 6260 Ridge Road  
Lockport, NY. 14094

✓ Steve Hayner 6260 Ridge Rd  
Lockport NY 14094

✓ Karen Feller 3015 Johnson Cir Rd  
Masp. NY. 14105

Melanie Guild 3303 Mill Rd  
Gasport NY 14007

KATHLEEN STEIN 5739 SIDNE RD  
LOCKPORT, NY 14094-1213

Amanda Gueli 6609 Parkwood Dr.  
Lockport, NY 14094

✓ Lisa Marie Maddox 485 South Street  
Lockport NY 14094

Elizabeth P Burffon 71 McIntosh Dr  
Lockport, NY 14094

Kathleen Shanley 302 Church  
Lockport NY 14094

Adrienne Adams 3271 CRAIG DR  
NY. 14094

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|   |                  |                                         |
|---|------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| ✓ | Henry Luzzo      | Coleman Rd Barker 14012                 |
| ✓ | Kenny Ellnor     | 7120 Lake Rd Appleton 14008             |
| ✓ | Leann Barnes     | 24 Purcella Lockport, 14094             |
| ✓ | Mary Nuhr        | 58 Adam St., Lockport, NY 14094         |
| ✓ | Brian David      | 5632 Eastwood Dr. Lockport NY 14094     |
| ✓ | Kara Stimmel     | 872 Eden Rd Amherst ny 14228            |
| ✓ | Jane Pfah        | 6314 Dochester Lockport NY 14094        |
| ✓ | Frankie          | 2 Humphrey Rd Buffalo, NY 14207         |
| ✓ | Denise Dear      | Hartland Rd Gasport NY 14067            |
| ✓ | GAIL DEAR        | 386 Hawley St Lockport NY 14094         |
| ✓ | Danielle Dear    | 6559 Royal Pkwy N. Lockport NY 14094    |
| ✓ | Joy Dear - Clody | 8824 Haseley Rd Gasport, NY 14067       |
| ✓ | Sara Dear        | 358 West Ave Apt 1 Lockport, NY 14067   |
| ✓ | Tanzela Coates   | 5968 Washington St Checot NY 14126      |
| ✓ | Paul Leadet      | 6118 Carwin Ave Newfane NY 14108        |
| ✓ | Michele M Smith  | 5 East Ave Middleport, NY 14105         |
| ✓ | Lana Secrist     | 193 Church St Lockport ny 14094         |
| ✓ | Edward Gettes    | 4466 Beach Ridge Rd. Lockport, NY 14094 |
| ✓ | Dorothy Gettes   | 4466 Beach Ridge Rd Lockport, ny 14094  |
| ✓ | Liane Snickles   | 2947 Randall Rd. Ransomville 14131      |

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| Name:                 | Address:                              |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Stephanie Myers       | Barber 14012<br>1441 Hosmer Rd'       |
| Donna Bickster        | N.T. NY 14102<br>7526 Sunnydale Rd    |
| Evelyn M. Scaletta    | 761-60 <sup>th</sup> St. NF, NY 14304 |
| Jane Molinaro         | 885 Cayuga Street NF, NY 14304        |
| Christine Muraicin    | 1843 Swann Rd. Ransomville 14101      |
| Sally Hansen          | 7526 Sunnydale Rd (NT NY)             |
| Elaine Walton         | 3241 Woodland Ave 14102<br>NF NY      |
| Michael CRAMER        | 3241 Woodland Ave 14304<br>NF NY      |
| James Myers           | 7526 Sunnydale Rd. NT, NY 14102       |
| Griffin Browning      | 42 Edgewood Ave, NF, NY 14304         |
| Leslie Browning       | 56 Edlicott Creek Rd 14150            |
| May Myers             | 402-82 <sup>nd</sup> St. NF NY 14304  |
| Peter Eodice          | 456-71 <sup>st</sup> NF NY 14304      |
| Jacqueline Eodice     | 456-71 <sup>st</sup> NF NY 14304      |
| Aurelanne Clarkson    | 8105 Frontier Ave NF 14304            |
| Carolyn Corp          | 3055 Shenk Rd, Saratoga, NY 14132     |
| + Susan Bertuzzi      | 208 Canal St NF NY 14304              |
| James Nicholas        | 403 8 <sup>th</sup> St. NF NY 14304   |
| Karen Dick            | 1243 93 <sup>rd</sup> St NY NY 14304  |
| Carlene Schwartz      | 2420 Tappan Rd NF NY 14304            |
| Archie Sciarano       | 8 Mason Dr. NF NY 14304               |
| Guttansen             | 6986 Jennifer Ct NF NY 14304          |
| Jacqueline Malinowski | 859 Foxwood Dr Lew. NY 14092          |
| James Malinowski      | 6877 Nickis Lane 14304                |
| Sara Osburn           | 83 Rosedale St. Buff NY 14207         |
| James Galkowski       | 42 Wolong St Buffalo NY 14210         |
| Liza Krolemon         | 349 Kaymar Dr. Amherst NY 14225       |
| Gloria Tracasse       | 552-25 <sup>th</sup> St. NY 14301     |
| Leandra Dashner       | 552-25 <sup>th</sup> St NY 14301      |
| Johnny Butterbaugh    | 310 Wolf Rd. Leico, NY 14127          |

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We need the Niagara Falls  
Air Base opening + serving  
this area for protection  
with our international  
border + the power  
plant.

06132005

Dear Chairman Principi and  
BRAC Commissioners:

I am deeply troubled by the  
Defense Department's recom-  
mendation to close Niagara  
Falls Air Reserve Station. This  
recommendation is a terrible  
mistake, and I urge the BRAC  
to reverse this decision and re-  
move the Niagara Falls Base  
from the list.

It is hard to understand why  
the Defense Department has  
decided to take planes, missions  
and jobs away from so many Air  
Guard and Air Reserve bases  
and put them on more costly ac-  
tive duty bases. Of all the bases  
to pick to close, how do you  
close the base whose unit  
helped rescue Jessica Lynch in  
Iraq, because they are the lead  
night vision C-130 unit in the  
Reserves? You must also recog-  
nize:

- The federal government  
has invested more than \$35 mil-  
lion in Niagara Falls since 1995  
in new facilities.

- Base Operations Support  
costs have been reduced more  
than 33 percent (to include a 25  
percent reduction in utilities) to  
make the base one of the most  
cost-efficient facilities in the Air  
Force Reserve Command.

- Closure of the base elimi-  
nates the ability to recruit and  
retain New Yorkers in a region  
in which the units have both  
maintained in excess of 100 per-  
cent manning rates.

- Niagara Falls existing in-  
frastructure can accommodate  
eight additional C-130H model  
aircraft without any military  
construction.

- Niagara Falls faces no  
physical encroachment nor air  
traffic control constraints and  
has acreage on the base and ad-  
jacent to the installation for ex-  
pansion.

I urge the Commission, in  
the strongest possible terms, to  
remove Niagara Falls Air re-  
serve Station from the Penta-  
gon's recommended list of base  
closures and to stop the con-  
tinuing retreat of the military  
from our region of the country.

2901 L. ...  
BRAC Commission  
N. Tom ... by 14120  
6/20/2005  
May 25, 2005

BRAC Commission  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs

I vehemently oppose the idea of minimizing in any way, the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. To remove a very strong military presence from Western New York is a mistake. <sup>The air base is vital.</sup> due to its extremely strategic position. Home of one of the amazing natural wonders of the world, harnessed by an equally amazing power plant, in close proximity to a densely populated region of the United States and Canada, next to a highly busy and successful international border ... all of that is here, in W.N.Y. The base needs to be here!

I understand one of the considerations is weather. Weather?! We scoff at the idea that weather holds us back. Does our military only work in mild weather? Of course not! So why would you not want people who have experienced and thrived

**BRAC Commission**

**Received**

6/20/2005  
T. J. Bowski  
86 Tyler Street  
Depew, NY 14043  
716-603-3207

BRAC Commission  
Washington D.C.  
C/o NIMAC; PO Box 231  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

Dear Commissioners:

The Pentagon has recommended to the BRAC that the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, New York be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with over 3,000 full and part-time workers, this would deliver yet another devastating blow to our region's economy. In addition to the financial concerns, the community pride for our past and present military contributions can not be understated.

The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossings between the U.S. and Canada, along with the New York State Power Authority's Hydropower Complex which supplies substantial power to the Northeast United States Power Grid. The size and location of the base would also allow it to be used for responses to natural disasters or terror attacks in the Northeast United States. While the base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable. It should be expanded rather than closed.

**According to the Niagara Military Affairs Council:**

- Closure of Niagara would reduce the Air Force presence in NY by 40%, and eliminate the *last* Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with \$35M in new facilities and lengthened runways which have improved the operational effectiveness of the wings.
- We have also reduced our Base Operations Support costs by not less than 33% (to include a 25% reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- 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.
- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate 8 additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.

**According to the Buffalo News article on May 25, 2005:**

Top Air Force officials relied on their "collective judgment" in deciding to recommend their Niagara Falls base for closure, disregarding military value rankings that showed Niagara outperforming several other bases slated to remain open. Air Force spokesman Douglas Karas said the Air Force's "mission compatibility index" was just one of the factors considered in the base-closure decisions. Asked why at least nine bases with airlift missions were slated to stay open when they had lower "MCI" scores than Niagara, Karas said the Base Closure Executive Group sometimes deviated from its own rating system. "There were cases in the analysis process where lower ranked bases were retained," Karas said. "In those cases, the Base Closure Executive Group used their collective judgment, that, when combined with the MCI scores, resulted in the retention of lower-ranked installations. This was true in Niagara's case."

A lobbyist for New York State on the issue, John M. Simmons, said the Air Force's response proves that the base-closure recommendations followed "a judgmental, and not an analytical, process." The Pentagon was supposed to judge each base primarily on its military value - yet in

**BRAC Commission  
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6/20/2005  
this case the Air Force bypassed the tool it created for judging military value. "The Air Force in their response acknowledge that they themselves ignored the results of a key analytical tool . . . created for the BRAC process," Simmons said. "They simply took the position that their judgment trumped the analysis."

Considering these facts and figures; I am writing to remind you, our elected representative, of your obligation to use all means necessary in order to persuade the BRAC to reconsider the recommendation to close the station. The fine men and women of the 914th Airlift Wing and the 107th Air Refueling Wing have been instrumental in securing the home front and fighting the war on terror overseas and these highly-decorated units have served their country and represented our State and local communities well.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this most important matter.

Sincerely,



Tom Paradowski



Infrastructure, buildings, environment, communications

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I am disappointed and upset by the Defense Department's recommendation to close Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base. This recommendation is not in the nation's best interest and the BRAC Commission should reverse this decision and remove Niagara Falls from the closure list.

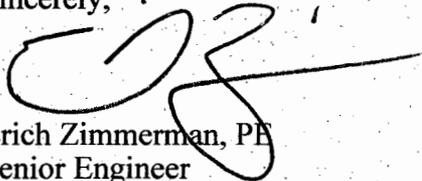
It is no secret that closing the base would have a devastating economic impact on our region: The base is Niagara County's second-largest employer with more than 3,000 full- and part-time military and civilians, and it has an estimated impact of \$150 million on regional businesses.

That said, it is also difficult to understand why the Air Force has decided to take planes, missions and jobs away from so many Air Guard and Air Reserve bases and put them on more costly Active Duty bases.

The media has reported that the military is facing significant challenges in recruiting during war time. As the only remaining major military installation in western New York, Niagara Falls has been key to military recruitment. The impact of this decision will be devastating to the New York Air National Guard and will make the Pentagon's efforts to recruit and retain military personnel even more difficult than it is now.

The Buffalo Niagara business community stands with the Niagara Falls/Western New York community in support of the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base, and its retention. Overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,



Erich Zimmerman, PE  
Senior Engineer

Part of a bigger picture

**BRAC Commission  
Received**  
6/20/2005

ARCADIS G&M, Inc.  
7288 Hayes Hollow Rd  
West Falls, NY 14170  
Tel 716 655 2409  
Fax 716 655 4307  
www.arcadis-us.com

Date:  
06 June 2005

Contact:  
Erich Zimmerman, PE

Phone: 716 655 2409

Email:  
ezimmerman@arcadis-  
us.com

**BRAC Commission  
Received**  
6/20/2005

June 3, 2005

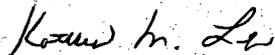
Base Realignment and Closure Commission (BRAC)  
c/o Niagara Military Affairs Council (NIMAC)  
PO Box 231  
Niagara Falls, New York 14304

To Whom It May Concern:

The recent BRAC announcement that the Niagara Falls Air Force Base may possibly be closed brings concern and sadness to everyone who cares about the Niagara Falls area, the people who live and work there and, most importantly, the military presence in the community along with the those who serve there. The numerous military and economic contributions made over the years through the Niagara Falls AFB have made our country safer and helped to enhance the economy of an area that has been economically deficient over the past 30 years. It goes without saying that the area can ill afford to lose more jobs. Our country should not be subjected to leaving another door open for terrorists by decreasing our defense options and handing them a perfect opportunity to destruct a vulnerable area. For the military attached to this base who are actively serving our country throughout the world at this time, the BRAC announcement must most certainly affect their morale and perhaps cause them to question why they are doing what they are doing if the people back home do not attach importance to their home base. Those men and women deserve tremendous gratitude and support for their sacrifices, and they deserve to know that they will return home to continued support at an active military facility that is recognized as such by our country.

As a former resident of Niagara Falls who lived in the Norfolk/Virginia Beach area for 20 years, where there is a heavy Navy, Army and Air Force presence, I definitely understand how important every branch of the military is and how magnificently those members serve the citizens of this country. While the Niagara Falls AFB is on a smaller scale, the importance is never the less the very same. Therefore, I respectfully request that my request to keep this important facility open be added to the many others who have voiced the same sentiments.

Sincerely,



Kathleen M. Len  
205 Catalpa Lane S.  
Pinehurst, NC 28374

**BRAC Commission**

**RECEIVED**

6/20/2005

1104 Michael Dr.  
Angola, NY 14006  
June 4, 2005

BRAC Commission  
Washington, DC

I am writing in support of our local Niagara Falls Air Force Base. I am requesting that you reconsider the closing of this base because of the profound effect such closing would have on the Western New York area. Please support efforts to keep the Niagara Falls Air Force Base open.

Sincerely,

*Eileen C. Hansen*

Eileen C. Hansen

**BRAC COMMISSION: WASHINGTON D.C**

HI, MY NAME IS JOHN SIMON AND I LIVE IN SLOAN N.Y. I'M  
WRITING YOU TO ASK IF YOU CAN PLEASE CONSIDER LEAVING  
THE NIA FALLS AIR BASE OPEN PLEASE. I'M A FATHER OF 2  
LITTLE GIRLS AND THEY BOTH LOVE THE ARMY PLANE'S. I  
TOOK MY DAUGHTER'S AND MY WIFE TO THE AIR SHOW LAST  
YEAR TO SEE THE BLUE ANGLES. IT RAINED THE FIRST DAY WE  
WENT SO THE ANGLES DIDN'T FLY, SO I TOOK THEM BACK THE  
NEXT DAY TO SEE THEM AND IT WAS TOO CLOUDY FOR THEM  
TO FLY AGAIN, BUT TO SEE THE LOOK ON MY DAUGHTER'S  
FACE'S WHEN I TOOK THEM IN THE PLANE'S AND THE  
PICTURE'S I TOOK, AND THE FUN THEY HAD THAT WEEKEND  
I CAN'T REPLACE. AS A FATHER OF 2 AND MARRIED, THE LITTLE  
THING'S IN LIFE MEAN A LOT TO PEOPLE LIKE MY FAMILY.  
SPENDING A WEEKEND AT THE AIR SHOW OR JUST SEEING THE  
PLANE'S PRACTICE LANDING ON DAY'S WE DON'T HAVE  
ANYTHING TO DO MEAN'S A LOT TO MY KID'S. THE LOOK IS  
PRICELESS. YOU HAVE KID'S TO SO YOU NO THAT LOOK.  
YOU DO ANYTHING TO SEE THAT LOOK AGAIN. SEEING THEM

**BRAC Commission**

**Received**

6/20/2005

**Debra J. Marley**  
**3750 DeVeaux Street**  
**Niagara Falls, NY 14305**

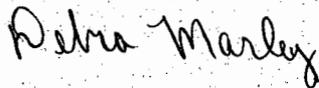
June 3, 2005

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

Dear Chairman Anthony J. Principi

I was upset by the Defense Department's recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard base. This recommendation is not in the nation's best interest and the BRAC commission should reverse this decision and remove them from the closure list. Please reconsider your decision.

Sincerely,



Debra J. Marley



# TOWN OF ORCHARD PARK

## TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

S 4295 South Buffalo Street Orchard Park, New York 14127-2609

Phone: (716) 662-6410  
Fax: (716) 662-6413  
Email: [optownclerk@orchardparkny.org](mailto:optownclerk@orchardparkny.org)

TOWN CLERK  
JANIS A. COLARUSSO

June 3, 2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I was upset by the Defense Department's recommendation to close Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base. This recommendation is a not in the nation's best interest and the BRAC Commission should reverse this decision and to remove Niagara Falls from the closure list.

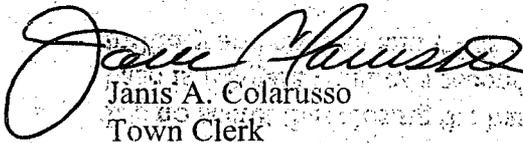
It's no secret that closing the base would have a devastating economic impact on our region. The base is Niagara County's second-largest employer with more than 3,000 full- and part-time military and civilian and it has an estimated impact of \$150 million on regional businesses.

That said, it is also difficult to understand why the Air Force has decided to take planes, missions and jobs away from so many Air Guard and Air Reserve bases and put them on more costly Active Duty bases.

The media has reported that the military is facing significant challenges in recruiting during war time. As the only remaining major military installation in western New York, Niagara Falls has been key to military recruitment. The impact of this decision will be devastating to the New York Air National Guard and will make the Pentagon's efforts to recruit and retain military personnel even more difficult than it is now.

The Buffalo Niagara business community stands with the Niagara Falls/Western New York community in support of the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base, and its retention. Overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely yours,



Janis A. Colarusso  
Town Clerk

cc: Town Board of the Town of Orchard Park

Visit the Town's website at [www.orchardparkny.org](http://www.orchardparkny.org)

**BRAC Commission**

**Received**

6/20/2005  
Gary and Elaine Daum

1968 Marshall Rd / Lyndonville, NY  
585-765-9682 14098

BRAC Commission  
Washington D.C.  
C/o NIMAC; PO Box 231  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

Dear Commissioners:

The Pentagon has recommended to the BRAC that the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, New York be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with over 3,000 full and part-time workers, this would deliver yet another devastating blow to our region's economy. In addition to the financial concerns, the community pride for our past and present military contributions can not be understated.

The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossings between the U.S. and Canada, along with the New York State Power Authority's Hydropower Complex which supplies substantial power to the Northeast United States Power Grid. The size and location of the base would also allow it to be used for responses to natural disasters or terror attacks in the Northeast United States. While the base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable. It should be expanded rather than closed.

**According to the Niagara Military Affairs Council:**

1. Closure of Niagara would reduce the Air Force presence in NY by 40%, and eliminate the *last* Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with \$35M in new facilities and lengthened runways which have improved the operational effectiveness of the wings.
2. We have also reduced our Base Operations Support costs by not less than 33% (to include 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 8 additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.

**According to the Buffalo News article on May 25, 2005:**

Top Air Force officials relied on their "collective judgment" in deciding to recommend their Niagara Falls base for closure, disregarding military value rankings that showed Niagara outperforming several other bases slated to remain open. Air Force spokesman Douglas Karas said the Air Force's "mission compatibility index" was just one of the factors considered in the base-closure decisions. Asked why at least nine bases with airlift missions were slated to stay open when they had lower "MCI" scores than Niagara, Karas said the Base Closure Executive Group sometimes deviated from its own rating system. "There were cases in the analysis process where lower ranked bases were retained," Karas said. "In those cases, the Base Closure Executive Group used their collective judgment, that, when combined with the MCI scores, resulted in the retention of lower-ranked installations. This was true in Niagara's case."

A lobbyist for New York State on the issue, John M. Simmons, said the Air Force's response proves that the base-closure recommendations followed "a judgmental, and not an analytical, process." The Pentagon was supposed to judge each base primarily on its military value - yet in this case the Air Force bypassed the tool it created for judging military value. "The Air Force in

**BRAC Commission**

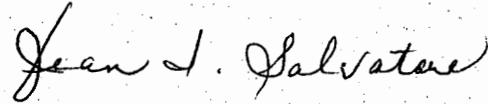
**RECEIVED**

6/20/2005

-2-

I urge the Commission, in the strongest possible terms, to remove Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station from the Pentagon's recommended list of base closures and to stop the continuing retreat of the military from our region of the country.

Very Respectfully,



Jean I. Salvatore

**BRAC Commission  
Received**

their response acknowledge that they themselves ignored the results of a key analysis . . . created for the BRAC process," Simmons said. "They simply took the position that their judgment trumped the analysis."

Considering these facts and figures; I am writing to remind you, our elected representative, of your obligation to use all means necessary in order to persuade the BRAC to reconsider the recommendation to close the station. The fine men and women of the 914th Airlift Wing and the 107th Air Refueling Wing have been instrumental in securing the home front and fighting the war on terror overseas and these highly-decorated units have served their country and represented our State and local communities well.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this most important matter.

Sincerely,

*Diane K Daum*  
(Signature)

Diane K Daum  
(Name)

**BRAC Commission  
Received**  
6/21/2005

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,

*Niedi von Kellinghausen*  
*Eric H. von Kellinghausen*

NORMA HIGGS  
MPO BOX 2132  
NIAGARA FALLS, NY 14302  
716 282-3599

RECEIVED

May 22, 2005

BRAC Commission  
Washington, D. C.

05272005

To Members of the BRAC Commission

I am writing this letter to state my support of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. My reasons are simply that we are, as residents of Niagara County and Western New York, in a strategic location and should be very concerned about homeland security issues.

We are located at an international border with four border crossing bridges to protect. We are located at the center of two of the largest power producing facilities in the United States and Canada. These facilities are responsible for power supply to a vast area throughout the north eastern corridor of both countries. Adjacent to this facility is a private university adding several students to our population during the academic year. We are located with three world class casino gaming establishments in our midst drawing thousands of attendees each day, which is a cause of concern for members of certain ethnic and religious backgrounds. We sit with large resources of chemical producing industries (although greatly downsized over the years) in the center of the City of Niagara Falls and other areas of Western New York. We are located with one of the most famous tourist attractions in the world at our door step which brings millions of visitors to this area every year with many of these visitors from foreign lands.

The above issues along with the economic impact of this base being the second largest employer in Niagara County has brought additional fears to this community. We look to our government for protection, both at the local police department level, the County Sheriff's Department and the New York State Police. But homeland security is a much larger and more unknown cause for worry among private citizens. A strong military presence in the midst of all of the risk factors stated above (and I am sure I missed many more) says a lot for the level of protection we have come to enjoy. Just hearing and seeing these military planes overhead brings a certain sense of trust in our government. The other side of the coin is that this presence is certainly a deterrent, warding off any possible threats to this area.

We are proud of the contributions the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station has made to this community over the years. They have taken an active role in our community from participation at our events to actually assisting in collecting roadside trash and other clean up and beautification efforts. They have served our country well in the course of their active duty around the world. They deserve stability as they continue to serve.

A loss of this base is a loss that cannot be measured in words but I hope you will take my effort in consideration as you review this list.

Sincerely,

*Norma Higgs*  
Norma Higgs

A concerned citizen and resident of Niagara Falls

RECEIVED

05272005

1845 Dodge Road  
East Amherst, New York 14051  
May 20, 2005

BRAC Commission  
Washington DC.  
c/o NIMAC  
P.O. Box 231  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

Re: Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

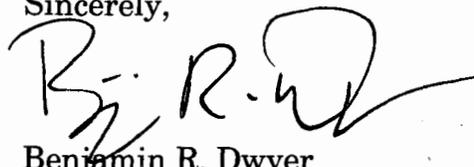
I write respectfully to express my support for the continued operation of the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base and to oppose the Defense Department's recommendation to close it. I respectfully urge you to remove the Niagara Falls base from the DOD's list of proposed closures.

In a time when the broadest possible support for the nation's armed forces and their missions is essential, the DOD's plan to consolidate bases and to remove them - mainly to the south and west - is counterproductive. Local support for the armed forces is strengthened by the knowledge that many of our neighbors are engaged in duty by their work on local bases. Removing such bases from our communities may result in erosion of such support.

The Niagara Falls base is especially worth saving. First, the federal government has invested more than \$35 million in Niagara Falls since 1995 in new facilities. Second, the Niagara Falls base is one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command. Third, Western New York regularly exceeds manning rates. Finally, Niagara Falls faces no physical encroachment nor air traffic control constraints and has acreage on the base and adjacent to the installation for expansion.

I urge the Commission in the strongest possible terms to remove Niagara Falls AFB from the Pentagon's recommended list of base closures and to stop the continuing retreat of the military from our region of the country.

Sincerely,



Benjamin R. Dwyer

**BRAC Commission  
Received  
6/20/2005**

7 June, 2005

BRAC Commission  
Washington, DC  
c/o NIMAC  
PO Box 231  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

Dear Chairman Principi & BRAC Commissioners:

I am deeply troubled by the Defense Department's recommendation to close Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. This recommendation is a terrible mistake, and I urge the BRAC to reverse this decision and remove the Niagara Falls base from the list.

It is hard to understand why the Defense Department has decided to take planes, missions, and jobs away from so many Air Guard and Air Reserve bases and put them on more costly active duty bases. Of all the bases to pick to close, how do you close the base whose unit helped rescue Jessica Lynch in Iraq, because they are the lead night vision C-130 unit in the Reserves? You must also recognize:

- The Federal Government has invested more than \$35 million in Niagara Falls since 1995 in new facilities, and is currently constructing a \$6.2 million Military Entrance Processing Station there to serve Western New York & Northwest Pennsylvania.
- Base Operations Support costs have been reduced more than 33 percent (to include a 25 percent reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- Closure of the base eliminates the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers in a region in which the units have both maintained in excess of 100 percent manning rates.
- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate eight additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.
- Niagara Falls faces no physical encroachment nor air traffic control constraints and has acreage on the base and adjacent to the installation for expansion.
- Placing the majority of the Air Forces C-130 planes at one base in Little Rock, AR does not appear to be a militarily strategic move. Have we forgotten the lessons learned at Pearl Harbor, HI?

**BRAC Commission**

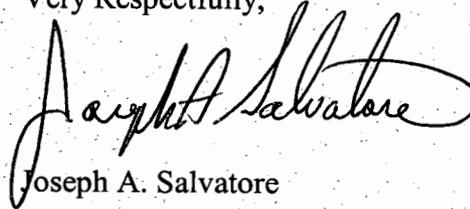
**Received**

6/20/2005

-2-

I urge the Commission, in the strongest possible terms, to remove Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station from the Pentagon's recommended list of base closures and to stop the continuing retreat of the military from our region of the country.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph A. Salvatore". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Joseph A. Salvatore

7 June, 2005

BRAC Commission  
Washington, DC  
c/o NIMAC  
PO Box 231  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

Dear Chairman Principi & BRAC Commissioners:

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**BRAC Commission**

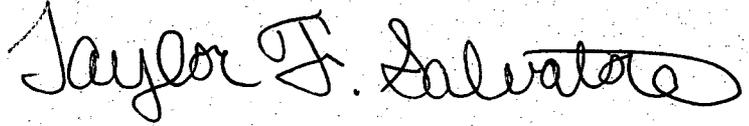
**RECEIVED**

6/20/2005

-2-

I urge the Commission, in the strongest possible terms, to remove Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station from the Pentagon's recommended list of base closures and to stop the continuing retreat of the military from our region of the country.

Very Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Taylor F. Salvatore". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Taylor F. Salvatore

June 17, 2005

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

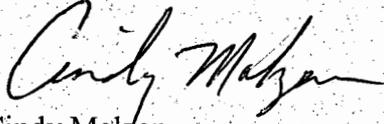
**BRAC Commission  
Received**  
6/21/2005

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I urge you not to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard base. We have been led to believe that this nation remains under threat and that our borders and national resources remain vulnerable. If this is true, then hopefully we have learned from our past at Pearl Harbor that it is unwise to keep such a large stock of needed jets and forces in one spot. What a target that would make! What a waste of reserves. The cost of such a move should include the cost to the surrounding community. Perhaps we would save federal dollars, but what about the cost in local dollars. Will the state or county replace these jobs locally? Does the federal government care about the impact on families, recruitment, safety?

Please overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,



Cindy Malzan  
236 Old French Road  
West Seneca, New York 14224

# HUDSON ADVISOR SERVICES, INC.

**BRAC Commission**  
237 MAIN STREET—SUITE 600  
BUFFALO, NY 14203  
(716) 852-7628  
6/20/2005 FAX: (716) 852-4591

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

June 6, 2005

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I was upset by the Defense Department's recommendation to close Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base. This recommendation is not in the nation's best interest and the BRAC Commission should reverse this decision and remove Niagara Falls from the closure list.

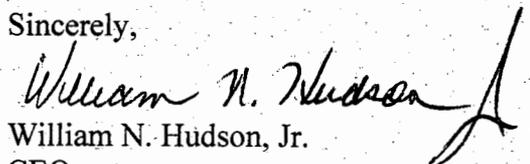
It's no secret that closing the base would have a devastating economic impact on our region: The base is Niagara County's second-largest employer with more than 3,000 full- and part-time military and civilian jobs and it has an estimated impact of \$150 million on regional businesses.

With that said, it is also difficult to understand why the Air Force has decided to take planes, missions and jobs away from so many Air Guard and Air reserve bases and put them on more costly Active Duty bases.

The media has reported that the military is facing significant challenges in recruiting during wartime. As the only remaining major military installation in western New York, Niagara Falls has been key to military recruitment. The impact of this decision will be devastating to the New York Air National Guard and will make the Pentagon's efforts to recruit and retain military personnel even more difficult than it is now.

The Buffalo Niagara business community stands with the Niagara Falls/Western New York community in support of the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base, and its retention. Overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,

  
William N. Hudson, Jr.  
CEO

---

INVESTMENT ADVISORY & FAMILY OFFICE SERVICES  
VERO BEACH, FL • GREENWICH, CT • NEW YORK, NY • SAN FRANCISCO, CA

22 Lynbrook Drive  
Tonawanda NY 14150  
June 17, 2005

RECEIVED

Chairman Anthony Principi  
Base Realignment and Closure Commission  
Suite 600  
2521 South Clark St.  
Arlington VA 22202

06212005

**RE: Niagara Falls, NY Airbase**

Dear Mr. Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I am writing not only to ask you to reconsider targeting our base in Niagara Falls, NY for closure but to ask you to expand it.

This is the only military base in Western NY and critical to armed forces recruitment as well as recruitment and retention of military personnel. It cannot be in the best interest of our national defense to close a base so close to the Canadian border and potential targets of strategic interest (i.e. NY Power Authority).

Over 30 young men and women from Western NY have given their lives in the recent Iraq and Afghanistan wars. As a testament to their service, please not only remove this base from the closure list, but enhance and expand it.

Sincerely,



Charles Siewert  
A concerned citizen from WNY

980 G Hopkins Rd.  
Williamsville, NY 14221  
May 27, 2005

BRAC Commission  
Washington, DC

06212005

RECEIVED

To Whom It May Concern;

I am Brig./Gen. James C. Cook NYANG (Ret.) having retired in 1987, and I am a former Commander of the 107<sup>th</sup> Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base at Niagara Falls, NY. I am writing your Commission regarding the closure of the Air Reserve Base at Niagara Falls and disbanding of the 107<sup>th</sup> ARW and the 914<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing.

I wonder if the Department of Defense and the U.S. Air Force realize the talent, expertise, and years of experience they are doing away with by this base closure. The 107<sup>th</sup> members were flying the F 100C at Niagara in 1968 when they were called to active duty by President Johnson to support the conflict in Vietnam. The unit deployed in June, 1968 and was assigned to the 31<sup>st</sup> TFW at Tuy Hoa Air Base in Vietnam. In a matter of a month and a half a majority of the wings, shops, and docks were supervised by the Master Sergeants of the Air National Guard. The wings staff realized in a short period of time what talent they had! The wings hospital was commanded by a Lt. Colonel flight surgeon from the Air National Guard. A sister AF Squadron the 308<sup>th</sup> TFS asked the wing if they could have Air National Guard pilots fly as instructor pilots to help lead newly assigned junior pilots on their first combat missions, this was approved. Again, the Air National Guard talent was used to help the 31<sup>st</sup> TFW perform it's combat mission.

The Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird in the 1970's instituted the Total Force Concept. The U.S. Air Force was the first to visualize the importance of this concept and immediately accepted this new doctrine and it has served the Air Force well for all these years. When the Air Force needs forces it has these experienced combat ready squadrons immediately available with little or no added training. Just look at the number of call ups of the Air National Guard squadrons and individuals in the last 5 - 10 years. This can do attitude is something I do not think we should ignore nor should we do away with these talented experienced combat forces. It should be noted that it is too bad the Army and Marines did not take the Total Force Concept as seriously as the Air Force.

A few years ago when the 107<sup>th</sup> received the tanker assignment it was not fully capable to perform the air refueling missions out of Niagara, the reason being the unit could not take off with a full load of internal fuel plus a full load of fuel for refueling. The Air Force spent millions of dollars to increase the length of the runway from 9,100 feet to 10,000 thereby allowing the unit to fully perform it's mission from Niagara Falls. In addition, more ground fuel storage tanks were installed plus a second fuel pumping station to allow the 107<sup>th</sup> to refuel it's own aircraft in the event the Air Reserves were not available. In 1986 I was in a flight of six F-4's that we ferried across the Atlantic to Germany. We took off from Selfridge Field in Michigan and rendezvoused over Albany, NY with a KC-10 tankers out of Shreveport, Louisiana. Albany, NY is on the main route going over Caribou, Maine to Gander, Newfoundland and on to Europe and the Middle

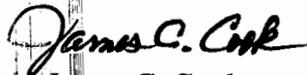
East. The KC-10 tanker home base was approximately 800 miles from Albany and to make a point the 107<sup>th</sup> is only a little under 200 miles away. The 107<sup>th</sup> KC-135R's are to be transferred to the Air National Guard Unit at Bangor Maine because its aircraft would have to be re-engined and modified to KC135R status. This lack of new tankers is a direct result of actions taken by the Secretary of the Air Force and a senior procurement officer to lease new tankers from Boeing Aircraft Company and the quid pro quo that took place benefiting the procurement officer. This resulted in Congress not authorizing the lease agreement and now the Air Force does not have the new tankers it was seeking.

A sister unit in New York is the 105<sup>th</sup> Airlift wing located at Stewart Field near Newberg New York. This unit is flying C-5 aircraft and has to fly from Stewart Field to Dover AFB Delaware to pick up cargo or troops and if carrying return cargo, must land at Dover and then return to Stewart Field. Is this cost effective? I think not! I have addressed primarily the 107<sup>th</sup> ARW, but the 914<sup>th</sup> has received its share of accolades through the years. I have been in close contact and worked with previous commanders of the 914<sup>th</sup> and found them to be proud of their accomplishments, especially its performance during Desert Storm, and Desert Shield. The Transfer of the 914<sup>th</sup>'s C-130 to Little Rock Arkansas and centrally locating a large number of aircraft at one base does not sound strategically effective; a lesson we learned on 7 December 1941. I believe the Little Rock AFB is located right in the middle of tornado alley causing concern for evacuation to protect these assets.

In closing I suspect that the Air National Guard and Air Force Reservists would not consider traveling long distances to fulfill the goal of a 20 year retirement. It is a tragedy to let these experienced backup forces go and leave an enormous void in the defense posture of the United States.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,



James C. Cook  
Brig./Gen NYANG (Ret.)

RECEIVED

05272005

5/19/05

BRAC Commission  
Re: NIAGARA FALLS AIR BASE

I AM WRITING IN AN EFFORT TO STOP THIS MADNESS! I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHY WE WOULD PUT ALL OUR DEFENSES IN ONLY 2 LOCATIONS WHAT'S TO STOP A MISSILE FROM WIPING OUT ALL OUR FORCES. THIS IS ANOTHER TRAGEDY WAITING TO HAPPEN WE'LL HAVE ANOTHER PEARL HARBOR. ISN'T PEARL HARBOR THE REASON WE SPREAD OUT OUR DEFENSES. WHY DON'T WE BRING OUR PEOPLE HOME AND LET IRAQ AND OTHER COUNTRIES DEAL W/ THEIR OWN CONFLICTS. WE DON'T BELONG THERE BUT WE ARE BECAUSE OUR PRESIDENT HAD TO FINISH A WAR HIS FATHER COULDN'T A WAR THAT WILL NEVER END. WE NEED TO CONCENTRATE ON OUR NATION THE MONEY BEING SPENT IN IRAQ COULD BE BETTER SPENT HERE PROTECTING US. OUR PLANES CAN BE DEPLOY'D ANY WHERE IN THE WORLD NO MATTER WHERE THEIR BASED. THE PEOPLE OF THIS NATION WILL MAKE THEIR VOICES ~~3~~ HEARD + VOTE EVERYONE OUT WHO CLOSED OUR BASE. DON'T YOU SEE OUR PRESIDENT LIED TO THE PEOPLE AND IS GETTING YOU TO DO THE DIRTY WORK.



**taylor devices inc.**

90 TAYLOR DRIVE  
P.O. BOX 748  
NORTH TONAWANDA, NEW YORK 14120-0748

TELEPHONE: (716) 694-0800  
6/12/2005 FAX: (716) 695-6015

COMPRESSIBLE MATERIAL DEVICES

May 26, 2005

BRAC Commission  
Washington, DC  
c/o NIMAC  
P.O. Box 231  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I am deeply troubled by the Defense Department's recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base. This recommendation is a terrible mistake and is not for the overall good of the Air Force or the DoD. I urge the BRAC Commission to reverse this decision and remove the Niagara Falls Base from the Base Closing List.

In the case of the Niagara Falls Base, the following must be considered as they constitute a high value added to Air Force capabilities:

- Homeland Security requirements are ever expanding on the U.S.-Canada border. Given the importance of the nearby 2500 megawatt Niagara Falls Hydro-Electric Power Plant and other local assets to U.S. National Security, the presence of the Niagara Falls Base serves as a strategic deterrent to our enemies.
- Niagara Falls faces no physical encroachment, aircraft size, or air traffic control constraints and has ample acreage for expansion both on the Base and adjacent to the installation.
- The Niagara Falls region is not subject to natural disasters such as hurricanes, floods, tornados, and earthquakes that periodically impede or shut down Base operations in other regions.
- The proven capabilities of the Base are at the highest possible level, with consistent on-time performance and zero mishaps.
- Base Operations Support costs at the Niagara Falls Base have been reduced more than 33% to make the Base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- Closure of the Base eliminates the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers in a region in which the units have maintained in excess of 100% manning rates.
- Niagara Falls' existing infrastructure can accommodate eight (8) additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.

I urge the BRAC Commission, in the strongest possible terms, to remove the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base from the Pentagon's Base Closing List. The facts speak for themselves.

Sincerely,

TAYLOR DEVICES, INC.

  
Douglas P. Taylor  
President

**Jim Snell**

**Received**

**From:** carol houwaart-diez [ch-diez@unitedwayniag.org]

6/12/2005

**Sent:** Tuesday, May 24, 2005 10:25 AM

**To:** Angelo Tecchio; 'Annemarie C. Bettino (E-mail)'; 'Cheryl McInerney'; 'Connie Brown'; 'Diane Quarantello'; 'Donna Kuna (E-mail)'; dshubsda@acnc.org; edtango2002@yahoo.com; Fran Isaacs; 'Gary Butler (E-mail)'; Jim Snell; Joe Mineo; 'John Kinner (E-mail)'; 'Ken Sass'; 'Mary Ann Oliver'; Mary Jane Beilein; 'Myrna Young'; 'William Garrett'

**Subject:** Need your help

Hello All,

As you all are aware, the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station is on the BRAC closure list. As a member of the Niagara Military Affairs Council, we need your help.

We need to get 1,000 letters of disapproval signed by Tuesday to get to BRAC Commissioners. Attached is the template letter. Can you make copies and ask your staff to sign these and get them back to you so that we can pick them up or direct them to nimac.org and do the letter electronically.

This issue is so important to this area.

Please help!

<<...>>

*Carol*

Carol G. Houwaart-Diez  
President  
United Way of Niagara  
345 Third Street  
Suite 570  
Niagara Falls, NY 14303  
716-285-8461 ext. 109

**what matters.™**

5/24/2005

Received

6/12/2005

June 1, 2005

BRAC Commission  
Washington, DC

Re: Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station

Dear Sirs:

The economic impact of closure of Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station cannot and has not been overstated. The personnel stationed and training there are the best our military service could ask for. Unfortunately, if it is closed very few Western New York men and women will choose to enlist and carry on the military capacity this area has exhibited and our country needs.

The units stationed at Niagara Falls have proven their worth in the multiple assignments they have completed in the war against terrorism in Afghanistan and Iraq. Many of the personnel are reservists who will not find it either advantageous or possible to continue their service if their units are transferred to Arkansas and Maine.

The Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station is the northern portion of Niagara Falls Airport. It has a 9800 foot runway that accommodates the largest aircraft the USAF has. And they have all landed here for both training or for show.

We in Niagara County are accustomed to seeing and hearing the transport planes and air refueling planes fly overhead. It is part of their training and currency to fly the skies over us so they are proficient and safe air personnel. We like to see them and hear them overhead. Our county provides a superior training atmosphere because no one complains about the aircraft overhead. The enclosed sectional shows the MOA training area over Lake Ontario and accommodating air space over Niagara County that provides the superior location for their training. I doubt that Arkansas or Maine can duplicate the kind of air space, weather accommodation, citizen support and local morale that is provided here in Niagara Falls, Niagara County, New York State. Our service people deserve to be able to train here, to live here, to support our economic climate, and most importantly, be so welcome here. Do not transfer the units or close the base, please.

Sincerely,



Doralyn Marshall  
240 Waterman Street  
Lockport, NY 14094



12,500' MSL SEE TORONTO VIA CHART

**VFR AIRSPACE RESTRICTIONS**  
No VFR flight within Class B Airspace is permitted above 2,500' MSL, or MEA, whichever is higher, to any ATIS. For additional details see appropriate Canadian publications.

**SPECIAL NOTICE**  
SPECIAL AIR TRAFFIC RULES (PART 93) IN EFFECT BELOW 3500' MSL IN THE NIAGARA FALLS AREA. SEE AIRPORT/FACILITY DIRECTORY FOR RECOMMENDED VFR FLIGHT PROCEDURES AND RESTRICTIONS.

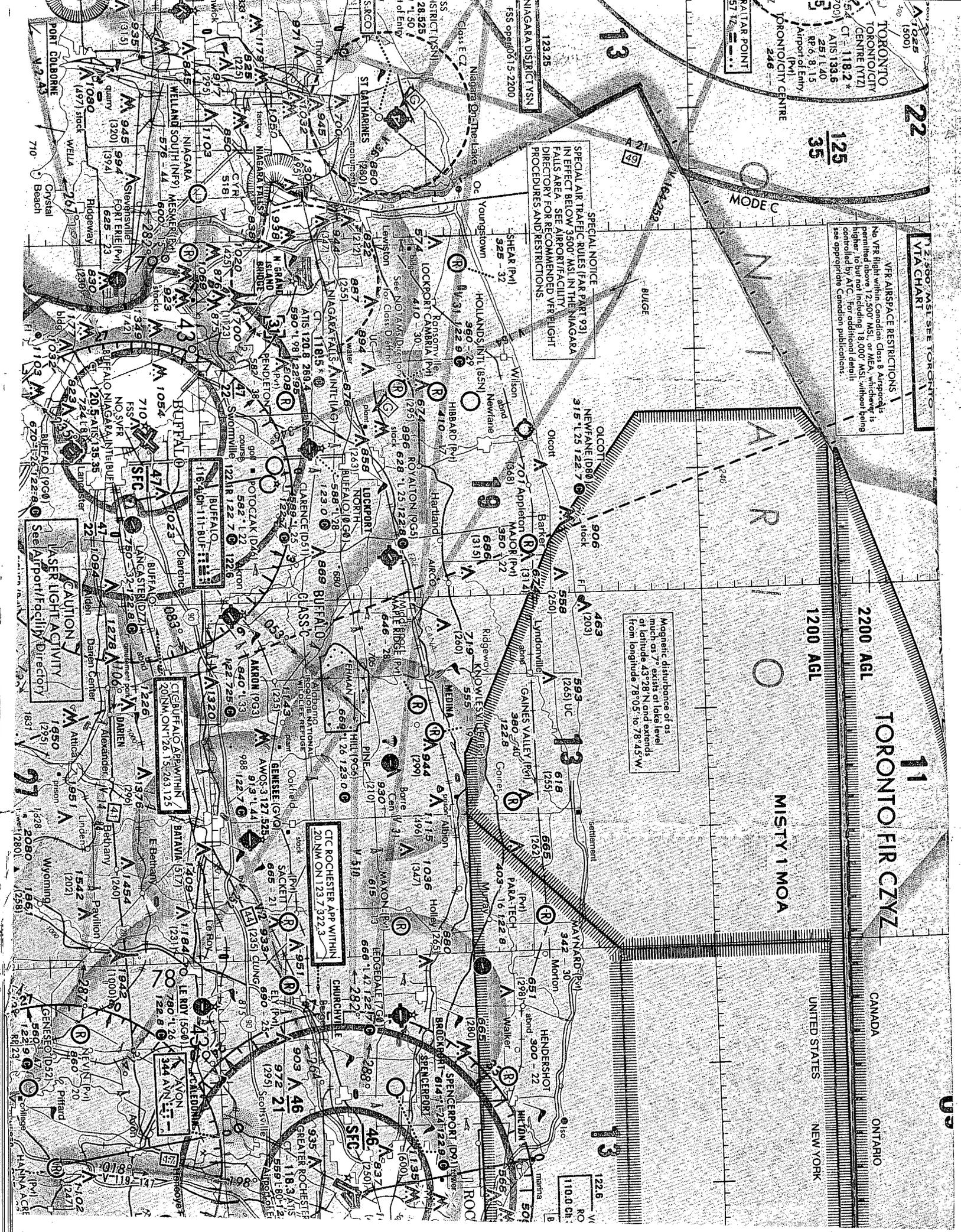
Magnetic disturbance of as much as 7° exists at lake level of latitude 43°28' N and extends from longitude 78°05' to 78°45' W.

# 11 TORONTO FIR CZYZ

2200 AGL  
1200 AGL

MISTY 1 MOA

CANADA  
ONTARIO  
UNITED STATES  
NEW YORK



**From:** (Nicholas M Bilotta Sr)  
**Date:** 05/25/05 17:13:48  
**To:** info@nimac.org  
**Subject:** Niagara Air Base Petition

**Received**

6/12/2005

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by  
Nicholas M Bilotta Sr () on Wednesday, May 25, 2005 at 17:13:46

---

platform: We oppose the Department of Defense recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Base

address1: 48 Meadow lane

city: Tonawanda

state: New York

zip: 14223

comments: Closing Niagara Falls AFB would be a great mistake for a number of reasons. This is a depressed area already and taking jobs from the Guard and Reserves not to mention the economic impact in Western NY would be crippling, not to forget the recruitment problem the Military is having this will just add to it. These two units at Niagara in my opinion are the Best of the Best and I would put them up against any one or any mission and they will prevail!

submit: Submit Petition

---

5/26/2005

403 Main St., Suite 430  
Buffalo, NY 14203  
(716) 856-3300 / fax (716) 856-2524  
www.lumsden CPA.com

**BRAC Commission**  
**Received**   
Lumsden & McCormick, LLP  
Certified Public Accountants

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base serves as an integral line of defense against those forces willing and able to harm the United States of America. Its close proximity to three major border crossings with Canada, two fresh water lakes and the Niagara Power Project make this base a critical element of homeland protection. Closing this base will provide an opening to terrorists who are constantly searching for an easier way to harm our citizens and our natural resources.

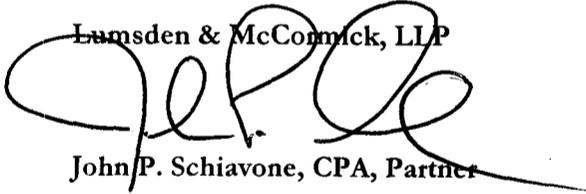
The world and the ways wars are fought are changing. It is essential the United States react to these changes by re-aligning its resources to better protect our country. It seems that closing a military base that borders an international crossing and important national resources is counter-productive to this goal. Both fresh water lakes, Erie and Ontario, provide valuable water to the area. The Niagara Power Project helps keep New York City running.

In addition to its proximity to these essential resources, the Niagara Falls Air Force Base Reserve provides valuable training and support to our forces stationed in Iraq and Afghanistan. This base provided men and women who helped rescue Jessica Lynch in Iraq as the lead night vision C-130 unit.

Please reconsider the Pentagon's recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Base Reserve. It is in the best interest of the defense of the United States of America that this base remains open and active.

Sincerely,

Lumsden & McCormick, LLP

  
John P. Schiavone, CPA, Partner

May 26, 2005

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

ATTN: CHAIRMAN ANTHONY J. PRINCIPI

I would like to voice my opinion on why the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station home of the 914<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing and 107<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing should not be on the BRAC list of base closures. As a reservist of the 914<sup>th</sup> I believe you will take the time to read this letter. Actually, I am going to state some true facts of how I feel and many of the 914<sup>th</sup>, starting with the most important.

Did you know that the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station is located near the border of Canada/Niagara Falls where homeland security is an issue? There is the Erie County Water Authority and Niagara Power Plant in the vicinity. What would happen in case of a terrorist attack on these facilities, with no military base in the area? The 914<sup>th</sup>, 107<sup>th</sup>, and Niagara Army Reserve 865<sup>th</sup> Combat Support Hospital would be gone, who in the area would respond if we were no longer there? That would be a critical issue.

Niagara's recruiters made their quota every month on bringing in new Airman? Recruiting would definitely decrease for the Air Force Reserves and Air National Guard if our base closed. There would be no local base and the fact that the new Airman would have to travel long distances to their drill site would discourage them from joining.

Now to the other points; traveling to a different state to do drills would be costly with the rise in gas prices and tolls. I believe Pittsburgh and Ohio would be our choices and they are about 4-6 hours away from Niagara Falls and Buffalo, NY. Lets put this into perspective, figure a person who works a 9-5pm shift at their civilian job, they would have to leave from work to get to their drill sight at which they would arrive at 1-2am and have to start their drill weekend at 7:30am. Talk about lack of sleep and alertness. Then after the Sunday drill they pack up and head home and drive after working a long day, then have to be at their regular job by 9am. Suppose there was a specific check-in time for lodging that would mean leaving our civilian job early (which would mean a loss in pay) on a Friday to arrive on time for check-in. Would that be fair to our employers? Or if that wasn't the case, leaving in the middle of the night to arrive at our drill site by 7:30am for drill. What about those who are less fortunate and don't have a reliable

**BRAC Commission  
Received**

6/13/2005

vehicle to travel? Or those who lease vehicles, their mileage would sky-rocket and you know what that means at the end of their lease \$\$\$ for extra mileage put on the vehicle.

What about the married couples who are both reservists and have children and no family members locally to watch the children while they travel to a different state to do their weekend drill? Or those who have pets and don't trust or have the money to board them somewhere?

There are also the civilians who are employed at the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station to consider, some are also reservists too. They will have to relocate, sell their homes to keep their job & military career? Or maybe just forget it and leave the military all together. I know a few and one is my best friend! How is that for morale?

What if we were to travel to our drill site by plane "Awesome" but, the expense of the airfare would be a costly out of pocket expense on us. If it were to be reimbursable...the paperwork!! It would be a big mess, and very expensive (ex: 2,581 reservists + x \$150.00 approx. for a ticket to Pittsburgh or Ohio = \$\$\$\$) and it is supposed to be saving money closing our base?

We at Niagara are a family, splitting us up wouldn't do much for morale of the 914<sup>th</sup>. You have to see it in the eyes of the reservists at Niagara, and the above arguments I posted. Would it be worth a homeland security risk, 4-6 hours of travel especially during our stormy winter months...isn't it safety first (lack of sleep driving to & from drills after a long weekend), the cost of gas & tolls, morale, friendships, and family!!! Please consider seriously the facts I have stated and remove the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station from the BRAC list. It would be an honor to all of us.

Thank you for taking the time to read my letter & God Bless America.

Regards,



Ssgt Mrzyglod, Valerie A.

**Received**

6/12/2005

**From:** Bradley, Pat J.  
**Date:** 05/27/05 09:57:54  
**To:** All Staff at NFMCC; Alliance; Capital Campaign Cabinet  
**Subject:** BRAC Commission: Niagara Falls Air Base

As you know, the Niagara Military Affairs Council ([www.nimac.org](http://www.nimac.org)) is spearheading a drive to convince BRAC – the Base Realignment and Closure Commission – to take the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base off the Pentagon's list of proposed base closings.

Although the BRAC's decisions are expected focus on the local base's tactical and strategic military capabilities, it is essential that Western New Yorkers clearly and visibly demonstrate their support for the base and the units stationed there. The base is Niagara County's second-largest employer; its closure would deal a devastating blow to the local economy.

To demonstrate that support, NIMAC is calling upon the community to send letters protesting the base's proposed closure to the Base Realignment and Closure Commission.

Please address letters to the BRAC Commission, Washington DC. All letters should be mailed to NIMAC P.O. Box 231, Niagara Falls New York 14304-0231. (If you want to save on postage, send them to me via inter-office mail and I will deliver them.)

Following are suggestions of points to be made in letters to the BRAC Commission:

1. Closure of Niagara would reduce the Air Force presence in NY by 40%, and eliminate the last Federal Air Force flying mission in the State.
2. Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with \$35M in new facilities and lengthened runways which have improved the operational effectiveness of the wings. We have also reduced our Base Operations Support costs by not less than 33% (to include 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 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.

Two sample letters are attached for your convenience. Thank you for your support of this important community effort.

***Patrick J. Bradley, Public Relations Manager***  
Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center  
621 Tenth St.  
Niagara Falls, NY 14302  
(716) 278-4569

5/27/05

**Received**

6/12/2005

The Niagara Falls Air Base is the number one employer in the Niagara Area. With the change in the Western New York environment from an industrial-based employment community to a more service-oriented area, the closing of this Base will have a devastating effect on the local economy. This area has suffered more than its share with the loss of jobs from industry and cannot afford one more financial hit.

The Niagara Area has four International bridges for automotive travel within the radius of 25 miles.

- 1) Peace Bridge, Buffalo, New York
- 2) Rainbow Bridge, Niagara Falls, New York
- 3) Whirlpool Bridge, Niagara Falls, New York
- 4) Lewiston-Queenston Bridge, Niagara Falls, New York

Also, there is a railroad crossing at the Whirlpool bridge.

Lake Erie, the Niagara River and Lake Ontario all border Canada. The Niagara Power Plant is located on the Niagara River and supplies power to many states. The Niagara Falls Air Reserve can provide security to this vast area of open borders along with the many other responsibilities they have.

Please inform our local political leaders to do everything they can to keep the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base located in Niagara County open.

Sincerely,

Mary L. Bax

4831 Lewiston Road

Niagara Falls, NY 14305

**SMITH, SPERANZA, FOLTZ & MAY, LLP**

R. JOSEPH FOLTZ  
RICHARD F. MAY

ATTORNEYS AT LAW  
131 EAST AVENUE  
P.O. BOX 540  
LOCKPORT, NY 14095-0540

FRED J. SMITH (1922-1999)  
RICHARD H. SPERANZA (1939-1996)  
JOSEPH SPERANZA (1906-1973)

Legal Assistants:  
Edna M. Dibley  
Brenda J. Chaffee  
Denise Gustin

Phone: (716) 433-5921  
Fax: (716) 439-5941

June 10, 2005



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

RE: Niagara Falls Airbase – National Guard Refueling Wing and Air Reserve Airlift Wing

To Chairman Principi and All BRAC Commissioners:

Based on my knowledge of the Department of Defense ("DOD") ratings for the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base, and further based on my concerns involving the importance of this base both in terms of homeland protection and in projection of air power and support, I am both troubled and confused by DOD's recommendation to close this base. Moreover, it is troubling that much of the information on which DOD based its decision has not been made available to parties in interest, including the New York congressmen and senators; in addition, based on my reading of published reports, the New York State's Adjutant General for the National Guard was not briefed by DOD in the course of its studies leading up to the recommendation to close this base.

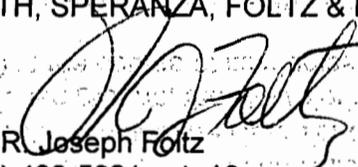
I was never a member of the military; however, I question the advisability of centralizing our defenses, in particular the centralization of airlift in the state of Missouri. In any event, I am confident that the commissioners, given their military background, will thoroughly review this questionable DOD recommendation. Centralization of forces, in my view, increases the probability of a catastrophic terrorist strike on our defense facilities.

I am sure you are receiving numerous correspondence pointing out the negative impact of the proposed closure on recruitment and retention of our reserve and guard components.

In summary, the recommendation on the Niagara Falls Air Base, as is the case with several of the other military bases, defies military and defense logic and should be thoroughly reviewed and modified by the commission. Accordingly, I respectfully request that, after due study, your commission overturn DOD's recommendation and maintain – if fact, expand – the military functions at the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base.

Very truly yours,

SMITH, SPERANZA, FOLTZ & MAY, LLP

By:   
R. Joseph Foltz  
(716) 433-5921 ext. 16  
RJF/dg

c: Honorable Thomas M. Reynolds, Congressman  
Honorable Louise M. Slaughter, Congresswoman  
Ms. Jennifer Overholt, Executive Assistant, Niagara Military Affairs Council

Newfane High School  
1 Panther Drive  
Newfane NY, 14108

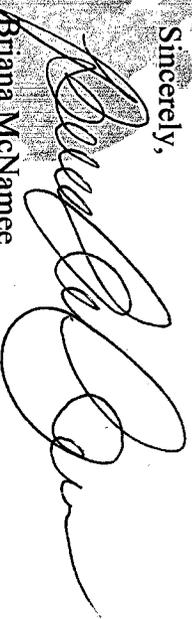
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06162005

June 9, 2005

Chairman Anthony J Principe  
Base Realignment and Closure Commission:

You are making a tremendous mistake closing the Niagara base. The closure of the Niagara Falls facility would result in the loss of 800 full-time jobs. The base is both headquarters for an Air Force Reserve unit that flies cargo planes and an Air National Guard unit that flies tankers for refueling. I understand the Pentagon's proposal to close 33 major bases is nationwide, including the Air Force Reserve facility in Niagara Falls, but we need this site. If you close the base, it is initially causing our government more debt. An amazing 11,200 letters have been sent in from all ages across WNY supporting the protection of the base. Please reconsider your vote against our county's closure. I thank you for you time, and the consideration.

Sincerely,



Briana McNamee  
Newfane High School Student

RECEIVED

6/8/05

This is an Addendum: I also feel that with the base being here in the USA and also close to Canada that it's in the best interest for both at this time of WAR that this base stay open! There are to many crossings of BORDERS to our countries & power plants that maybe in danger to be possible targets for TERRORISTS at this place in time. We're living in some very uncertain times.

Thank You,



(A Concerned Citizen)

58 Carmel Rd.  
Buffalo, NY 14214

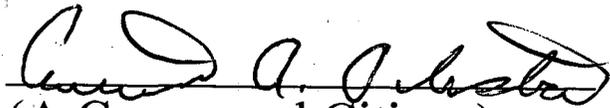
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 RECEIVED

6/8/05

This is an Addendum: I also feel that with the base being here in the USA and also close to Canada that it's in the best interest for both at this time of WAR that this base stay open! There are to many crossings of BORDERS to our countries & power plants that maybe in danger to be possible targets for TERRORISTS at this place in time. We're living in some very uncertain times.

Thank You,

  
(A Concerned Citizen)

58 Carmel rd.  
Buffalo, NY 14214

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**ST. TIMOTHY'S CHURCH**

565 East Park Drive  
Tonawanda, New York 14150

07092005



RECEIVED

July 6, 2005

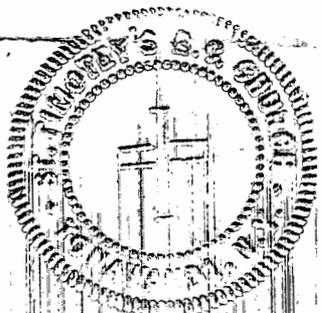
Base Closure Commission  
Mr Anthony Principe, Chair

Dear Sir,

Please recommend that the  
Niagara Falls Air Base remain open.  
It is important for our defense and  
economy.

Thank you.

Monsignor John Deette  
Pastor  
Chaplain of the Port of Buffalo



# NIAGARA COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM, INC.

1521 Main Street, Niagara Falls, New York 14305-2521 716/ 285-9681 Fax 716/ 285-9693  
E-mail niagaracap@prodigy.net

*Serving Niagara County*



May 24, 2005

RECEIVED

05272005

BRAC Commission  
Washington, DC  
C/O NIMAC  
Post Office Box 231  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

This letter is being written in support for keeping the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base open. Please note that:

- The federal government has invested more than \$35 million in Niagara Falls since 1995 in new facilities.
- Base Operations Support costs have been reduced more than 33% (to include a 25% reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- Closure of the base eliminates the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers in a region in which the units have both maintained in excess of 100% manning rates.
- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate eight (8) additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.
- Niagara Falls faces no physical encroachment nor air traffic control constraints and has acreage on the base and adjacent to the installation for expansion.

I urge the Commission, in the strongest possible terms, to remove the Niagara Falls AFB from the Pentagon's recommended list of base closures.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Shears  
Executive Director

SS/mk

#### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Gerald Meal  
Chairperson

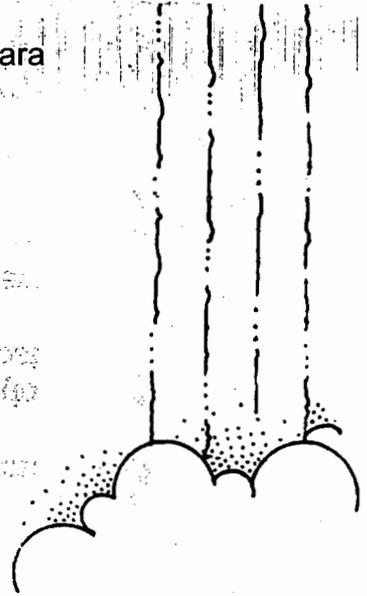
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Dennis Stachera  
James Ward

Suzanne Shears  
Executive Director



May 22, 2005

TO: Base Alignment and Closure Commission

FROM: August Cenkner Jr.  
6982 Creekview Drive  
Pendleton, NY  
Lockport P.O. 14094

RECEIVED

SUBJECT: **Pearl Harbor Lessons for Base Realignment**

05272005

I would like to comment on a recent news article that presented reasons why the Niagara Falls Air Base should not be closed. Unfortunately, the article did not discuss one of the most important reasons.

The current plan is to move all the cargo planes from Niagara Falls, and other bases, to a huge cargo-plane-air-base in Arkansas. All the Air Forces' cargo planes would therefore be congregated in one location.

I guess the lesson from the successful sneak attack on Pearl Harbor, in 1941, has been forgotten already. The U.S.A. assembled most of the fleet in one location – for reasons similar to the ones being given for creating a huge cargo-plane-air-base; they succeeded in creating a single target, that was too tempting to resist. We know what the result was.

The secret to survival is to create numerous targets, not a single key target, that terrorists may not be able to resist. Incapacitating a single huge cargo-plane-air-base or a single huge refueling-plane-air-base would cripple the ability of the Air Force to re-supply and transport troops – much to the delight of foreign adversaries.

If our troops have to fight, lets make sure the country can keep them as safe as we can and that they have all the supplies and support they need to survive.

August Cenkner Jr.



May 25, 2005  
06132005

Patrick G. MacDiarmid, Jr.  
pmacjr@chek.com

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Pentagon has recommended the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, New York be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with nearly 3,000 full and part-time workers, this would deliver another devastating blow to our region's economy.

The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossings between the U.S. and Canada. Recent analysis has shown that one border crossing in particular, The Peace Bridge, is the most heavily traveled corridor between the United States and Canada. Due to this high volume it is essential that we have elements in place to defend it from terrorism. A strong local military presence is essential in deterring these threats. Furthermore, the New York State Power Authority's Hydropower complex which harnesses the waters of the Niagara and supplies substantial power to the Northeast United States Grid is located within very close proximity to this base. Not to mention the base's proximity to Niagara Falls, a major tourist destination for travelers across the globe.

While the base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable to allow the addition of a fighter squadron to further secure America's northern border and power grid infrastructure. It should be expanded rather than closed.

According to the Niagara Military Affairs Council:

- Closure of Niagara would reduce the Air Force presence in NY by **40%**, and eliminate the last Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with **\$35M** in new facilities and lengthened runways which have improved the operational effectiveness of the wings.
- We have also reduced our Base Operations Support costs by not less than **33%** (to include a **25%** reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the ***most cost-efficient*** facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- 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.
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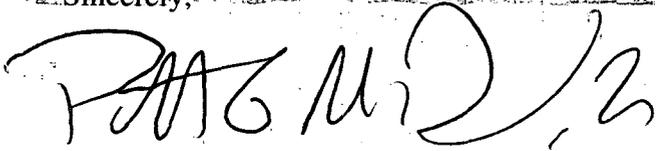
I humbly request that you *strongly reconsider* the decision to close the station. The fine men and women of the **107th Air Refueling Wing** and **914th Airlift Wing** have been instrumental in securing the homefront and fighting the war on terror overseas.

On a more personal note, I have been directly involved with an essential community service project provided by the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station for the last ten years to Western New York high school students. I am writing about the Niagara County Traffic Safety Fair. This program blends elements of local police agencies, represented in large scale by the Niagara County Sheriff's Department and the New York State Troopers, the New York State Department of Transportation, CSX railroads, various local fire and rescue departments and Calspan Corporation to educate thousands of high school juniors and seniors of the dangers of irresponsible driving behaviors at an essential time for the students, just prior to proms and graduation. The Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station and its wonderful personnel and support staff are essential to this program that has expanded each year since its inception. As a representative of Calspan Corporation, I have had the pleasure of working with all of these agencies to provide my insights as an automotive safety engineer helping students learn the benefits of proper safety belt use. In addition to these hangar demonstrations, we also perform a vehicle to vehicle impact demonstration to show students the consequences that can result from driving under the influence and not using vehicle restraints. Without the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station this program would not succeed.

The economic impacts of closing the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station would be devastating to this community. Not only for the loss of many great men and women of the United States Air Force, but also to the businesses and charitable organizations in the surrounding community. The base is directly responsible for the survival of organizations that wouldn't otherwise exist. In addition, a base closure would dramatically affect the businesses that rely on the Niagara Falls airport for their survival. Without the military traffic the airport could become economically unviable resulting in the closure of businesses not directly related to the military installation and the loss of more jobs resulting in an even greater efflux of people from our community. This directly affects my company as we have just completed work on a \$10 million dollar hanger that operates at this airport.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this very important matter.

Sincerely,



Patrick G. MacDiarmid, Jr.  
157 Los Robles Street  
Williamsville, NY 14221  
716-632-0511



Dr. Conor T. McLennan  
2618 Shadagee Road  
Eden, New York 14057  
716.984.9759

BRAC Commission  
Washington D.C.  
C/o NIMAC; PO Box 231  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

Dear Commissioners:

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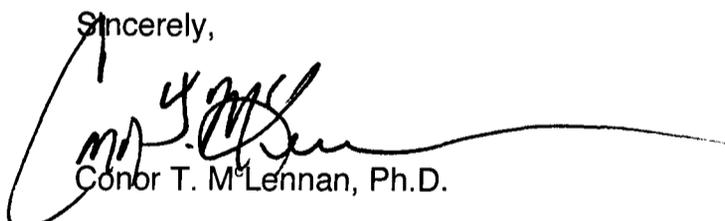
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A lobbyist for New York State on the issue, John M. Simmons, said the Air Force's response proves that the base-closure recommendations followed "a judgmental, and not an analytical, process." The Pentagon was supposed to judge each base primarily on its military value - yet in this case the Air Force bypassed the tool it created for judging military value. "The Air Force in their response acknowledge that they themselves ignored the results of a key analytical tool . . . created for the BRAC process," Simmons said. "They simply took the position that their judgment trumped the analysis."

Considering these facts and figures; I am writing to remind you, our elected representative, of your obligation to use all means necessary in order to persuade the BRAC to reconsider the recommendation to close the station. The fine men and women of the 914th Airlift Wing and the 107th Air Refueling Wing have been instrumental in securing the home front and fighting the war on terror overseas and these highly-decorated units have served their country and represented our State and local communities well.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this most important matter.

Sincerely,



Conor T. McLennan, Ph.D.

BRAC Commission

Name Dave Donnelly  
Address 429 Englewood Ave  
Kenmore NY  
Phone # 716 833-7253

JUL 13 2005

Received

BRAC Commission  
Washington D.C.  
C/o NIMAC; PO Box 231  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

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BRAC Commission

JUL 13 2005

Received

Name Peg Stewart  
Address 44 Bonnett Ave  
Tonawanda  
NY 14150  
Phone # 873-5366

BRAC Commission  
Washington D.C.  
C/o NIMAC; PO Box 231  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

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BRAC Commission

JUL 13 2005

Received

Name Donna Bartkowski  
Address 51 Coreentree Road  
Tonawanda  
NY 14150  
Phone # (692) 9274

BRAC Commission  
Washington D.C.  
C/o NIMAC; PO Box 231  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

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BRAC Commission

JUL 13 2005

Received

Name Robert Baitkowski  
Address 51 Greentree Rd  
Tonawanda NY  
14150  
Phone # 716-692-9274

BRAC Commission  
Washington D.C.  
C/o NIMAC; PO Box 231  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

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BRAC Commission

JUL 13 2005

Received

Name SUSAN STARR  
Address 75 LISA ANN LN  
West Seneca, NY  
14224  
Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

BRAC Commission  
Washington D.C.  
C/o NIMAC; PO Box 231  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

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BRAC Commission

JUL 13 2005

Received

Name Vincent Donnelly  
Address 429 Englewood Ave  
Kenmore NY 14223  
Phone # 716 833-7255

BRAC Commission  
Washington D.C.  
C/o NIMAC; PO Box 231  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

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Tuesday, June 14, 2005

 RECEIVED

Committee Chairman, Mr. Anthony Principe  
BRAC Commission  
Washington, D.C.  
C/O Niagara Military Affairs Council  
P.O. Box 231  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

50028290

Mr. Cornelius Canavan  
Alterra Sterling House of Niagara  
6741 Nash Road  
North Tonawanda, NY 14120

Re: *Maintaining Full Operations at the Niagara Falls NY Air Base*

Dear Committee Chairman Mr. Anthony Principe;

We, the Residents, Friends and Family, many of whom are dedicated veterans of the United States military who reside at Alterra Sterling House of Niagara in North Tonawanda, NY wish to express our sincere desire to maintain full operations at the Niagara Falls NY Air Base due to security purposes, continued training of our troops as well as economic reasons.

The Pentagon has recommended the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, New York be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with nearly 3,000 full and part-time workers, this would deliver another devastating blow to our region's economy.

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Thank you for your time and consideration on this very important matter.

Respectfully yours,

1 Cornelius Conover  
 2 Tony A. Ruffolo  
 3 Robert Munk  
 4 Eshlin Dombert  
 5 May O'Sullivan  
 6 Carmella Liggio  
 7 Robert Wright  
 8 Joseph W. O'Neil  
 9 Lee Forth  
 10 Munzir El-Chekali  
 11 Martha Schuyler  
 12 Janet Barchay  
 13 Ismael El-Chekali  
 14 Anna L. Bagdy

---

- 15 Fred H. Weeks
- 16 Mary Catherine Weeks
- 17 Penny Reidenfrost
- 18 Maria Pechovich
- 19 Debbie Oliver
- 20 Ashley Heffern
- 21 Marc A. Centur
- 22 Ruth E. Centur
- 23 Joshua D. Centur
- 24 Hannah L. Centur
- 25 Jane C. Cahalin
- 26 S. Lynn [unclear]
- 27 Melinda Grayson
- 28 Grace Blaine
- 29 Jan Brauer
- 30 Richard C. Wasson
- 31 W. Cameron
- 32 Mary A. Colosi
- 33 Amy Oliver
- 34 Margaret J. Jones
- 35 Richard Miller
- 36 Miller, Nital
- 37 Robert McMaster
- 38 Rose Paulini
- 39 Victor P. Richard
- 40 Arthur Caggiano
- 41 Ellen C. Montana
- 42 Donna Dick
- 43 L. H. [unclear]

- 44 Loane Weaver
  - 45 Opalee Carlisle
  - 46 Elizabeth Vee Hegew
  - 47 Marta MacArthur
  - 48 Judith C. Gabe
  - 49 Carol Davidson
  - 50 Mrs. Inghard
  - 51 Vicki Kent
  - 52 Susan Kanaton
  - 53 W. M. Carson
  - 54 Eric McLeod
  - 55 Rose Anderson
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May 25, 2005

BRAC Commission  
Washington, DC.  
c/o NIMAC  
P.O. Box 231  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

RECEIVED  
06282005

Dear Chairman Principi,

Please don't close the Niagara Falls Airforce Reserve base. It is very important not to close the base because if you do many jobs will be lost. Including two of the fathers in our class. If you do those two children will have to move away because their fathers will have to switch to another station of classmate.

Another reason you shouldn't close the Niagara Falls Airforce Reserve base because you are the base that helped rescue Jessica Lynch. You risked your lives just to save her and you succeeded. You saved her life. Your base also is the leading Night Vision C-130 in the Reserve. Please, I urge you to keep this base open!

Yours Truly,  
Zim Potfara

May 25 2005

RECEIVED  
06282005

BRAC Commission  
Washington, D.C.  
% NIMAC  
PO Box 231  
Niagra Falls N.Y. 14304

Dear Chairman principi

please Don't Close the Niagra  
Falls Air Force Reserve Base because  
alot of kids dads work there and if  
you close it they will be mad.

And if you close it it would  
Not Be safe Because we would all  
be crunched up at another air  
force.

So please Don't close

Sincerely  
Anthony  
Stecum

RECEIVED  
06282005

May 25, 2005

BRAC Commission  
Washington, D.C.  
%o Nimrac  
P.O. Box 231  
Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

Dear Chairman Pricipi

Please don't close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve base because it would be unsafe because terrorist could set a bomb on Niagara Falls and would wipe out all the power. Many jobs will be lost. If you don't close the Air base there's room to add eight more 130-H model planes. Please don't close the Air base.

Yours truly,  
Derrick

RECEIVED  
06282005

May 25, 2005

BPAC Commission

Washington, D.C.

c/o NiMAC

P.O. BOX 231

Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

Dear Chairman Principi

I don't think it would be fair to close the  
Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve base. Because there  
would be a lot of job lost for many men and  
women. This air force is very important to me  
because this air force helped save Jessica  
Lynch.

This base is very important. Most people  
will have to get new jobs and some people might  
even have to move. And 35 million dollars would go  
to waste. I want to go to bed and know that  
I am safe. When ever I think about you closing  
the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve base I  
think about how many peoples lives are  
getting risked.

I want to know why just tell me why  
you are even thinking about closing the air  
force. Why did you choose ours to close down  
in the first place. I just want to know  
why you choose ours. Why?

And there still would be a lot of more room  
to even add 8 more 130-H model planes.  
You could probably even put in 10, MABBY  
even if you never know just please please  
DON'T close our air force.

And please there is no air traffic  
control rules here we all love it you  
can't you just can't tear it down please  
we are all counting on you. Just please  
Don't tear it down.

Yours truly  
Gina Marillo

Dear

RECEIVED

06282005

May 25, 2005

BRAC Commission  
Washington, DC  
c/o Nimac  
PO, Box 231  
Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

Dear Chairman Principi,

I don't think it would be safe to close  
The Niagara Air force base. I don't think it  
would be safe because the whole east coast  
is unsafe they could drop an atomic bomb and  
they would win. Two of my friend fathers  
work at the air force base and if you close it  
they had to move. Just for heaven sake please keep it  
open. And the Air force base saved Jessica Lyneil.  
And they just spend a lot of money. And it will  
be away if you close it down.  
They saved Jessica Lyneil by the air force base  
And they used your plans and night vision.

yours Truly,

Stephen  
Schalz

RECEIVED  
06282005

BRAC Commission

May 25, 2005

Washington, D.C.

To RDMAC

P.O. Box 231

Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

Dear Chairman Principi,

Please don't close Niagara Fall Air Force Reserve base. It is unfair and unsafe. It definitely not be done.

One reason is, alot of people will lose their jobs and have to move, like two kids in my class's fathers work for the air force. Also the Base helped save Jessica Lynch. Plus, they are the leading Night Vision C-130. It is very important and keeps us safe. Please I urge you to keep this base open.

Sincerely,  
Michaela D. Corrado <sup>Mead</sup>



RECEIVED

06282005

May 25, 2005

Brac Commission  
Washington Dc.  
c/o Nimac  
P.O Box 231  
Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

Dear Chairman Principi,

Please don't close Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve base. It is a good Air Force that protects us. Also if you close it many many jobs will be lost including two of my classmates' fathers. It's also important that the base is still there because without it you wouldn't of saved Jessica Lynch. Also my friend's dad helped fill the night vision plane the C-130 who helped save Jessica Lynch. There is also a lot of room to put 8 more 130-H model planes. Please do not close the Niagara Falls Air force base.

Sincerely,

Lorenzo Zaccaria



RECEIVED

06282005

May/25/05

Brac Commission  
Washington, DC.  
% Nimac  
P.O. Box 231  
Niagara Falls N.Y. 14304

Dear Chairman Principi

Please don't close the Niagara Falls air force Reserve base. The reason why I do not want you to close is because you protect our country. Many jobs will be lost. Why did you pick this base to close instead of one of the other ones. Please do not close our base.

Your's truly  
Samartha

Mead

RECEIVED  
06282005

May 25<sup>th</sup> 2005

Mike  
BRAC Commission  
Washington DC.  
% NTMAC  
P.O. Box 231  
Niagra Falls, N.Y. 14304

Dear Chairman Principi,

We all know that our base is one of the ten largest bases in this country. But why close yours? I to you - it close it my father Joseph A. Giordano will lose his job. I have friends, family and I have friends, family and my life here. If you close it I move. Please, with all my heart I beg you.

Your's truly, Michael Giordano.

403 Main St., Suite 430  
Buffalo, NY 14203  
(716) 856-3300 / fax (716) 856-2524  
www.lumsden CPA.com

BRAC Commission

Received



Lumsden & McCormick, LLP  
Certified Public Accountants

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base serves as an integral line of defense against those forces willing and able to harm the United States of America. Its close proximity to three major border crossings with Canada, two fresh water lakes and the Niagara Power Project make this base a critical element of homeland protection. Closing this base will provide an opening to terrorists who are constantly searching for an easier way to harm our citizens and our natural resources.

The world and the ways wars are fought are changing. It is essential the United States react to these changes by re-aligning its resources to better protect our country. It seems that closing a military base that borders an international crossing and important national resources is counter-productive to this goal. Both fresh water lakes, Erie and Ontario, provide valuable water to the area. The Niagara Power Project helps keep New York City running.

**In addition to its proximity to these essential resources, the Niagara Falls Air Force Base Reserve provides valuable training and support to our forces stationed in Iraq and Afghanistan. This base provided men and women who helped rescue Jessica Lynch in Iraq as the lead night vision C-130 unit.**

Please reconsider the Pentagon's recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Base Reserve. It is in the best interest of the defense of the United States of America that this base remain open and active.

Sincerely,

Kristin M. Anderson, CPA  
Lumsden & McCormick, LLP

MAY 27 2005

BRAC Commission  
RECEIVED 2005

6/14/2005

PH-JS

86 Slate Creek Dr. #2  
Buffalo, NY 14227

May 24, 2005

BRAC Commission/Washington, DC  
c/o NIMAC  
PO Box 231  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I urgently request reexamination of closing the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base. The government likes to say, "guns don't kill people, people kill people." Well, planes do not perform the missions and duties this Base performs - it is the leadership and training of a "well-regulated force" who protect our borders, and other countries where they serve.

Aside from loss of planes and jobs, the security of our nation is being held in the balance. When in high school in the 1940s, I went with the Red Cross delivering coffee and donuts to this base. From their service in World War II, up to their role in the Gulf War and the present engagement, they have always been in the front of the battle.

OUR SECURITY as a nation will be severely compromised if this base leaves. As a border city - close relations with Canada are vital.

1. There are two power plants, one on each side of the border.
2. The Niagara Falls airport is an international facility, requiring ability to respond quickly.
3. There are three (3) international bridges in close proximity to the base. The closest crossing to the West, is at Windsor, Ont./Detroit, MI, and to the East - at Ogdensburg (1000 Islands), NY. At the base's present location, guarding of these strategic routes can be maintained almost instantly.
4. And then, the greatest treasure of all - Niagara Falls. What if harm was done to this wonder??? The force of the water alone, would do tremendous damage especially to life, but everything in its path as far as Buffalo.

It is only common sense to retain and maintain this exceptional facility in this location. It should be the first thought for national security for New York State and surrounding areas easily accessible to this base.

One more thought: There is a serious decline in military recruits. NOW, move this base staffed by Air Force Reserves, whose homes and jobs are closeby (contributing to the financial welfare of the area). Consider how this would cut the enlistment of those who have already served in the Air Force, and strongly desire continuing AS THE HEROES THEY ARE.

I trust you will truly consider the ramifications of failure to have this large area of the country secure with their presence.

Sincerely,

*Ruth Harvey*

Ruth Harvey

cc: Representatives  
*Jack Quinn*  
*Tom Reynolds*  
*Louise Slaughter*

WGRZ-TVZ

*Thank you for fighting  
for so many issues that  
affect our lives -  
Ruth*

**BRAC Commission**

**Received**

6/14/2005

May 25, 2005

**HOMELAND SECURITY - KEEP NIAGARA FALLS BASE OPEN**

Since being made aware that the lead night vision C-130 unit in the reserves helped rescue Jessica Lynch in Iraq, I happened to watch "Extreme Makeover - Home Edition" on local TV. Jessica contacted them about her comrade, Lori Ann Piestewa, who lost her life there.

It was deeply touching to feel how much she meant (like a daughter) to the Piestewa family, American Indians. Mr. and Mrs. Piestewa have assumed care of Lori's son and daughter. They lived humbly in a mobile home which was in urgent need of repair. Home Edition crew, along with Jessica, built a new home including Indian culture guidelines. They also used Indian ways to do the planting around the home. As work progressed, they talked with two veterans who were "Code Talkers" in World War II, whose ingenuity allowed our country to correspond with units in an unbreakable code.

Not only did they build the home for the family, but their sponsors provided appliances, clothing, and other essentials, for the whole village. Then, after talking with veterans of several wars, the crew found there was no place for the veterans to meet. Since time was of the essence, they assembled a modular building, completely furnished to accommodate them. Extra crew and towns people pitched in to accomplish this miraculous gift.

They went in to change lives of such deserving people, and came out changed themselves. The family who lost their daughter, and mother, other war-time survivors, and, Jessica - for being such a loving, caring HERO after her ordeal in Iraq.

AND, AT THE END - that without the Niagara Falls Base's Air Guard and Reserves, All this might not have happened. Thank you for all the years of guarding your homeland, and the other side of the world. I pray this base will continue to be our guardians.



Ruth Harvey  
86 Slate Creek Dr. #2  
Buffalo, NY 14227

Phone: (716)668-4451; e-mail: [ruthharvey@verizon.net](mailto:ruthharvey@verizon.net)

06162005

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



Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I am deeply concerned and troubled by the Defense Department's recommendation to close Niagara Falls International Air Reserve Station. I feel this recommendation is a terrible mistake and goes against all sound military judgment, and does not take into consideration current and future needs of the Defense Department and Homeland Security. I urge you and your fellow BRAC Commissioners to reverse this decision and remove them from the list.

I find it hard to understand and justify in my mind why the Air Force decided to close this base, take planes, missions and jobs from a base that ranks higher than other bases that are being kept open and, according to the Air Forces' own statistics, have a lower efficiency, higher utilities, lower manpower utilization and retention rates. The facts and figures of the cost analysis just don't justify the alleged projected savings for closure and therefore are very suspect. I also question why so many Air Reserve and Air Guard jobs, planes, and bases are being eliminated/transferred to a more costly active Air Force Base which is a thousand miles away and located in "tornado alley" and must have millions of dollars spent to accommodate these newly assigned aircraft and personnel. I feel that we might be hiding something from the public, is it similar to the old cannibalization program that was outlawed many years ago? Are we taking Air Reserve/Guard aircraft and personnel and transferring them to the active forces because Air Force/DOD does not want or have the money to replace active Air Force aircraft or personnel due to poor judgment or lack of money? Are we robbing from Peter to pay Paul? I cannot understand how a "judgment call" can outweigh the facts, the figures and the better ratings. The crews from Niagara helped in the rescue of PFC Jessica Lynch in Iraq because they are the lead night vision qualified C-130 Hercules units in the Air Force Reserve.

The Niagara air station is a relatively new station and has constantly removed and added buildings as the mission changed. Runways and taxi aprons are in immaculate condition. The main runway is the longest in the area, if not the state, and much of this runway and apron upgrading has been done without Defense Department monies. Niagara's combination of long main runway and adjacent shorter runway provide ideal training for C-130 aircrews. Niagara should be a prime candidate for expansion and increased mission requirements under the Department of Defense and Homeland Security Agency. Niagara could accommodate the Boeing C-17 Globemaster III aircraft, which has a similar mission but longer runway requirements and can carry heavier loads. This addition would enhance the potential of Niagara and the Air Force mission while staying closely related to what is already at Niagara. The retention of Niagara would support the additional mission of transporting the Army's 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division at Fort Drum, New York in a rapid response force for global missions.

While the Niagara serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically located and fully expandable to allow the addition of a fighter/helicopter squadron and a contingent of military police or rapid response force personnel to further secure America's northern border and northeast power grid infrastructure. Niagara lies in close proximity to four major border crossings between the United States and Canada. It has the New York State Power Authority's Hydropower and the Canadian Hydro complex, which harnesses the waters of the mighty Niagara River and supplies substantial power to the Northeast United States Power Grid, and has numerous chemical-processing facilities, which are of great importance to the United States economy. Niagara has also been chosen to be the home of the new joint service Military Entrance Processing Station that is presently under construction on the base to process new applicants into the United States Armed Forces. Niagara should be expanded rather than closed.

We are an international border city located in a geographical area that enables aircrews to cover a great part of the United States and Canada without fear of severe weather, such as tornados, hurricanes, drought and flooding. We have snow in the winter; fortunately our geographical location shields us from much of the snow and severe weather received in other parts of the state.

According to the Niagara Military Affairs Council:

- Closure of Niagara would reduce the Air Force presence in NY by 40%, and eliminate the last Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with \$35M in new facilities and lengthened runways and aprons, which have improved the operational effectiveness of the wings.
- We have also reduced our Base Operations Support costs by not less than 33% (to include a 25% reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- 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. These units have distinguished themselves and the United States Air Force in the performance of their duty while in Afghanistan and Iraq with no additional time needed for training. In short, "Our planes keep flying."
- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate 8 additional C-130H model aircraft and personnel without any military construction.
- Niagara Falls faces no physical encroachment or air traffic control constraints and has acreage on the base and adjacent to the installation for expansion.

I request that you strongly reconsider the decision to close this station. We are extremely proud of the fine men and women of the 107th Air Refueling Wing and 914th Airlift Wing and they have been instrumental in securing the home front and fighting the War on Terror. These young men and women are serving alongside their active duty Air Force counterparts. They are facing the same dangers as their brother and sister airmen. Our local "Citizen Soldiers and Airmen" and active duty military have paid an enormous price for our freedom in this War on Terror. We have lost 19 brave young "Citizen Soldiers" and active military people from this area because of the War on Terror; we owe to their memory more than "lip service". We claim them, their families and their fellow military as our neighbors. Rather than close this base and send our Western New Yorkers' to the corners of the United States, we should expand Niagara, increase the mission, and provide the necessary men, women, structures and equipment to support that increased military mission and support for Homeland security. I would also humbly ask if someone could explain and justify to me why we are sending everything south and west, and putting "all our eggs in one basket", does not the rest of the country count?

Thank you for your time and your consideration on what I consider to be a very important national matter. This is not a unilateral matter affecting just the Air Reserve/Air Guard station, but also one of saving a military installation that is an integral part of doing the most to effectively utilize our Air Reserve/Air Guard forces to support active military forces in times when rapid responses, and extended deployments are required for our National Defense, Homeland Security and the Department of Air Force.

Sincerely,

Donald E. Harris  
United States Army Retired

**BRAC Commission**  
**Received**  
6/20/2005

BRAC Commission  
Washington DC  
C/o Niagara Military Affairs Council  
P.O. Box 231  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

Jill Waz  
6657 Royal Parkway South  
Lockport, NY 14094

Dear Sirs:

It is unwise and unfair to close Niagara Falls Air Force Base.

- Niagara Falls Air Base is reassuring to a community who borders Canada, the great lakes and our fresh water supply, is home to many chemical plants, and Niagara Falls a world wonder and the major power supplier for the East Coast, which could be targets of terrorists.
- The Niagara Falls Air Force Base has been underutilized and has a tremendous amount of community support.
- The runway is long enough for the largest planes, C-5's, B-52's, F-16's etc. At 9,825 feet it's long enough to land anything that flies.
- The C-130 planes are more newly equipped than other bases and are very well maintained by full time ART staff and reservists.
- The Service people at Niagara Falls Base have been activated and effectively utilized for a great number of missions in its 50 year history. Closing the base and eliminating jobs is poor treatment for those who have sacrificed for our country.
- Niagara Falls Air Base has an illustrious history in aviation since the 1940's. Here the first helicopter and supersonic plane took flight.
- The Niagara Falls Air force Base is the second largest employer in Niagara County; and its closure would be devastating to the local and regional economy, which is already in a troubled state.
- It is unwise in the midst of the threat of terrorism, illegal border crossings, and a war overseas with no end in sight.

Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base must not be closed.

*Jill Waz*

6/20/2005

BRAC Commission  
Washington DC  
C/o Niagara Military Affairs Council  
P.O. Box 231  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

Jill Waz  
6657 Royal Parkway South  
Lockport, NY 14094

Dear Sirs:

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- The runway is long enough for the largest planes, C-5's, B-52's, F-16's etc. At 9,825 feet it's long enough to land anything that flies.
- The C-130 planes are more newly equipped than other bases and are very well maintained by full time ART staff and reservists.
- The Service people at Niagara Falls Base have been activated and effectively utilized for a great number of missions in its 50 year history. Closing the base and eliminating jobs is poor treatment for those who have sacrificed for our country.
- Niagara Falls Air Base has an illustrious history in aviation since the 1940's. Here the first helicopter and supersonic plane took flight.
- The Niagara Falls Air force Base is the second largest employer in Niagara County; and its closure would be devastating to the local and regional economy, which is already in a troubled state.
- It is unwise in the midst of the threat of terrorism, illegal border crossings, and a war overseas with no end in sight.

Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base must not be closed.

*Jill Waz*

**BRAC Commission  
Received**

6/20/2005

Dear Sir or Madam:

The Pentagon has recommended the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, New York be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with nearly 3,000 full and part-time workers, this would deliver another devastating blow to our region's economy.

The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossings between the U.S. and Canada, along with the New York State Power Authority's Hydropower complex which harnesses the waters of the Niagara and supplies substantial power to the Northeast United States Grid.

While the base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable to allow the addition of a fighter squadron to further secure America's northern border and power grid infrastructure. It should be expanded rather than closed.

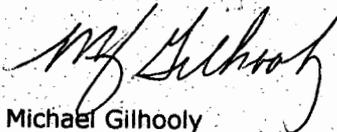
According to the Niagara Military Affairs Council:

- Closure of Niagara would reduce the Air Force presence in NY by **40%**, and eliminate the last Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with **\$35M** in new facilities and lengthened runways which have improved the operational effectiveness of the wings.
- We have also reduced our Base Operations Support costs by not less than **33%** (to include a **25%** reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the **most cost-efficient** facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- 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.
- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate **8 additional C-130H model aircraft** without any military construction.
- Niagara Falls faces **no physical encroachment or air traffic control constraints** and has acreage on the base and adjacent to the installation for expansion.

I humbly request that you **strongly reconsider** the decision to close the station. The fine men and women of the **107th Air Refueling Wing** and **914th Airlift Wing** have been instrumental in securing the home front and fighting the war on terror overseas.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this very important matter.

Sincerely,

  
Michael Gilhooly

- DATES 6-6-2005

37 Empire St.

Buffalo NY 14212

716-896-2135

Belinda Clark  
2 Woodruff Street  
Cuba, NY 14727

BRAC Commission  
Washington D.C.  
C/o NIMAC, PO Box 231  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

June 6, 2005

Dear Commissioners:

The Pentagon has recommended to the BRAC that the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, New York be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with over 3,000 full and part-time workers, this would deliver yet another devastating blow to our region's economy. In addition to the financial concerns, the community pride for our past and present military contributions can not be understated.

The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossings between the U.S. and Canada, along with the New York State Power Authority's Hydropower Complex which supplies substantial power to the Northeast United States Power Grid. The size and location of the base would also allow it to be used for responses to natural disasters or terror attacks in the Northeast United States. While the base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable. It should be expanded rather than closed.

**According to the Niagara Military Affairs Council:**

- Closure of Niagara would reduce the Air Force presence in NY by 40%, and eliminate the *last* Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with \$35M in new facilities and lengthened runways which have improved the operational effectiveness of the wings.
- We have also reduced our Base Operations Support costs by not less than 33% (to include a 25% reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- 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.
- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate 8 additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.

**According to the Buffalo News article on May 25, 2005:**

Top Air Force officials relied on their "collective judgment" in deciding to recommend their Niagara Falls base for closure, disregarding military value rankings that showed Niagara outperforming several other bases slated to remain open. Air Force spokesman Douglas Karas said the Air Force's "mission compatibility index" was just one of the factors considered in the base-closure decisions. Asked why at least nine bases with airlift missions were slated to stay open when they had lower "MCI" scores than Niagara, Karas said the Base Closure Executive Group sometimes deviated from its own rating system. "There were cases in the analysis process where lower ranked bases were retained," Karas said. "In those cases, the Base Closure Executive Group used their collective judgment, that, when combined with the MCI scores, resulted in the retention of lower-ranked installations. This was true in Niagara's case."

Chairman Anthony J. Principi <sup>Colafas</sup>  
Base Realignment + Closure Com  
2521 South Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the students at  
CSM, we are writing this letter out  
of concern. Our concern is that the  
Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and  
Guard Base may be closed. The base provides  
many jobs in western New York and also  
gives us a feeling of security. We thank  
the military for allowing us to live in  
a free country.

A Concerned Citizen,  
Jody Salmeri

Chairman Anthony J. Principi  
Base Realignment + Closure Com  
2521 South  
Suite 60  
Arlington, Va 22202

Dear Chairman Principi:

On behalf of the students  
at CSAT we are writing  
this letter out of concern.  
Our concern is that the  
Viagra Falls Air Force  
Reserve at Guard Base  
may be closed the base  
provides many jobs in western  
New York and also gives us  
a feeling of security. We thank  
the military for allowing us  
to live in a free County  
& a concerned citizen  
Gabriel Freeman

6/2/05

Chairman Anthony J. Principi  
Base Realignment + Closure Com.  
2521 South Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington Va. 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the students at CSAT,  
we are writing this letter out of concern.  
Our concern is that the Niagara Falls Air  
Force Reserve and Guard Base ~~is~~ <sup>may be</sup> ~~being~~ ~~to~~ ~~be~~  
closed. The base provides many jobs in western  
New York and also gives us a feeling of  
security. We thank the Military for allowing  
us to live in a free country.

A Concerned Citizen,

Thomas Voit

d. Thomas Voit

Charman Anthony J. Principi  
Base Realignment + Closure Com  
2521 South Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, va. 22202

Date 6/2/65

Dear Charman Principi:

On the behalf of the student of  
CAST, we are writing this letter  
out of concern. Are concern is  
that the Niagara Falls Air base Force  
Reserve and Guard base maybe closed.  
The base provides many jobs in western  
New York and also gives us a feeling  
of security - we thanks the military  
for allowing us to live in a free country.  
A Concerned Citizen

Bobby Epolito

6/2/05

Chairman Anthony J. Principe  
Base Realignment + Closure  
2521 South Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, VA. 22202

Dear Chairman Principe,

On behalf of the Students at  
C.S.A.T. we are writing this letter out of  
concern. Our concern is that the Niagra  
Falls Air Force might close. The base  
provides many jobs in Western New York and  
also gives us a feeling of security we thank  
the military for allowing us to live in a free  
Country.

A Concerned Citizen,  
~~Melissa Gloss~~  
Melissa Gloss

June 2, 2005

Chairman Anthony J. Principi  
Base Realignment + Closure Com.  
2521 South Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, Va. 22202

Dear Chairman Principi

On behalf of the students of CSAT, we are writing this letter out of concern. Our concern is that the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base may be closed. The base provides many jobs in Western New York and also gives us a feeling of security. We thank the military for allowing us to live in a free country.

A Concerned Citizen  
Nicholas Staro  
Nicholas Star

6-2-05

Chairman Anthony J. Principi  
Base Realignment + Closure Com.  
2521 South Clark street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, Va. 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the students of CSAI,  
we are writing this letter out of concern.  
Our concerns are that the Niagara Falls  
Air Force Reserve and Guard Base  
may be closed. The base provides many  
jobs in Western New York and also  
gives us feeling of security. We thank  
the military for allowing us to live  
in a free country.

A concerned Citizen  
Michelle Hoover

6/2/05

Chairman Anthony J. Principi Base Realignment +  
Closure Com 2520 South Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, Va. 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the student at C.S.A.T,  
we are writing this letter out of concern.  
One concern is that the Niagara Falls  
Air Force Reserve and Ground Base may  
be closed.

The base provides many jobs in  
Western New York, and also gives us feelings  
of security. We thank the military for  
allowing us to live in a free country.

A concerned Citizen.  
Dexter Hunt

June 2, 2005

Chairman Anthony J. Principi  
Base Realignment + Closure Com  
2521 South Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, Va. 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,  
On behalf of the students of CSAT, we  
are writing this letter out of concern.  
Our concern is that the Niagara Falls Air  
Force Reserve and Guard Base "maybe"  
closed. The Base provides many jobs in  
Western New York and also gives us a  
feeling of security we thank the military  
for allowing us to live in a free country

A Concerned Citizen  
Kierra McClerkin  
Kierra McClerkin

6/2/05

Chairman Anthony J. Principi  
Base Realignment + Closure Com.  
2521 South Clark Street  
Suite 200  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chair Principi

On behalf of the students at C.S.A.T,  
we are writing a letter of concern. Our concern  
is that the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and  
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many jobs in Western New York and also gives  
us a feeling of security. We thank the military  
for allowing us to live in a free country.

A concerned citizen,  
Fabrae Hellams  
Fabrae Hellams

Chairman Anthony J. Principi  
Base Realignment + Closure com  
2521 South Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, Va. 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the students at  
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may be closed. The base provides  
many jobs in western New York and  
also gives us a feeling of  
security. We thank the military  
for allowing us to live for a  
free country.

A concerned citizen,  
Brendan Lee

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

Dear Chairman Principi

On behalf of the students at  
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The base provides many jobs in Western  
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allowing us to live in a free country.

A concerned citizen

Kevin Kalowski

6/2/05

Chairman Anthony J. Principi  
Base realignment Closure com  
2521 South Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, Va. 22202

Dear Chairman Principi

On behalf of the students at  
CSAT, we are writing this letter  
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the Niagra Falls Air Force Reserve  
and guard base may be closed. The  
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and also gives us a feeling of security.  
We thank the military for allowing us  
to live in a free country.

A concerned citizen  
Justin Morano  
justin morano

6/2/09

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

Dear Chairman Principi

On behalf of the students at  
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military for allowing us to live in a  
free country.

A Concerned Citizen,  
Arien Black

June 2, 2005

Chairman Anthony J. Principi  
Base Realignment + Closure Com.  
2521 South Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, Va. 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the students  
at CSAT, we are writing this letter  
out of concern. Our concern is that  
the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve  
and Guard Base may be closed. The  
base provides many jobs in Western  
New York and also gives us a  
feeling of security. We thank the  
military for allowing us to live in  
a free country.

A Concerned Citizen,  
Latasha...

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

6-2-05

Dear Chairman Principi:

On behalf of the Students  
of CSAT, we are writing this letter  
of concern. Our concern is that the  
Niagra Falls Air Force Reserve and  
Guard Base may be closed. The  
Base provides many jobs in Western  
New York and also gives us a feeling  
of security. We thank the military  
for allowing us to live in a force  
Country.

A Concerned Citizen,  
Sara Harrod

Bruce mckenzie

6/02/05

Chairman Anthony J Principi  
Base Realignment + Closure Com.

2521 South Clark Street

Suite 600

Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the students of the out CSat  
we are writing this letter out of concern. Our  
concern is that The Niagara Fall Air Force  
Base and Guard Base may be closed.  
The Base provides many jobs in western New  
York and also gives us a feeling of  
security. We thank the military for allow-  
ing us to live in a force ~~center~~  
country.

A concerned citizen  
Bruce McKenzie

Lona L. Tobin  
578 Locust Street Apt. 1  
Lockport, NY 14094

June 3, 2005



Chairman Anthony J. Principi and  
BRAC Commissioners  
2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission  
2521 South Clark St. Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sirs:

I'm writing in response to the news that the BRAC is recommending the closure of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station.

Many of us are concerned about the negative impact on our local economy. That is a complaint that you will hear in most of the letters you're going to receive. And it's true that the base is a major employer in an area that is experiencing job losses anyway. The manpower numbers (military staff 115 and civilian 527) that you have published as expected to be lost seems small. It appears that this would be a very efficient airbase to keep open.

Our reservists come from all over western New York. These are mostly people with jobs and families that are established in this area. If our base closes, they won't be in a position to uproot their families and quit their jobs (also consider the spouse's job) to move out of state to maintain their part-time reservist or volunteer positions. You will lose these fine men and women. Also, by condensing your bases in one area, where will the pool of new recruits come from? Any one area can only provide a limited supply of volunteers. Who will fight the war that costs more than the base closings will save in any year?

I know that you would like to take the planes from the Air National Guard and the Reserve Airlift Wing to replace aging planes in other areas. Of course, you'll have to wait until they all come back from the middle east to get them - at that time you can let the men and women who were with the planes know that you no longer feel they and their families are important enough to keep - you only want the planes. Why aren't there enough reliable aircraft maintained in these other bases now?

As you can see, I am deeply opposed to closing this base. I'm asking that you reconsider the impact of your recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,

Lona L. Tobin

RECEIVED

06102005

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

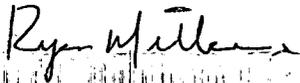
I was shocked and upset by the Defense Department's recommendation to close Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard base. This recommendation is a not in the nation's best interest and the BRAC Commission should reverse this decision and to remove Niagara Falls from the closure list.

Also, even the newspapers say that we are facing significant challenges in recruiting during war time. As the only remaining major military installation in western New York, Niagara Falls has been key to military recruitment. I read that it is also one of the most successful recruiting bases in the country. Why would we want to close this base when it was one of only a few that was consistently meeting its goals?

The impact of this decision will be devastating to the New York Air National Guard and will make the Pentagon's efforts to recruit and retain military personnel even more difficult than it is now.

Overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,



Ryan Miller  
8060 13<sup>th</sup> St #1301  
Silver Spring, MD 20910

06102005  
RECEIVED

Linda L. Tarnowski  
2022 Swann Road  
Ransomville, New York 14131

Chairman Anthony J. Principi  
Base Realignment and Closure Commission  
2521 South Clark Street  
Suit 600  
Arlington, Va. 22202

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners,

It's taking me this long to calm down enough after hearing about the Niagara Falls Airforce Base being on the base closing list AGAIN! What more do these men and women have to do to make sure this base stays open? What more does our community have to do to make sure this base stays open? What more does our state have to do to show it's a vital part of the Western New York State Region economically and for security?

Hours upon hours, weeks upon weeks, months upon months training and retraining when they received new H model C-130's, getting ready for Desert Storm, preparing for night vision to go to Iraq in all kinds of weather (we have four seasons) and countless of other in between "smaller" missions that were by no means smaller when your constantly leaving loved ones home and civilian jobs and at times losing them. All this and they came out with an outstanding record?!

Our community as a whole constantly supported them by outreach programs, offering discounted tickets to events, signs in store windows, house windows, car windows, a nice hug of encouragement from a stranger if they found out a loved one was away or things just weren't the same when they came back or a good slap on the back saying a job WELL done!

I can't tell you how many people I talk to that makes them feel good to hear them flying around here doing their training missions and it how many people I see at the end of the run way watching them take off and land at any given time. WE'RE AN EXTREMELY PROUD RESERVE COMMUNITY.

Not to mention the Airshows they put on for the community and the Prom Night program for the area school districts to save young lives and the Civil Air Patrol Organization.

It's going to have a tremendous economic impact the Western New York Region that is already struggling to stay afloat. It not only effects the city of Niagara Falls, but

also the city of Buffalo. Both cities are struggling with many of the industries moving away and parts of the cities are ghost towns and businesses are boarded up already. Yet, here we sit with a state of the art Airforce Reserve Base that \$35M has been put into new facilities and lengthened runways which have improved the bases' effectiveness of the whole wing! Base Operations Support have been reduced by not less then 33% (to include a 25% reductions in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Airforce Reserve Command. Now let me see..... Cost efficient, \$35M invested, ample air space, more acreage for expansion and plenty of room to park 8 more C-130s....., but we need to close it up and let all this sit there and send everything and everyone to a congested, certainly not as efficient (with all the air traffic), which means less training, less variety of training(weather),less recruitment because these places are obviously recruited out ( Niagara Falls has excess of 100% recruitment rates) and a big waste of tax-payers money if you ask me. Doesn't sound like a good economic move if indeed you want cost efficiency!

There is also an issue of national security being right next to an international border. Just about a week and a half ago there was a scare of some kind of fumes coming out of a vehicle that they found counterfeit money in. Some of the custom workers were taken to the hospital. Guess who was there? The FIRE DEPT FROM THE NIAGARA FALLS AIRFORCE BASE!

I am indeed outraged by this BRAC recommendation. Unfortunately, it's like a lot of our government agencies, too far away to get the big picture. Here I've only listed a very few of the reasons this recommendation MUST be reconsidered. Hopefully, if enough of us take the time to put our two cents in, you'll get the BIG PICTURE from all of us.

Sincerely,  
*Linda L. Tarnowski*  
Linda L. Tarnowski

June 7, 2005

RECEIVED  
06102005

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

Dear Chairman Principi & BRAC Commissioners:

As residents of Niagara County, New York, we are very upset by the Defense Department's recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve & Guard base. This recommendation could not come at a worse time and I would hope after careful consideration the BRAC Commission would reverse their decision and remove the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve & Guard base from the closure list.

I cannot understand why you would consider closing this base when it is positioned so close to the Canadian border and also at a time when our country is at war. As the only military installation in Western New York, Niagara Falls has been key to military recruitment. It is hard to understand why the Air Force has decided to take planes, missions and jobs away from so many Air Guard and Air Reserve bases and put them on the more costly Active Duty bases.

The impact of this decision will be devastating to the area and to the New York Air National Guard and will make the Pentagon's efforts to recruit and retain military personnel even more difficult than it is now.

Our New York communities stand united and in full support for this base and its retention. Please overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep this base open.

Thank you for your consideration and time.

Sincerely,

*Brian Mitchell*

Brian Mitchell

Dolores Mitchell

*Dolores Mitchell*

71 Wickham Dr.  
Williamsville, NY 14221  
June 7, 2005

06102005

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

RECEIVED

Dear Sir:

The Pentagon has recommended the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, NY be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with nearly 3,000 full and part-time workers, this would deliver another devastating blow to our region's economy.

The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossings between the U.S. and Canada, along with the New York State Power Authority's Hydropower complex which harnesses the waters of the Niagara River and supplies substantial power to the Northeast U.S. Grid.

While the base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable to allow the addition of a fighter squadron to further secure America's northern border and power grid infrastructures. It should be expanded rather than closed.

According to the Niagara Military Affairs Council:

- Closure of Niagara would reduce the Air Force present in NY by 40%, and eliminate the last Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with \$35M in new facilities and lengthened runways which have improved the operational effectiveness of the Wings.
- We have also reduced our Base Operations Support costs by not less than 33% (to include a 25% reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- 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.
- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate 8 additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.
- Niagara Falls faces no physical encroachment or air traffic control constraints and has acreage on the base and adjacent land for expansion.

I humbly request that you reconsider the decision to close the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. The fine men and women of the 107<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing and the 914<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing have been instrumental in securing the home front and fighting the war on terror overseas.

Yours truly,

*Elaine M. Sobczyk*

Elaine M. Sobczyk

06102005

RECEIVED

June 3, 2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

As a former member of the 107<sup>th</sup> NYANG Unit I am troubled by the Defense Department's recommendation to close Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve base. The members of both the 107<sup>th</sup> and 914<sup>th</sup> are dedicated individuals with the best interests of our country in mind. What will happen to these men and women? Will they be let out of their commitments furthering the decline of needed military personnel?

It is hard to understand why the Air Force has decided to take planes, missions and jobs away from so many Air Guard and Air Reserve bases and put them on more costly Active Duty bases. How will the Department defend the region, and who will respond to man-made or natural disasters, when they occur after these massive cuts?

I urge the Commission to remove Niagara Falls AFB from the Pentagon's recommended list of base closures and to stop the continuing retreat of the military from our region of the country.

Sincerely,



Richard T. Lydo  
114 Barbados Drive  
Cheektowaga, NY 14227

06102005  
RECEIVED

June 6, 2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

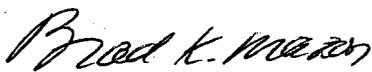
I am concerned by the Defense Department's recommendation to close Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base. This recommendation is not in the nation's best interest. The BRAC Commission should reverse this decision, and remove Niagara Falls from the closure list.

It is no secret that closing the base would have a devastating economic impact on our region. The base is Niagara County's second-largest employer with more than 3,000 full- and part-time military and civilian, with an estimated economic impact of \$150 million on regional businesses. It is also difficult to understand why the Air Force has decided to take planes, missions and jobs away from so many Air Guard and Air Reserve bases and put them on more costly Active Duty bases.

The media has reported that the military is facing significant challenges in recruiting during war time. As the only remaining major military installation in western New York, Niagara Falls has been key to military recruitment. The impact of this decision will be devastating to the New York Air National Guard and will make the Pentagon's efforts to recruit and retain military personnel even more difficult than it is now.

The Buffalo Niagara business community stands in support of the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base, and its retention. I exhort you to please overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Very truly yours,



Brad K. Mazon  
534 Main Street  
Ebenezer, NY 14224



Established 1860

06102005

RECEIVED

June 6, 2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I do not agree with the Defense Department's recommendation to close Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base. This recommendation is not in the nation's best interest and the BRAC Commission should reverse this decision and remove Niagara Falls from the closure list.

Closing the base would have a devastating economic impact on our region: The base is Niagara County's second-largest employer with more than 3,000 full- and part-time military and civilian and it has an estimated impact of \$150 million on regional businesses.

It is also difficult to understand why the Air Force has decided to take planes, missions and jobs away from so many Air Guard and Air Reserve bases and put them on more costly Active Duty bases.

The military is facing significant challenges in recruiting during war time. As the only remaining major military installation in western New York, Niagara Falls has been key to military recruitment. The impact of this decision will be devastating to the New York Air National Guard and will make the Pentagon's efforts to recruit and retain military personnel even more difficult than it is now.

The Buffalo Niagara business community stands with the Niagara Falls/Western New York community in support of the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base, and its retention. Overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,

Michael K. Walsh  
Executive Vice President

WALSH DUFFIELD & M INSURANCE

801 Main St PO Box 5016 Buffalo NY 14205-5016 Phone (716) 853-3820 Fax (716) 847-1360 Web www.walshins.com



Established 1860

06102005

June 6, 2005

RECEIVED

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

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The Buffalo Niagara business community stands with the Niagara Falls/Western New York community in support of the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base, and its retention. Overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,

John N. Walsh, III, J.D., CIC  
Chairman & Chief Executive Officer

WALSH DUFFIELD & M INSURANCE

801 Main St PO Box 5016 Buffalo NY 14205-5016 Phone (716) 853-3820 Fax (716) 847-1360 Web www.walshins.com



RECEIVED 2005

Established 1860

June 6, 2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

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The Buffalo Niagara business community stands with the Niagara Falls/Western New York community in support of the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base, and its retention. Overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,

Edward F. Walsh, Jr., CPCU, CIC  
President & Chief Operating Officer

WALSH DUFFIELD & M INSURANCE

801 Main St PO Box 5016 Buffalo NY 14205-5016 Phone (716) 853-3820 Fax (716) 847-1360 Web www.walshins.com

Chairman Anthony J. Principi  
Base realignment + closure com  
2521 South Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the students at  
ESAT we are writing this letter  
out of concern.

Our concern is that the  
Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve  
and Guard Base may be  
closed. The base provides many  
jobs in western New York and  
also gives us a feeling of  
security. We thank the military  
for allowing us to live in a free  
country

A concerned citizen  
Alex Rodriguez

6-2-05

Chairman Anthony J. Principi  
Base Realignment + Closure Com  
2521 South Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, Va. 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the students  
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Air Force Reserve and Guard  
Base may be closed. The base  
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Ny and also gives us a feeling  
of security. We thank the  
military for allowing us to live  
in a free country.

A concerned citizen

by Nicholas  
Wiesmer

Date 1/2/05

Chairman Anthony G. Principi  
Base Realignment + Closure Com.  
2521 South Clark St.  
Suite 600  
Arlington Va. 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the students at CSAT, we are writing  
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the Niagara Falls Force Reserve and Guard Base

Maybe Closed. The base provides many jobs in  
Western New York and also gives us a feeling of  
security. We thank the military for allowing  
us to live in a free country.

A concerned citizen, Dale K. James

June 2, 2005

Chairman Anthony J. Principi  
Base Realignment + Closure Com  
2521 South Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, Va. 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the students at  
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Falls Air Force Reserve and  
Guard base may be closed.

The base provides many jobs  
in Western New York and also  
gives us a feeling of security.  
We thank the Military for  
allowing us to live in the free  
Country.

A Concerned Citizen,  
Amber Durbach

6/2/05

Chairman Anthony J. Principi

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the students at CSAT, we are writing this letter out of our concern. Our concern is that the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base may be close. The base provides many jobs in Western New York and also gives us a feeling of security. We thank the military for allowing us to live in a free country.

A concerned Citizen,  
Zhane Graves

June 2, 2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the students at C.A.A.T., we are writing this letter out of concern. Our concern is that the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base may be closed. The base provides many jobs in Western New York and also gives us a feeling of security. We thank the military for allowing us to live in a free country.

A Concerned Citizen,  
Courtney Barnes

6/2/08

Chairman Anthony J. Principi  
Base Realignment + Closure Com  
2521 South Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, Va, 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

On behalf of the students at Csat we are writing  
this letter ~~out~~ of concern is that the Niagara Falls  
Air Force Reserve and guard ~~base~~ may be closed. The base  
provides many jobs in Western New York and also gives us a feeling of security.  
We thank the military for allowing us to live in a free country.

A concerned Citizen,  
*Walter Kato*

RECEIVED  
05312005

Dear Chairman Anthony J. Principi,

I would like you to know  
that I got 250 signatures for the  
Air Base in Niagara Falls, N.Y.

In 1975 I was a civilian recruiter  
and I had won the silver award  
and the Gold Award and I had also  
worked at the Bell Aircraft as a  
tool clerk and on the planes.

I feel that we are going to  
win. God Bless you!

Sincerely  
(Ms) Florence Donato

P.S. - Would like to hear from you.  
Louise Slaughter has been doing a  
good job.

BN 5/29/05

### Join the campaign to keep base open

Niagara County officials encourage Western New Yorkers to send the following letter to the Federal Base Realignment and Closure Commission at: BRAC Commission, Washington, D.C., c/o NIMAC, P.O. Box 231, Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231.

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I am deeply troubled by the Defense Department's recommendation to close Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. This recommendation is a terrible mistake, and I urge the BRAC to reverse this decision and remove the Niagara Falls Base from the list.

It is hard to understand why the Defense Department has decided to take planes, missions and jobs away from so many Air Guard and Air Reserve bases and put them on more costly active duty bases. Of all the bases to pick to close, how do you close the base whose unit helped rescue Jessica Lynch in Iraq, because they are the lead night vision C-130 unit in the Reserves? You must also recognize:

- The federal government has invested more than \$35 million in Niagara Falls since 1995 in new facilities.

- Base Operations Support costs have been reduced more than 33 percent (to include a 25 percent reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.

- Closure of the base eliminates the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers in a region in which the units have both maintained in excess of 100 percent manning rates.

- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate eight additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.

- Niagara Falls faces no physical encroachment nor air traffic control constraints and has acreage on the base and adjacent to the installation for expansion.

I urge the Commission, in the strongest possible terms, to remove Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station from the Pentagon's recommended list of base closures and to stop the continuing retreat of the military from our region of the country.



RECEIVED

06282005

118 Woodbury Dr.  
Lockport NY  
14094

May 26, 2005

NIMAC

Niagara Falls Air Base has been highly active in many instances and should be kept active.

The decision to put it on the list for possible closing in poorly based and needs to be reconsidered.

Truly  
Walter G Baker

PAUL H. WINTER  
38 BROCKETT DRIVE  
BUFFALO, NEW YORK 14223

May 3, 2005

The Niagara Military Affairs Council  
P.O. Box 231  
Niagara Falls, N.Y. 14304

Gentlemen:

I recently read the editorial by John Cooper Sr. in this past week's edition of Buffalo Business First, concerning the possible closing of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station.

As the second largest employer in Niagara County with over 2900 employees and a \$50 million annual payroll, this closing would have a devastating affect on the Western New York community.

This area certainly cannot afford to lose yet another large scale loss of employment. You may count on registering me in the community support to let the government know how very much we need this facility to remain open.

Yours very truly,

*Paul H. Winter*  
Paul H. Winter

RECEIVED

05272005

RECEIVED

05272005



Melvin P. Sylvis  
Box 308  
Depew, NY 14043-0308

5/22/05

Base Realignment + Closure Commission

Dear Sir,

I am writing to show my displeasure on your proposal to close the Niagara Falls Air Reserve.

We citizens in Western New York are very proud of this air base and it has a record of serving our country well in times of war.

Don't let us down. Don't do that to us.

Sincerely

Concerned Citizen and X.WW2 Veteran

Melvin P. Sylvis  
(USMC-953152)

ROBIN E. OTT  
20 Hillcrest Drive  
Lockport, New York 14094

(716) 433-1482

May 27, 2005

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

Gentlemen/Ladies:

The Pentagon has recommended the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, New York, be closed. Listed below are a number of factors supporting the military value of the Base to the well-being of the people of the United States.

The Base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossings between the United States and Canada, along with the New York State Power Authority's Hydropower Complex which harnesses the waters of the Niagara River and supplies substantial power to the Northeast United States Grid.

While the Base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable to allow the **addition of a fighter squadron to further secure America's northern border and power grid infrastructure. It should be expanded rather than closed.**

According to the Military Affairs Council:

- Closure of Niagara would reduce the Air Force presence in New York by **40%** and eliminate the last Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with **\$35,000,000** in new facilities and lengthened runways, which have improved the operational effectiveness of the Wings.
- Base Operations Support costs have been reduced by not less than 33% (to include a **25% reduction in utilities**) to make the Base one of the most **cost-efficient facilities** in the Air Force Reserve Command.

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RECEIVED

05312005

- Closure of the Base would also eliminate the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers in a region in which the units have maintained both recruitment and retention in excess of 100% manning rates.
- Niagara Falls' existing infrastructure can accommodate **eight additional C-130H model aircraft** without any military construction.
- Niagara Falls faces **no physical encroachment nor air traffic control constraints** and has acreage on the Base and adjacent to the installation for expansion.

I respectfully request that you strongly reconsider the decision to close the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. The fine men and women of the 107<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing and 914<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing have been instrumental in securing the homefront and fighting the war on terror overseas.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this very important matter.

Sincerely,

*Robin E. Ott*

Robin E. Ott

/reo

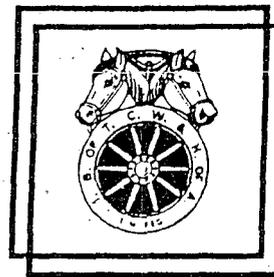
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# TEAMSTERS LOCAL UNION NO. 264

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(716) 668-8007 Fax (716) 668-8122  
1-800-773-9115

BRANCH OFFICE:  
102 E. MAIN STREET  
FALCONER, NEW YORK 14733  
(716) 665-4014 Fax (716) 665-6006  
1-888-458-1802



June 6, 2005

Senator George Maziarz  
2578 Niagara Falls Blvd  
Wheatfield, NY 14304

Dear Senator Maziarz:

The Pentagon has recommended the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, NY be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with nearly 3,000 full and part-time workers, this would deliver another devastating blow to our region's economy.

The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossing between the U.S. and Canada, along with the New York Power Authority's Hydropower complex which harnesses the Niagara and supplies substantial power to the Northeast Unity States Grid.

While the base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable to allow the addition of a fighter squadron the further secure America's northern border and power grid infrastructure. It should be expanded rather than closed.

According to the Niagara Military Affairs Council:

- Closure of Niagara would reduce the Air Force presence in NY by 40%, and eliminate the last Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with \$35M in new facilities and lengthened runways which have improved the operational effectiveness of the wings.
- We have also reduced our Base Operations Support costs by not less than 33% (to include a 25% reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- 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.
- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate 8 additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.
- Niagara Falls faces no physical encroachment nor air traffic control constraints and has acreage on the base and adjacent to the installation for expansion

I humbly request that you strongly reconsider the decision to close the station. The fine men and women of the 107<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing and 914<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing have been instrumental in securing the homefront and fighting the war on terror overseas.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this very important matter.

Sincerely,

Ronald G. Lucas  
President

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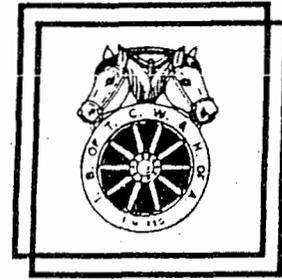


PLEASE DIRECT RETURN CORRESPONDENCE TO THE CHEEKTOWAGA, NY ADDRESS

RONALD G. LUCAS  
PRESIDENT  
PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
WILLIAM C. McCracken  
SECRETARY/TREASURER  
BUSINESS AGENT  
KENNETH BRZEZINKSI  
VICE PRESIDENT  
TERRY HUGHES  
RECORDING SECRETARY  
RICHARD S. CARR  
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102 E. MAIN STREET  
FALCONER, NEW YORK 14733  
(716) 665-4014 Fax (716) 665-6006  
1-888-458-1802

June 6, 2005

Senator Charles Schumer  
313 Hart - Senate Office Bldg  
Washington, DC 20510

RECEIVED  
06 20 2005

Dear Senator Schumer:

The Pentagon has recommended the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, NY be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with nearly 3,000 full and part-time workers, this would deliver another devastating blow to our region's economy.

The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossing between the U.S. and Canada, along with the New York Power Authority's Hydropower complex which harnesses the Niagara and supplies substantial power to the Northeast Unity States Grid.

While the base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable to allow the addition of a fighter squadron the further secure America's northern border and power grid infrastructure. It should be expanded rather than closed.

According to the Niagara Military Affairs Council:

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I humbly request that you strongly reconsider the decision to close the station. The fine men and women of the 107<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing and 914<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing have been instrumental in securing the homefront and fighting the war on terror overseas.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this very important matter.

Sincerely,

William C. McCracken  
Secretary-Treasurer



PLEASE DIRECT RETURN CORRESPONDENCE TO THE CHEEKTOWAGA, NY ADDRESS

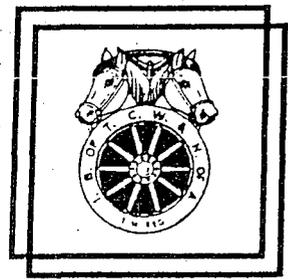
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FALCONER, NEW YORK 14733  
(716) 665-4014 Fax (716) 665-6006  
1-888-458-1802



06202005

June 2, 2005

Senator Byron Brown  
65 Court St., Rm 213  
Buffalo, NY 14202

Dear Senator Brown:

The Pentagon has recommended the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, NY be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with nearly 3,000 full and part-time workers, this would deliver another devastating blow to our region's economy.

The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossing between the U.S. and Canada, along with the New York Power Authority's Hydropower complex which harnesses the Niagara and supplies substantial power to the Northeast Unity States Grid.

While the base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable to allow the addition of a fighter squadron the further secure America's northern border and power grid infrastructure. It should be expanded rather than closed.

According to the Niagara Military Affairs Council:

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I humbly request that you strongly reconsider the decision to close the station. The fine men and women of the 107<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing and 914<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing have been instrumental in securing the homefront and fighting the war on terror overseas.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this very important matter.

Sincerely,

Ronald G. Lucas  
President



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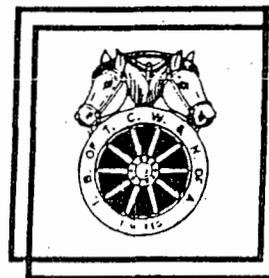
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102 E. MAIN STREET  
FALCONER, NEW YORK 14733  
(716) 665-4014 Fax (716) 665-6006  
1-888-458-1802



June 6, 2005

Senator Hillary Clinton  
476 Russell - Senate Office Bldg  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Clinton:

The Pentagon has recommended the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, NY be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with nearly 3,000 full and part-time workers, this would deliver another devastating blow to our region's economy.

The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossing between the U.S. and Canada, along with the New York Power Authority's Hydropower complex which harnesses the Niagara and supplies substantial power to the Northeast Unity States Grid.

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According to the Niagara Military Affairs Council:

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Thank you for your time and consideration on this very important matter.

Sincerely,

William C. McCracken  
Secretary-Treasurer



06202005



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**BRAC Commission  
Received**  
6/17/2005

June 13, 2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I am writing in reference to the Defense Department's recommendation to close Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard base. It is difficult to understand what rationale there could be for closing this vital instrument for our homeland security.

I know that you must be aware that Reserve forces are currently some of the only resources we have to send to fight the war in Iraq. We have no others and recruiting efforts continue to fall short.

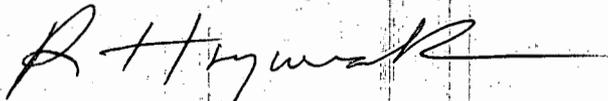
Our area is sensitive in terms of defending the homeland. We share major boarder crossings with Canada and our area generates the power that is used to power much of New York City. New York City is the only city in America that has actually been attacked!

Could anyone be seriously thinking of reducing homeland security in New York and exporting it to some other region of the country?

There are no political considerations that can justify this kind of reckless disregard for the safety of our region.

Please respond to my concerns at the address below.

Sincerely,



Ruth Hrywnak

525 Third St

Youngstown, NY 14174

**BRAC Commission**

3060 Delancey Road  
Niagara Falls, NY 14303  
June 14, 2005

**Received**

6/17/2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

The recommendation of the Defense Department to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Base should be reconsidered.

Every now and then when I look up into a clear-blue sky - over Niagara Falls - I see contrails high, very, very high in the sky. They often come up from the East. Who are they? Where do they come from? Where are they going? Do they have a target?

Pictures in my books on World War II show such contrails in the thousands over Europe. These days I see only a few. But they are frightening.

Many years ago I was amused to hear Niagara Falls referred to as a "frontier town". But it is! It is on the very edge of the nation, on the frontier. It should be in the first line of defense.

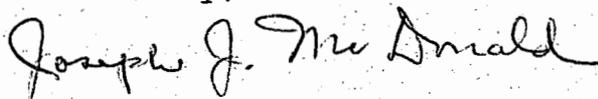
Many local manufacturing plants are gone but there remains the huge power generating plant with its water conduits above and below ground, its reservoirs, its electrical switching, high voltage yards, its dynamos, its transmission systems.

And all of them are duplicated a few miles away in our neighbor, Canada.

During World War II, I served in the Army Air Corps in a Group that was dedicated to the repair and maintenance of heavy bombers. I worked thirty years at a local chemical-manufacturing complex. My wife was a secretary to the C.O. at a now vanished Naval Air Station.

If today's Air Base vanishes as well, I fear for the future defense of this frontier area.

Sincerely,



Joseph J. McDonald

# Smith, Seaman & Quackenbush, Inc.

FUNERAL HOMES

117 MAPLE AVENUE  
P. O. BOX 266  
MONROE, N. Y. 10950

845-782-8185

515 ROUTE 32  
P. O. BOX 495  
HIGHLAND MILLS, N. Y. 10930

150 Years



EST. 1835

DAVID SMITH 1835  
IRVING D. SMITH 1870  
EDMUND SEAMAN 1909  
T. A. QUACKENBUSH 1924  
THOMAS P. SULLIVAN 1973  
RICHARD J. SULLIVAN 1986  
COLIN W. CAMPBELL 1997



06272005

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

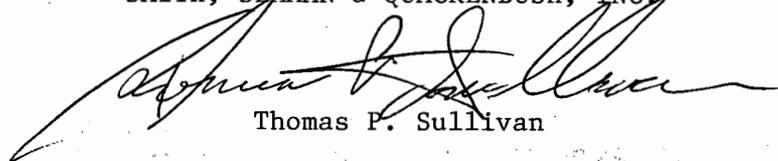
I applaud the BRAC Commission's foresight in recognizing the strategic and military importance of maintaining the military presence of the 105<sup>th</sup> Air National Guard base and Marine installation at Stewart International Airport. However, I have grave concerns about the recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard base.

Given the Niagara base's proximity to the Canadian border, major chemical plants, the Niagara Power Project and major cities of Buffalo and Rochester, homeland security issues dictate that the facility be kept open. In addition, our nation's armed forces are facing serious difficulties in recruiting. As the only remaining major military installation in western New York, Niagara Falls has been key to military recruitment. The impact of the decision to close this base will be devastating to the New York Air National Guard and will make the Pentagon's efforts to recruit and retain military personnel even more difficult.

I join with all New Yorkers who stand with the Niagara Falls/Western New York community in supporting retention of this base. I strongly urge the Commission to remove Niagara Falls Air Force Base from the recommended list of base closures.

Sincerely yours,

SMITH, SEAMAN & QUACKENBUSH, INC.



Thomas P. Sullivan



NEW YORK STATE  
OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Bernadette Castro  
Commissioner



June 21, 2005

06272005

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I write to you as the Commissioner of the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation, with stewardship over the premier attraction in the Niagara Region, and as an ad hoc member of the Niagara Tourism and Convention Corporation.

I am deeply troubled by the Defense Department's recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base. This recommendation appears to be based upon inadequate information, and I urge the BRAC Commission to reject this proposal and remove the Niagara Falls Base from the list.

As the Commissioner of an Agency that has overseen some \$40,000,000 in public and private investment in the Greater Niagara Region over the past ten years, I must believe that there are viable alternatives to the elimination of the planes, missions, and jobs from so many Air Guard and Air Reserve bases and deploy them on the more costly Active Duty bases. The Air National Guard's 107<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing, based at Niagara Falls, has performed with honor and courage in the current conflict in Iraq, and has a critical role as the lead night vision C-130 unit in the Air Force Reserves. The 107<sup>th</sup> has stirred patriotic pride throughout the region, and is so closely identified with the Greater Niagara Region. Please consider the value of this unit, and of this base, to the Greater Niagara Falls Region as you finalize decisions affecting this asset of such Regional significance.

I also ask that you consider that:

- The federal government has invested more than \$45 million in Niagara Falls since 1995 in new facilities.
- Base Operations Support costs have been reduced more than 33% (to include a 25% reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- Closure of the base eliminates the ability to recruit and retain New Yorkers in a region in

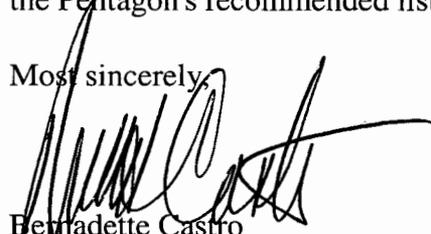
Empire State Plaza ••Agency Building 1 ••Albany, New York 12238  
518-474-0463 ••FAX: 518-474-1365

which the units have both maintained in excess of 100% manning rates.

- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate eight (8) additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.
- Niagara Falls faces no physical encroachment nor air traffic control constraints and has acreage on the base and adjacent to the installation for expansion.

I urge the Commission, in the strongest possible terms, to remove the Niagara Falls AFB from the Pentagon's recommended list of base closures.

Most sincerely,



Bernadette Castro

Commissioner

State Historic Preservation Officer



**Jonathan P. Booz, II**  
*Financial Services Professional*

Cathedral Park Tower Suite 500  
37 Franklin Street  
Buffalo NY 14202-4182  
Tel (716) 852-1321 Ext 344  
Fax (716) 842-1628  
e-mail: jbooz@finsvcs.com

June 16, 2005

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

  
06262005

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I was upset by the Defense Department's recommendation to close Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base. This recommendation is a not in the nation's best interest and the BRAC Commission should reverse this decision and to remove Niagara Falls from the closure list.

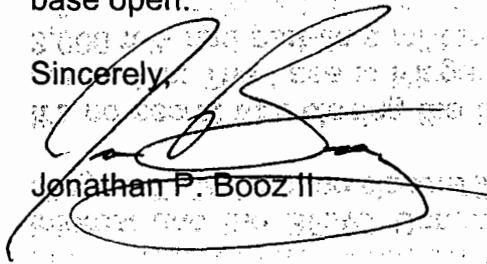
It's no secret that closing the base would have a devastating economic impact on our region: The base is Niagara County's second-largest employer with more than 3,000 full- and part-time military and civilian and it has an estimated impact of \$150 million on regional businesses.

That said, it is also difficult to understand why the Air Force has decided to take planes, missions and jobs away from so many Air Guard and Air Reserve bases and put them on more costly Active Duty bases.

The media has reported that the military is facing significant challenges in recruiting during war time. As the only remaining major military installation in western New York, Niagara Falls has been key to military recruitment. The impact of this decision will be devastating to the New York Air National Guard and will make the Pentagon's efforts to recruit and retain military personnel even more difficult than it is now.

The Buffalo Niagara business community stands with the Niagara Falls/Western New York community in support of the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base, and its retention. Overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,

  
Jonathan P. Booz II

Insurance Representative of Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company (MassMutual) and affiliates • Springfield MA 01111-0001  
Registered Representative of and securities offered through MML Investors Services, Inc., a MassMutual subsidiary • Supervisory Office: Cathedral Park Tower 37 Franklin Street Suite 500 Buffalo NY 14202-4107 (716) 852-1321. The Buffalo Agency, Michael J. McDermid, CLU, ChFC, CLTC, General Agent

06072005

RECEIVED

June 1, 2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I am deeply concerned that the Defense Department has recommended closing the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base. This recommendation is not in the best interest for the nation and especially for Western New York State. Therefore, I am officially requesting the BRAC Commission<sup>to</sup> reverse their decision and maintain our Base and their protection especially now, let me explain.

**Western New York is a prime target for terrorists, illegal aliens and large-scale crime activity** since we reside across the border from Toronto, Canada, encompassed by Lake Ontario, Lake Erie and we also provide the majority of Turbo Electric Power from the Power Authority of New York State. Also known as P.A.S.N.Y.

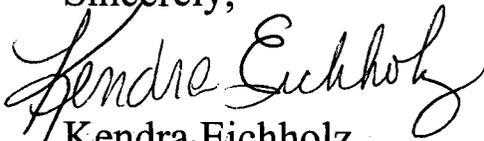
Our region has always been a major gateway in history for domination and control of resources also known as the battles that occurred in Youngstown, NY at Fort Niagara. This was a major port from Lake Ontario toward Niagara Falls and the Power Authority that is now located in between.

Throughout the years that I have learned about the Power Authority it has always been stated that this Turbo Power Plant would be a major target in wartime due to the ability of not only taking out the entire region with the demolition of it but by the crippling effects that would trigger a loss of electricity along the eastern coast.

With these thoughts in mind, I again appeal to the Commissioners sense of judgment in that "you don't take away the protection of our forces in a highly sensitive and powerful area to appease other areas that are not a stones throw away from another country".

Please reconsider this carefully and overturn the Pentagon's recommendation to leave us defenseless.

Sincerely,



Kendra Eichholz  
513 59<sup>th</sup> Street  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

06072005 RECEIVED

June 3, 2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi and Members of the BRAC Commission:

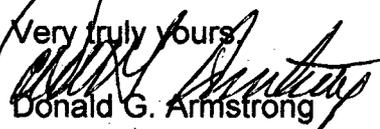
I wish to express my displeasure with the possibility that the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base may be closed and I respectfully ask that serious consideration be given to keeping this base open and operational.

My displeasure with seeing the Air Base on the recommended list of bases to be closed is based on the fact that over the past few years the Defense Department has put millions of dollars into improving the base facilities, particularly the lodging facilities. Most recently, I understand that the Armed Forces Recruiting Station in Buffalo is being moved to the Air Base because of its excellent facilities. Obviously, this too will cost money. It seems to me that putting all of the money into this Air Base over the past few years and then to close it within the next few years is a total waste of public money and does reflect well on the decision-making at various levels of government. I also understand that the airfield at our base is one of the longer runways in the force structure. If this is true, I have a hard time understanding the decision to close what appears to be a well run, well-supported and popular facility.

While I am sure that the Defense Department has a rationale for its realignment recommendations and feels it is in the best interests of the country in the long run, closing our air base is obviously unpopular to the local population. As it is most likely that not all facilities on the list will, indeed, be closed, I sincerely ask that you add my name to those who believe the Niagara Falls Air Reserve and Guard Base should be removed from the final list of bases to be closed. Is it really cost effective to include our air base on the final list after investing the millions of dollars to significantly improve its facilities?

I sincerely appreciate your listening to me and I pray that you will heed the many requests being made to keep our air base open.

Very truly yours,

  
Donald G. Armstrong  
Concerned Citizen &  
Colonel, USA, Retired

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

06072005  
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Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

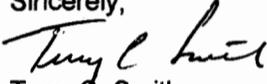
I am distressed by the Defense Department's recommendation to close Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard base. This recommendation is a not in the nation's best interest and the BRAC Commission should reverse this decision and to remove Niagara Falls from the closure list.

I feel that the base at Niagara Falls should be expanded if anything. I have lived in this area for 58 years. The only exception was when I served active Army duty from 66-69. I remember as a child the fighter jets that were at the Falls. In these troubled times I would think that fighter aircraft should be returned to the Niagara Falls base. What would happen if the power station here was attacked or destroyed? Has any consideration been given to the fact if that happened most of the Northeast USA, including New York City, would be without electrical power. Remember the blackout some years ago. What if the power were gone for months or even years?  
We need more protection right here.

The newspapers say that we are facing significant challenges in recruiting during war time. As the only remaining major military installation in western New York, Niagara Falls has been key to military recruitment. I served in Viet Nam and one of the reasons that I enlisted was because of the military awareness I had from living in this area. We are proud Americans in Western New York. Our people are paying a high price share in the present war as we have always done in past wars.

All New Yorkers stand with the Niagara Falls/Western New York community and are united in its support for this base, and its retention. Please overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,

  
Terry C. Smith  
5375 Harris Hill Rd.  
Clarence, NY 14221

Friday, June 03, 2005 America Online: T47SMITH

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I am writing to express my objection to your decision to include the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard base on the list for closure. There are many reasons why this should not happen and I wanted to give you our view of what this base means to our community.

First of all our community has been well served by the 914<sup>th</sup> and the 107 National Guard. Our community has watched time after time, these men and women leaving their families to go and serve this nation, leaving families and jobs behind "because it was the right thing to do!" Their families gave their support, even though they knew that those they love would be put in harms way and also that they would suffer emotionally and financially while they were gone. They were in Desert Storm, they were in Afghanistan, And they were in Iraq. That is what they have done for our country.

They are also a tremendous asset to our community in other ways. They play a very important part in our Emergency Management Plan. Their Hazardous Material Team is depended on frequently. As recently as last week they were called to an emergency at the Rainbow Bridge which is one of the spans between Niagara Falls NY and Niagara Falls Ontario. Hazardous materials come through our area all the time because we are the "Home" of the only licensed hazardous waste disposal site in NY and many of the surrounding states. This is not a point that we as a community are happy about, but it is our reality and we have at least been able to feel like we have been prepared to deal with emergencies when they arise. The Air Base has worked well with our other local agencies to give this assurance to our area. I might add that our fire companies in the smaller towns are all volunteers. The base has a team at the ready 24 hours a day.

In addition, we are an international border community. After 911 we were told that at least one of the terrorists involved in that act of depravity came across our border from Canada. We also had the Lackawanna 6 living in our area. We have the NY State Power Authority which would be a perfect target for terrorists. It provides most of the power for the northeast.

Finally, consideration should be given to the financial hardship that would result from closing this base. Niagara Falls is already an economically depressed area. We have lost so many manufacturing jobs already. To close this base, which is the second largest employer in the area, could be the last straw for any hope of a recovery for this community. Please overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,

716-297-3708

Margaret Guiliani  
4800 Klein Rd.  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304

615105

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

RECEIVED

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I was upset by the Defense Department's recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard base. This recommendation is not in the nation's best interest and the BRAC Commission should reverse this decision and remove them from the closure list.

It is hard to understand why the Air Force has decided to take planes, missions and jobs away from so many Air Guard and Air Reserve bases and put them on the more costly Active Duty bases.

Also, even the newspapers say that we are facing significant challenges in recruiting during war time. As the only remaining major military installation in Western New York, Niagara Falls has been key to military recruitment.

The impact of this decision will be devastating to the New York Air National Guard and will make the Pentagon's efforts to recruit and retain military personnel even more difficult than it is now.

All New Yorkers stand with the Niagara Falls/Western New York community and are united in its support for this base, and its retention. Overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,

B.S.

(A concerned Citizen)

SIR,  
IN REGARD TO THE ABOVE LETTER SENT  
TO AREA RESIDENTS, I AM NOT UPSET  
BUT RATHER RELIEVED THAT YOU  
WILL CLOSE THIS BASE. I FEEL  
CONSOLIDATING BASES ARE A WISE  
BUSINESS DECISION, AND IN THE  
LONG RUN WILL MAKE THE MILITARY  
MORE EFFICIENT AND ALLOW  
BETTER USE OF N.F. BASE FOR  
CIVILIAN ENTERPRISES.

BOB SMYTHE

RECEIVED  
06072005

Robert A. MacPhee  
Marguerite A. MacPhee  
6322 Milleville Circle  
Sanborn, New York 14132  
716-731-5288

Dear :

*Anthony J. Principi*

I am the mother of Tech Sergeant Cory M. MacPhee. He is an Air Force reservist with the 914 Airbase at Niagara Falls, New York. Cory has been a reservist since 1985. You have had my son as a nineteen year old and have used him until he is now a man, a husband, a father, a brother and uncle and most of all our loving son. He has always believed he was doing his job as an American to keep his country safe. A place to raise his son in peace. His outfit was deployed in 1991 in the Gulf War. The 914 were again deployed to Tubuk in Saudi Arabia returning home to be re-deployed to Tallil Air Base in Iraq. In doing so he missed a year out of his son's life and returned to NO JOB. A job that he loved and was well paid for. When he did return home Dec of 2003 to NO JOB he was able to get a civilian job at the Airbase. He was home going on with family life, building a house then on May 13, 2005, it was announced that the Niagara Falls Air Base was on the chopping block. How could that happen? The 914 always made 98% of their flights in theater. Their C-130 was the first plane to land at Baghdad airport because they were the only unit that had night vision experience. Their C-130 picked up Jessica Lynch. Their C-130 flew the Joint Chief of staff. Their C-130 flew the US ambassador out of Baghdad. Their C-130 flew Hillary Clinton, Wayne Newton, and the Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld to name a few. The 914 has always been rated number one. In 1991 the Base was awarded C-130H airplanes because of their outstanding performance in theater. How can you in good conscience take a unit that has performed so outstanding and just dismantle and discard them.

I can't believe that my son who has given twenty years to the 914 Air Force is now being discarded like trash. What is to happen to him, his wife and son? To make matters worse our government has the nerve to deploy the 914 again in the next few months. Will they have place to come home to or will the base be closed while they are gone?

The nerve of my country to treat my son and all the son's of American citizen this way!!!! Now the government wants to move all our sons away from family and loved ones. Disrupt his life again.  
WHEN WILL THIS EVER END?

Sincerely,

*Robert A. MacPhee*  
Robert A. MacPhee  
Marguerite A. MacPhee

*Marguerite A. MacPhee*

06072005  
RECEIVED

June 1, 2005

3971 Lockport Road  
Sanborn, NY 14132

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I am very concerned over the recent announcement that the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base was included on the list of recommended base closings by the Base Realignment and Closure Commission. Please allow this letter to serve as my personal plea to reconsider this recommendation and remove the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base from this list.

Given the location of the base and the potential threat of terrorism resulting from border proximity and the power project that provides electricity to an enormous population within the north eastern region of the country, I am dismayed that a decision such as this has been made by the very entity charged with protecting our country from such threats. Additionally, this military installation has served as an inspiration for citizens to enlist in the armed forces, increased civilian support of those serving our country and has invoked a resurgence of patriotism as evidenced by flags proudly displayed on homes across the region.

I urge the Commission to reconsider their decision and remove the NFAB from the list of recommended base closings. Your consideration of this request is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



Kathleen A. Saunders

RECEIVED

06072005

June 03 2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi, and BRAC Commissioners,

I am deeply concerned over the Defense Departments recent decision to close Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station (NFARS). I just cannot understand their rationale. Both units, (The 107th Air Refueling Wing, and the 914th Airlift Wing) continue to provide a vital service in the defense of our country. The 914th Airlift Wing served with distinction during the first gulf war, has been deployed several times during the latest gulf war, and is scheduled to return to the Middle East later this year (my son is going). Early on in the present gulf conflict the 914th was called upon to fly many dangerous night missions using night vision goggles. They were called upon because they were the only C-130 unit in theater that was fully qualified in their use. The 914th received many accolades for their performance during these missions. The 914th also participated in the rescue of Jessica Lynch. The 107th Air Refueling Wing has performed in an exemplary manner in support of air refueling operations worldwide (including the Bosnia operation, and the latest Gulf war. At the present time elements of the 107th support refueling operations out of Guam. The other day as I was reading an issue of the Air Force Times I came across a photo of a 107th tanker refueling a B-2 bomber over the Pacific near Guam. What a beautiful sight!

Sir, I have read that the purpose of this BRAC is to "cut the fat" so to speak so that existing resources can be utilized to the maximum. Cutting the NFARS makes no sense because dollar for dollar the Defense Department gets more bang for its buck (a fact that they will not admit) from the Guard, and Reserve units.

During my 34 year military career I served in both the active, and reserve force. This is not politically correct, but I will say it anyway. Guard and Reserve aircraft are better maintained and stay mission ready longer in combat operations. Reserve units have two things that set them apart from most regular units. These two things enhance combat capability. What I am talking about is expertise, and stability. They go hand in hand. Example: In a reserve unit the same personnel work together year after year (stability). This leads to a very high experience level (expertise). The end result is a better maintained, more effective weapons system. In a regular unit there is a constant state of flux. A new troop comes in, you spend two years training him/her, and either their enlistment is up or they ship out. There is little stability. The experience level is diminished. Consequently, mission capability is diminished.

Another decision made by the Department of Defense really troubles me. It is

their proposal is to transfer a great number of C-130 aircraft to Little Rock AFB and make it a "super base"(I believe the number of C-130 aircraft would be over 100). What a target for terrorists! You think we would have learned our lesson at Pearl Harbor when we lined all of our aircraft up in neat rows. A few dedicated terrorists attacking the "super base" could cripple our C-130 airlift capability. If not terrorists, then how about a natural disaster (tornado)? As we all know a tornado gives little warning before it hits. The base and the C-130 fleet could be wiped out in a matter of minutes. A super base is not a good idea!

Sir, in this era of limited funding the NFARS has also done a fine job in reducing the costs of running the base. Base operating support costs have been reduced more than 33 percent (that includes a 25 percent reduction in utilities). These reductions have made the NFARS one of the most cost efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve. One might ask what has this to do with combat capability? Well, it allows the savings to be spent on other more critical items.

Sir, I know that you will be visiting the NFARS later this month. I think the facilities, and the outstanding personnel will impress you. They are looking forward to your visit.

Chairman Principi: I've had my say, so I'll try to sum it up in a nutshell. The NFARS is a valuable national asset, manned by dedicated personnel, performing missions that are vital to the security of our country. The base gives our country an excellent return for the money spent. The Department of Defense decision to close the NFARS was a mistake. I urge you and the BRAC commission to reverse this decision.

Respectfully,

  
Robert C. Haring,  
CMSgt USAF (Ret)

17 Appletree Cr.  
Brunswick, ME 04011  
6 June 2005

Mr. Anthony J. Principi  
BRAC Commission  
Polk Building Suites 600+625  
2521 South Clark St.  
Arlington, VA 22202

RECEIVED

06072005

Dear Mr. Principi:

I hope that your commission has all the pertinent facts concerning the fate of the Brunswick Naval Air Station. In my U.S. Army career I always seemed to be on a "hot seat". First I risked my life to save a floating Bailey Bridge across the Rhine River. Later I was under pressure to develop a continuous process to produce nerve agent at the Army Chemical Center. Next I was the officer questioned about the operation of a full scale plant to produce nerve poison at Rocky Mountain Arsenal. Next I was assigned to the United States Military Academy as the Director of Admissions where no candidate could be half admitted. For twelve years I had many questions from civilians, military persons, and from Members of Congress about why their candidate had not been selected.

My younger brother became a navy pilot who later was commissioned in the U.S. Coast Guard to fly rescue missions and was stationed at the Brunswick Naval Air Station. He once landed in a North Atlantic storm and rescued 23 men and a dog from a Portuguese freighter before it broke in half and sank.

With Maine having a shoreline longer than that of any other state, save Alaska, I feel safer against smugglers and terrorists with the protection of the flyers coming from the air base in Brunswick. I hope that your committee will see its duty to keep P-3's and future P-4's at Brunswick.

Sincerely yours,  
Robert S. Day  
Robert S. DAY  
Col. U.S. Army Ret.

P.S. My daughter served in the  
Navy at the Naval Communications  
Center at Cutler, Maine.

RECEIVED  
2005

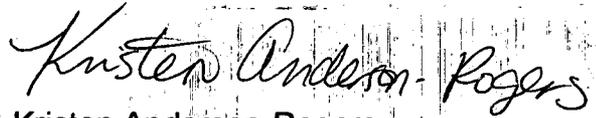
3183 Trenton Road  
Hamburg, NY 14075  
Erie County, USA

To Whom it May Concern,

My name is Kristen Anderson-Rogers, I am a student at Buffalo State College, My husband Michael and I are desperately requesting that the Niagara Falls Air Base, in Niagara Falls, NY remains open. My father, SSGT Clifford D. Anderson Jr. is currently in Iraq servicing this great country and as an Army Reservist he reports to the Niagara Falls Air Base. My parents live in South Wales, and the drive to the Niagara County base is the most convenient for my father. If this airbase were to close he would have to drive a considerably longer distance for reserves.

I don't believe that these hard working men and women, who leave their families and many who give their lives, deserve this. Niagara County, Erie County, it doesn't matter where benefit from and need this airbase. Please keep the Niagara base open it is imperative in our continuing effort to defend our freedom. Thank You very much for your time.

Sincerely,



Kristen Anderson-Rogers

716-627-2120

Kmrmjr@peoplepc.com

1680 Ridge Road  
Lewiston, NY 14092-9753  
June 6, 2005

RECEIVED

06102005

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I am at a loss to understand the Commissions recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base:

We are next to the Canadian border which is vulnerable to terrorist infiltration or attacks. Not only do we have the State Power Authority located in this vicinity which controls the electrical power throughout New York State, New York City as well as parts of Canada but we have the Lake Ontario Ordinance Works which contains the residue of the Manhattan Project. One explosive would release 18,000 tons of nuclear materials plus 1/2 of the world's supply of pure radium.

Our area is in need of this Air Base for the general protection of this community. I am enclosing newspaper articles reinforcing the need to keep this Base open.

One newspaper excerpt proves the need of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station to assist our community in case of hazardous material that could be transported unknowingly thru Canada.

A former assistant secretary of defense under President Ronald Reagan, in his article to the press, reinforces the need to keep this Base open. Closing of a base on Long Island as it services a search and rescue Guard Unit, whereby the Niagara Falls Air Force Base has over the years been called upon to serve the country.

Brig. Gen. James C. Cook's newspaper account of the Niagara Falls Air Base gives additional support and the recommendation to keep this Base open and taken off the base closure.

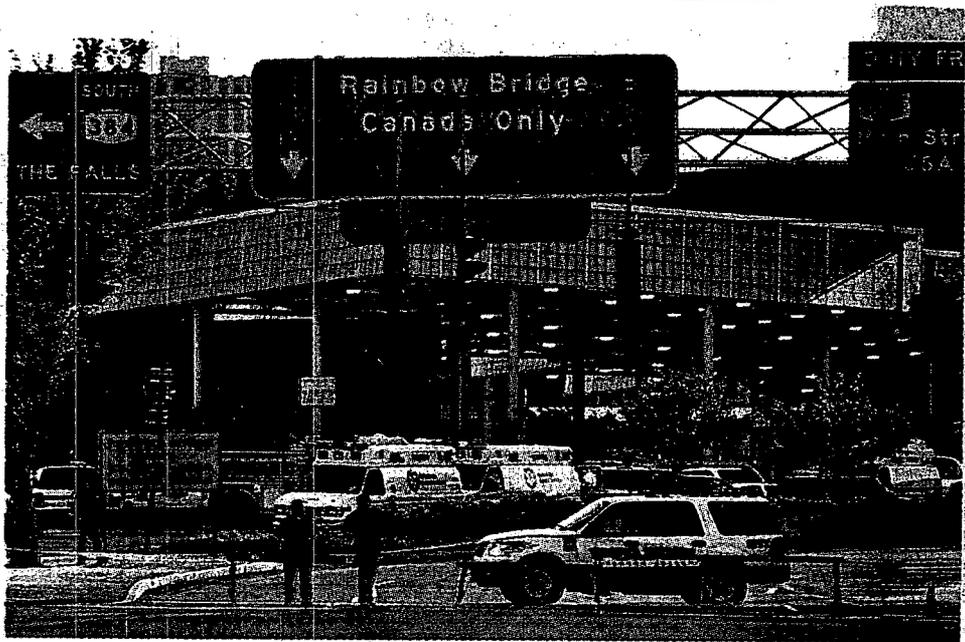
This Base has been given additional money to upgrade their facilities and has one of the largest runways of all U.S. Bases.

It would be foolhardy and waste of government funds to close this base and transfer or lose their trained and experienced personnel.

Sincerely a concerned citizen

*Emily B. Latko*  
Emily B. Latko

Encs.



Robert Kirkham/Buffalo News

Niagara Falls police block access to the Rainbow Bridge on Sunday after the release of a suspicious powder resulted in the precautionary closing of the international span.

5/30/05 Buffalo News

# Spill of suspicious powder forces Rainbow Bridge closing

BY MIKE KURLOVITCH  
NIAGARA CORRESPONDENT

NIAGARA FALLS — A spill of suspicious white powder forced the shutdown of the Rainbow Bridge during the height of holiday traffic Sunday, triggering hazardous materials teams into action and prompting an FBI investigation.

The bridge was closed to traffic at 4:40 p.m., officials said, and had not opened late Sunday. Traffic was being rerouted to the Lewiston-Queenston Bridge.

Barry Morrissey, a spokesman for U.S. Customs and Border Protection, said some officers working on the bridge had throat

and nose irritation, though none required hospitalization.

The officers apparently were looking at cash that someone had hidden in their vehicle with some substance mixed with it that caused the irritation, FBI spokesman Paul Moskal said.

"It doesn't seem to be anything associated with terrorism," he said.

Hazardous materials teams from Niagara County and the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station were called to the U.S. end of the bridge.

Because officials were unable to immedi-

See Bridge on Page B2

## Bridge workers are decontaminated

BRIDGE • from B1

ately determine the composition of the powder, a decision was made to decontaminate any personnel who had possibly come into contact with the material.

At one point, about 25 workers were going through the decontamination process, according to sources, who characterized the decision as "erring on the side of caution."

Agents from the FBI's Buffalo office were later dispatched to the

scene, as was a special team from the Buffalo Police Department.

Niagara Falls police reported traffic moving smoothly in the area despite the interruption.

The department had 10 officers already assigned to the area for traffic control because of the Three Dog Night concert, a free outdoor show at the former E. Dent Lackey Plaza that drew a large crowd downtown.

News wire services contributed to this report.

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5/24/85 B21F  
KTC

# Close base on Long Island, not in Niagara, says Pentagon official from Reagan years

By JERRY ZREMSKI  
AND SHARON LINSTEDT

NEWS STAFF REPORTERS

A former assistant secretary of defense under President Ronald Reagan has rushed to the defense of the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station, saying the Pentagon should consider closing a base on Long Island instead.

Lawrence J. Korb, who oversaw personnel and base issues at the Pentagon from 1981 to 1985, wrote an op-ed article for the New York Times' Long Island regional edition Sunday that criticized the proposed Niagara closing.

He urged the independent commission that is reviewing the Pentagon's base-closure recommendations to instead consider shutting an Air National Guard station at Francis S. Gabreski Airport in Westhampton Beach.

"It should take a close look at Niagara and Gabreski," Korb wrote.

The two bases perform different

tasks. The Niagara base services a Guard unit that performs refueling missions and an Air Reserve unit that hauls cargo, while the Gabreski base services a search-and-rescue Guard unit.

Korb suggested that the search-and-rescue team be moved to Stewart Air Force Base in Newburgh, north of New York City, and that Niagara stay open for several reasons.

For one, he said, such a move would keep jobs in-state and prevent the Niagara operations from being dispersed to Arkansas, Maine and Georgia.

"Moreover, the Pentagon will need to spend a lot just to bring Gabreski up to minimum standards," Korb wrote. "Paradoxically, Congress allotted Niagara more than \$14 million last year for upgrades."

Korb, a native of Long Island, noted that while Gabreski contributes about \$100 million to Long Island's economy, the Niagara base generates more than

\$150 million. "Suffolk County is better positioned than Niagara to absorb the cutbacks," he said.

In an interview, Korb said he decided to write the opinion article after reviewing the Pentagon's proposed closures. "This just doesn't make sense" that Gabreski would stay open and Niagara would close, he said.

He said that it would be very difficult for part-time air personnel from Niagara to travel to out-of-state bases to train and that Long Island would be better able than Western New York to withstand a base closing economically.

Korb, now a senior fellow at the liberal-leaning Center for American Progress in Washington, is one of Washington's most prominent and oft-quoted defense experts.

In another development, the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority board of commissioners is throwing its

See **Bases** on Page B2

## **BASES** • from B1

support behind efforts to keep the Niagara Falls base open — and will ask NFTA workers to do the same.

The NFTA board Monday unanimously approved a resolution backing the Niagara Military Affairs Council in its efforts to get the base off the list for closing.

Commissioners also approved a plan to send letters to the NFTA's 1,500 employees asking them to write to the Base Realignment and Closure Commission showing their support for keeping the base open.

"This is an important issue for the Niagara Falls community and all of Western New York. I think we need a full-court press," said Commissioner Henry M. Sloma, who represents Niagara County.

"It makes a lot of sense to show support," NFTA Chairman Luiz F. Kahl said of the USA Niagara-led effort to amass 10,000 let-

ters before a June 27 hearing in Buffalo on the Pentagon proposal.

Another voice / Base closings

6/05 Bof News

## It would be a shame to shut down Niagara Falls unit

By BRIG. GEN. JAMES C. COOK

I wonder if the Department of Defense and the U.S. Air Force realize the talent, expertise and years of experience they are doing away with by closing the Air Reserve Base at Niagara Falls and disbanding its two major units, the 107th Air Refueling Wing and the 914th Airlift Wing.

I am a former commander of the 107th when it was a fighter squadron, and it has a long history. Members of the 107th were flying the F-100C at Niagara in 1968 when they were called to active duty by President Lyndon Johnson to support the conflict in Vietnam.

Niagara's Air National Guard unit was assigned to a fighter wing at Tuy Hoa Air Base in Vietnam. In a matter of a month and a half, a majority of the wing's shops

and docks were supervised by the Air National Guard unit's master sergeants.

In the 1970s, Secretary of Defense Melvin Laird instituted the Total Force Concept integrating active-duty, reserve and Guard forces. This doctrine has served the Air Force well. When it needs forces, it has experienced, combat-ready squadrons immediately available with little or no added training.

Just look at the number of call-ups of the Air National Guard squadrons and individuals in the last five to 10 years. This can-do attitude is something I do not think we should ignore, nor should we do away with these talented, experienced combat forces.

A few years ago, when the 107th became an air tanker unit, it was not fully capable to perform air refueling missions out of Niagara — its heavier aircraft could

not take off with a full load of internal fuel plus a full load of fuel for refueling. The Air Force spent millions of dollars to increase the length of the runway from 9,100 feet to 10,000 feet, thereby allowing the unit to fully perform its mission from Niagara Falls.

In addition, more ground fuel storage tanks were installed, and a second fuel pumping station was added to allow the 107th to refuel its own aircraft in the event the Air Reserves were not available.

I have addressed primarily the 107th, but the 914th has received its share of accolades through the years. I have worked with previous commanders of the 914th and found them to be proud of their accomplishments, especially of the unit's performance during Desert Storm and Desert Shield.

The transfer of the 914th's C-130s to

Little Rock, Ark., as the Air Force centrally locates a large number of aircraft at one base, does not sound strategically effective, a lesson we learned on Dec. 7, 1941. I believe the Little Rock AFB also is located right in the middle of tornado alley, causing concern for evacuation to protect these assets.

I suspect the skilled Air National Guard and Air Force reservists now at Niagara would not consider traveling long distances to fulfill the goal of a 20-year retirement. It is a tragedy to let these experienced backup forces go, leaving an enormous void in the defense posture of the United States.

*Brig. Gen. James C. Cook NYANG (Ret.) is a former commander of the 107th Air National Guard unit at Niagara Falls Air Reserve Base.*

RECEIVED

06102005

**INNVEST**

LODGING SERVICES, INC.

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

This Company is troubled by the Defense Department's recommendation to close Niagara Falls, NY Air Force Reserve and Guard Base. This recommendation is a not in the nation's best interest and appears to be a lack of interagency (Homeland Security) **coordination** considering the physical border location.

The BRAC Commission should reverse this decision and to remove Niagara Falls from the closure list.

From a community perspective, it is no secret that closing the base would have a devastating **economic impact** on our region. The base is Niagara County's second-largest employer with more than 3,000 full- and part-time military and civilian and it has an estimated impact of \$150 million on regional businesses.

The media has reported that the military is facing significant challenges in recruiting during wartime. As the only remaining major military installation in Western New York, Niagara Falls has been key to military **recruitment**. The impact of this decision will be devastating to the New York Air National Guard and will make the Pentagon's efforts to recruit and retain military personnel even more difficult than it is now.

The Buffalo Niagara business community stands with the Niagara Falls/Western New York community in support of the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base, and its retention. Overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,



Dennis P. Murphy  
President

RECEIVED

00102005

June 4, 2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I was angered by the defense Department's recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base. This decision is not in the nation's best interest and the BRAC Commission should reverse this decision and remove them from the closure list.

It is mind boggling to understand why the Air Force has decided to take planes, missions, and jobs away from so many Air Guard and Air Reserve bases and put them on the more costly Active Duty bases.

Also, even the newspapers say that we are facing significant challenges in recruiting during war time. As the only remaining major military installation in Western New York, Niagara Falls has been key to military recruitment.

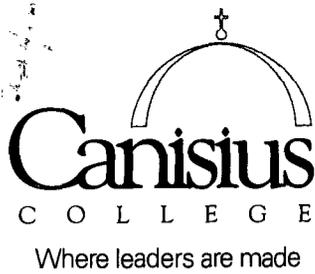
If this decision goes through, the impact will be devastating to the New York Air Force Reserve and the Air National Guard and will make the Pentagon's efforts to recruit and retain military personnel even more difficult than it is now.

All New Yorkers stand with the Niagara Falls/ Western New York community and are united in its support for this base, and its retention. Overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the base open.

Sincerely,

Lara Pallone

*Lara Pallone*  
(A concerned Citizen)



06102005

**RECEIVED**  
Richard J. Wehle School of Business  
Office of the Dean

phone 716-888-2160 | fax 716-888-3211  
email albera@canisius.edu

CORRESPONDENCE\GENERAL\NIAGARA FALLS AIR 06065

June 6, 2006

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I was distressed to learn the recent recommendations regarding base closings included the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base. Although I am hardly an expert on such matters my intuition tells me this would not be a wise decision for several reasons.

The first and most important reason is the issue of home-land security. I would think with all the attention being paid to the country's borders that having an active base in this region is a good idea. The facility can serve as a marshalling point for redeployment of security forces and resources in the event of threats to the security of the area and acts of terrorism. As a military installation it is secure in ways that are not available to purely civilian installations.

A close second is the economic impact the closing will have in an area that is already suffering from many economic reverses. The base has been a stabilizing force for Western New York. A variety of economic initiatives are underway to revitalize the regional economy and this decision will reverse in one fell swoop efforts spanning several decades.

Third and not to be ignored is the work those responsible for the operation of the base have done to insure its efficient operation. I have been told that the costs to operate the facility have been reduced by approximately 33% in recent years. I also find it surprising this facility has been singled out for closure when \$35 million has been invested in base improvements in the last decade.

Anthony J. Principi  
June 6, 2006  
Page 2

Last but hardly least there are a number of local residents that serve in the reserves and operate out of this facility. They have served their country well and I am sure they and many others want to continue their active commitment to the reserves. Closing this facility will make this difficult for some and impossible for others.

I hope as further information is gathered that you will reconsider your initial recommendation and not close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve and Guard Base. Thank you for your service and your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Antone F. Alber, Ph.D.  
Dean

393 Tracey Lane  
Grand Island  
NY 14072  
6/7/05

06102005

RECEIVED

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I am very concerned that the Defense Department is considering a recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Reserve and Guard Base. It is not in our nation's best interest to do so.

The fact that this base is just minutes away from an international border and a major power project should be a very important reason to keep the Niagara Falls Base open. There would be no help from the military forces should an attack or threat be made from terrorist groups on either the power project or U.S.-Canada border.

The Niagara Falls Base is a vital part of the Western New York area. It plays a vital role in military recruitment.

Overturn the Pentagon's recommendation and keep the Niagara Falls Base open. Please understand our concerns -

Very truly yours,  
Clare S. Mammucci

To BRAC Commission:

May 20, 2005

RECEIVED  
05272005

Regarding the proposed closure of the Niagara Falls Air Base: Although I am no great shakes as a letter writer and certainly am no Military Strategist, here are some random thoughts on this important issue.

Are these the thanks these devoted men & women get for multiple overseas deployments? Do we learn nothing from the past history - centralizing personnel and vital equipment I.E. for those of us old enough to remember Pearl Harbor! What a better terrorist target this would make after closures & centralization!!! The economic impact on the already extremely depressed Niagara area is no doubt of no concern to an administration that this was Kerry country. Not a political issue? Then how did Bush country (TEXAS & FLORIDA) fare in comparison, we all know the answer!

Dollar savings - of course no money is being wasted on the ill advised Iraq war: maybe the alleged savings can be used to further the profits of the likes of Enron & Haliburton!! How about the defense of the area in general & the border in particular?

Concerned Western New York Voters  
Donald H. Dust & Martha E. Dust

Jonathan Hall  
48 Chapel Woods  
Williamsville, New York

RECEIVED

05272005

Dear Mr. Principi,

My name is Jonathan Hall and I am 9 years old. I live in Williamsville, New York near the Niagara Falls Air Force Base. I am very upset that the base is closing. I think this base is very important for many reasons.

The base is important because it protects Niagara Falls where power plants are and the power plants are important to the whole country. Second the base is important because many of the men and women have fought in Iraq. It's also important to the people so they can still have a job. There are not many jobs where I live.

If the base closes my best friend will have to move away because his Dad works on the base. I have been very sad since the news was announced. Ryan Moore and I have been friends for five years. We like to play all kinds of sports together. We spend lots of time at each other's houses and we went to Disney World together when his father came home from Iraq. Most of all Ryan is a kind person and he is always a good friend to me. If Ryan moved away I would feel very lonely.

That is why I think the base should stay open. Please do not close the base.

Sincerely,

Jonathan

**From:** (Karen Wade)  
**Date:** 05/25/05 14:22:26  
**To:** info@nimac.org  
**Subject:** Niagara Air Base Closing Protest

RECEIVED

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Karen Wade () on Wednesday, May 25, 2005 at 14:22:24

05272005

zip: 14092

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

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners,

It is with mixed feelings that I submit this letter to you for your thoughtful consideration. I fully appreciate the transparent and independent review that the commission undertook on military base closings. The importance and efforts required of these reviews has not gone unnoticed. But I am disappointed the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station was included on the list for closing. But also very hopeful that by taking a closer look at what this base means to the local communities it will enable the commission to look to grow the Niagara base.

The Western N.Y. area has been, how shall I say, not very robust when it comes to the economic picture. If I could state some examples of the problems our area is now facing, and how continuing to maintain the base and even grow it would be such a boost for the local communities.

The counties of Niagara (which includes the base) and Erie do not have the corporate base for creating a vibrant successful community. You will find that the Niagara Air Reserve Station to be one of the largest employers in our area. The loss of this employer would deal another devastating blow to the local economy.

We have all heard the recent problems that General Motors is experiencing. Well GM is our other big employer.

The City of Buffalo a 20 minute drive from the base has been under a financial control board for close to a year now, because the city leaders could not manage the city effectively.

And now Erie County is on the verge of a control board because of poor fiscal management.

>From a pure economic point of view this argues two very strong reasons for keeping the base and growing the base. One, It maintains in our area a large employer. Additionally the local governments have shown they are unable to fiscally manage their respective

5/25/2005

communities. Thus closing the base and offering incentives to develop alternatives would not be a wise investment.

We understand and appreciate that the major function of this review is to insure effective military readiness to meet any and all threats against the United States. With the security of our nation paramount during these reviews and decisions. Our hope in the community is that there is an expanded role for the Niagara base in homeland security. We are situated within minutes and a couple hours of major border crossings with Canada where we know from September 11th that many of the terrorists transited. An expanded role for the base would not only help in addressing the economic issues listed above, but enhance the security of the Great Lakes region, where we have major power plant facilities, border crossing infrastructure and the Great Lakes themselves an important source of the nation's fresh water supply.

I would be remiss if I did not mention the extreme pride the community has that comes from having the 914th Airlift Wing, 107th Air Refueling Wing, 865th Support Hospital and 277th Quartermasters as neighbors in our community. It has been one of the major bright spots for sometime in our community. The yearly air show they put on "Thunder over Niagara" is enjoyed by families and attended by hundreds of thousands. We are extremely proud of the contributions to this nation and to our community that the men and women of these units have given over their storied history in Western New York. We hope that the commission will reconsider the closure of the Niagara Falls Air Force reserve base, while looking to expand its role.

Sincerely,  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Wade Jr.

submit: Send Letter

---

5/25/2005

**From:** (John B. Blyth)  
**Date:** 05/25/05 12:11:02  
**To:** info@nimac.org  
**Subject:** Niagara Air Base Petition

RECEIVED

05272005

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by John B. Blyth () on Wednesday, May 25, 2005 at 12:11:00

---

platform: We oppose the Department of Defense recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Base

address1: 811 Kimball Tower

city: Buffalo

state: NY

zip: 14214-3079

comments: This base is vital to preserving the peace in the WNY area. The power authority alone needs defending!

submit: Submit Petition

---

**From:** (Jeffrey H Brodsky)  
**Date:** 05/25/05 13:57:04  
**To:** [info@nimac.org](mailto:info@nimac.org)  
**Subject:** Niagara Air Base Petition

RECEIVED

05272005

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Jeffrey H Brodsky () on Wednesday, May 25, 2005 at 13:57:02

---

platform: We oppose the Department of Defense recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Base

address1: 170 Allen St

city: Lockport

state: NY

zip: 14094

comments: Enter your own comments here.

submit: [Submit Petition](#)

---

5/25/2005

RECEIVED

Harold Cummings  
104 Woodside Ave  
Buffalo, NY 14220  
716-822-6762

BRAC Commission  
Washington D.C.  
C/o NIMAC; PO Box 231  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

05272005

Dear Commissioners:

The Pentagon has recommended to the BRAC that the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, New York be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with over 3,000 full and part-time workers, this would deliver yet another devastating blow to our region's economy. In addition to the financial concerns, the community pride for our past and present military contributions can not be understated.

The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossings between the U.S. and Canada, along with the New York State Power Authority's Hydropower Complex which supplies substantial power to the Northeast United States Power Grid. The size and location of the base would also allow it to be used for responses to natural disasters or terror attacks in the Northeast United States. While the base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable. It should be expanded rather than closed.

**According to the Niagara Military Affairs Council:**

- Closure of Niagara would reduce the Air Force presence in NY by 40%, and eliminate the *last* Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. Since 1995, Niagara has been modernized with \$35M in new facilities and lengthened runways which have improved the operational effectiveness of the wings.
- We have also reduced our Base Operations Support costs by not less than 33% (to include a 25% reduction in utilities) to make the base one of the most cost-efficient facilities in the Air Force Reserve Command.
- 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.
- Niagara Falls existing infrastructure can accommodate 8 additional C-130H model aircraft without any military construction.

**According to the Buffalo News article on May 25, 2005:**

Top Air Force officials relied on their "collective judgment" in deciding to recommend their Niagara Falls base for closure, disregarding military value rankings that showed Niagara outperforming several other bases slated to remain open. Air Force spokesman Douglas Karas said the Air Force's "mission compatibility index" was just one of the factors considered in the base-closure decisions. Asked why at least nine bases with airlift missions were slated to stay open when they had lower "MCI" scores than Niagara, Karas said the Base Closure Executive Group sometimes deviated from its own rating system. "There were cases in the analysis process where lower ranked bases were retained," Karas said. "In those cases, the Base Closure Executive Group used their collective judgment, that, when combined with the MCI scores, resulted in the retention of lower-ranked installations. This was true in Niagara's case."

A lobbyist for New York State on the issue, John M. Simmons, said the Air Force's response proves that the base-closure recommendations followed "a judgmental, and not an analytical, process." The Pentagon was supposed to judge each base primarily on its military value - yet in

this case the Air Force bypassed the tool it created for judging military value. "The Air Force in their response acknowledge that they themselves ignored the results of a key analytical tool . . . created for the BRAC process," Simmons said. "They simply took the position that their judgment trumped the analysis."

Considering these facts and figures; I am writing to remind you, our elected representative, of your obligation to use all means necessary in order to persuade the BRAC to reconsider the recommendation to close the station. The fine men and women of the 914th Airlift Wing and the 107th Air Refueling Wing have been instrumental in securing the home front and fighting the war on terror overseas and these highly-decorated units have served their country and represented our State and local communities well.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this most important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mark Simmons". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

RECEIVED

Melissa Cummings  
104 Woodside Ave  
Buffalo, NY 14220  
716-822-6762

BRAC Commission  
Washington D.C.  
C/o NIMAC; PO Box 231  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

05272005

Dear Commissioners:

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The base site lies within close proximity to four major border crossings between the U.S. and Canada, along with the New York State Power Authority's Hydropower Complex which supplies substantial power to the Northeast United States Power Grid. The size and location of the base would also allow it to be used for responses to natural disasters or terror attacks in the Northeast United States. While the base serves as a logistical backbone for the War on Terror, it is also strategically placed and fully expandable. It should be expanded rather than closed.

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this case the Air Force bypassed the tool it created for judging military value. "The Air Force in their response acknowledge that they themselves ignored the results of a key analytical tool . . . created for the BRAC process," Simmons said. "They simply took the position that their judgment trumped the analysis."

Considering these facts and figures; I am writing to remind you, our elected representative, of your obligation to use all means necessary in order to persuade the BRAC to reconsider the recommendation to close the station. The fine men and women of the 914th Airlift Wing and the 107th Air Refueling Wing have been instrumental in securing the home front and fighting the war on terror overseas and these highly-decorated units have served their country and represented our State and local communities well.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this most important matter.

Sincerely,

Melissa S. Cummings

Arthur S. Fijalkowski  
May 24, 2005  
1259 French Road, Apt 6  
Cheektowaga, New York 14043

BRAC Commission  
Washington DC.  
c/o NIMAC  
P.O. Box 231  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

RECEIVED

05272005

Dear Chairman Principi and BRAC Commissioners:

I am writing in reference to the Defense Department's recommendation to close the Niagara Falls Air Force Reserve Base. This recommendation is obviously a horrendous mistake that has been decided based upon little insight into our units capabilities and our accomplishments. I am strongly urging the BRAC Commission reverse this decision and remove the Niagara Falls Base from the list immediately.

Why has the BRAC Commission decided to take our mission and our aircraft and put them on more costly active duty bases, when the guard and reserves have proven their capabilities to stand and fight proudly with our active duty counterparts, while operating at a fraction of the cost? Additionally, why are they moving these aircraft to more volatile locations where hurricanes and tornadoes are more prevalent?

Did the commission consider our involvement in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom? Our unit sustained some of the worst conditions while constantly being pulverized by sand storms and temperatures in the 130 degree range; yet we maintained a 98% on-time flight ratio while flying missions 24 / 7. While operating in Operation Iraqi Freedom, we participated in the largest gathering of C130's ever in one location and did you know that the 914<sup>th</sup> unit is the lead night vision C-130 unit in the entire Reserves? I have not even scratched

the surface on the countless missions and excursions our unit has participated in, as well as the well trained personnel that our unit possesses.

Additionally, the Commission should consider our allegiance to the mission and some of the greatest folks from any single unit. The Guard and Reserve has a sense of ownership to their assets that will never be found in any active duty unit; I know I am a proud Reserve member of the 914th, and spent 12 years on here in Niagara Falls and on active duty.

I urge the Commission in the strongest possible terms to remove Niagara Falls ARS from the Pentagon's recommended list of base closures and to stop the degradation of our military and its mission abilities.

Sincerely,



Arthur S. Fijalkowski  
USAFR, 914<sup>th</sup> AW/MXMCF

David Thomann  
6603 South Transit Rd  
May 24, 2005  
Lockport, New York 14094

RECEIVED

BRAC Commission  
Washington DC.  
c/o NIMAC  
P.O. Box 231  
Niagara Falls, NY 14304-0231

05272005

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I urge the Commission in the strongest possible terms to remove Niagara Falls ARS from the Pentagon's recommended list of base closures and to stop the degradation of our military and its mission abilities.

Sincerely,

David Thomann Jr  
USAFR

RECEIVED  
5-23-05

JK

May 16, 2005

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

To Whom It May Concern:

The Pentagon has recommended the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, New York be closed. As Niagara County's second largest employer with 3,000 full and part-time employees, this would be devastating to the region's economy.

I am a former resident of Lewiston, New York, who now lives in New York City. Fortunately, I endured 9-11 and its aftermath. The uncertainty of my safety and security was fortified because of the strength of our troops—in Western New York in particular. Why?

Remember, suspected Al Qaeda members were found in Western New York. Remember, four border crossings directly into Canada exist in Western New York. In fact, the U.S. Border Patrol constantly apprehends immigrants trying to enter the U.S. through Canada. Terrorists can and possibly have done the same. The U.S. Border Patrol and the U.S. Coast Guard cannot effectively protect us alone without the military support of the Niagara Falls Air Base. (Bear in mind, these two constituents are often stationed at the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station.) In the event of a terrorist attack or migration, we need to act quickly on all fronts. The Niagara Falls Air Base is therefore crucial.

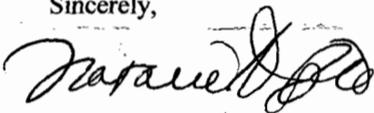
What's more, the Lewiston Power Vista distributes power to much of New York State. This as you know, makes Western New York a prime target for terrorism. I endured the blackout of a few years ago and I certainly do not think you would want our power to be compromised.

Lastly, I have attended several of the Niagara Falls Air Base International Air Shows. The thousands in attendance spoke for itself. The Western New York community, our Canadian neighbors, and even visitors, like me, understand the importance of our armed forces considering today's world events. The caliber of employees and troops of the Niagara Falls Air Base is second to none. Several MWR/Services awards have been given to both the military and civilians, Family Support awards have been granted, and the 914<sup>th</sup> and 107<sup>th</sup> sections of the air base have been recognized with numerous Air Force awards.

The reality is the outstanding men and women of the 107<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing and 914<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing have been instrumental in securing the home front and fighting the war on terror overseas. I implore you to lend your support and ensure that the Niagara Falls Air Base remains open.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Natalie Slipko  
41-15 46<sup>th</sup> St., 4d  
Sunnyside, NY 11104  
[Kiksplitt29@aol.com](mailto:Kiksplitt29@aol.com)  
(917) 716-5848

*[Faint, illegible text, likely a scan artifact or bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*

RECEIVED  
5/23/05  
KJ

441 Morgan Drive  
Lewiston, NY 14092  
May 19, 2005

Dear BRAC Commission:

I have been employed for the past ten years as a Marketing Director for the MWR/Services department at the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. I was very surprised when it was announced by the Pentagon that the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station was listed on the BRAC closure list. As Niagara County's second largest employer with nearly 3000 full and part-time employees, this would deliver another devastating blow to our region's economy.

I totally understand that the Pentagon wants to reduce operating costs, but at what price? From what I have read, units here at Niagara Falls are being moved to different locations throughout the country. However, has anyone thought of how this decision is going to affect the Reservists and Guardsmen? These units are not being relocated to a base that is near Niagara, but thousands of miles away. My co-workers will now have to commute thousands of miles in order to serve their country. Not to mention, these Reservists and Guardsmen will have to relocate in order to find a new full time job at their new duty station. Otherwise, they will have to spend their paychecks to pay for travel costs every month for their drill. It really does not make any sense. Along with this, definitely from my experience in dealing with the troops stationed here at Niagara, their morale will decline. I thought my job as well as DoD in general was to support our troops at any costs? I feel that the troops' morale has not been a factor in this decision and it should have been a major factor.

The Niagara Falls ARS is the only base in the U.S. that is located near four border crossings along with the New York State Power Authority Hydropower complex that provides power to the Northeast United States Grid. Many of the 250,000 citizens in the Greater Western New York area feel much safer with the Base located here because it provides a military presence in the area.

Over the years, the USCG as well as the U. S. Border Patrol not only trained here at Niagara, but also, they have launched their helicopters from Niagara. Let us not forget, terrorists have been arrested in Buffalo a few years ago as well as the U.S. Border Patrol constantly arrest people trying to sneak into the U.S. from Canada. The Base is strategically located to support the War on Terror and to patrol our borders. In my opinion, to secure our border even better and that the Base has one of the longest runways in the Northeast, the Base should host a fighter wing to patrol our borders. Therefore, it should not be closed, but expanded to accommodate this additional military unit.

The closing of Niagara Falls would reduce the Air Force presence in NY by 40% and eliminate the last Federal Air Force flying mission in the State. Since 1995, the Base has been modernized with \$35M in projects as well as operating costs have been reduced by at least 25% (Data furnished by the Niagara Military Affairs Council). In addition to these facts, Niagara is the best AFRC installation in recruiting with over a 100% manning rate. This means that the installation is doing its job well with recruiting new members as well as keeping current reservists enrolled in the military.

Along with the strategic location of the Niagara Falls ARS on four border crossings, the Base faces no physical encroachment or air traffic control constraints. This means that the Base could handle additional aircraft and air traffic. The Base also hosts many other Federal Government agencies, military units and civic organizations for training purposes. Therefore,

the Niagara Falls ARS is being used by many other various agencies instead of strictly by the Air Force.

According to the Pentagon's closure list, it seems like the military units that are located in the northern part of the U.S. are being moved south. Why is this being done? Bases in the north like Niagara Falls do not have as extreme weather conditions as people experience in the south such as tornados, hail, and even hurricanes. Back in the early 1990s, bases like Homestead AFB were damaged due to Hurricane Andrew. A few military installations were damaged last year due to hurricanes while bases in the north like Niagara Falls did not close or were damaged due to inclement weather. Years ago, Niagara Falls once hosted aircraft from other bases that were being hit with a hurricane. Besides this, should not our troops be trained in all different types of weather instead of hot weather all of the time?

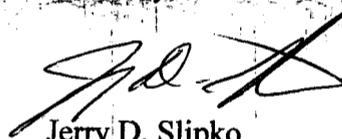
In regards to the 914<sup>th</sup> and 107<sup>th</sup>, both of these units have won numerous Air Force military and civilian awards along with being recognized in the local community. By relocating these units, I am sure that DoD will lose many of these highly skilled individuals because if the troops are ordered to relocate, there is a possibility that they will either resign or retire from the military. Again, the closing of this base will hurt troop morale. As far as the civilians that are employed on the base, many of them will probably chose not to relocate and enter into the civilian job force. This means that DoD will lose all of this corporate knowledge.

By closing many Reserve bases, the Pentagon is really hurting the local communities financially, support for the military, and the Employer Support the Guard/Reserve program (ESGR). Bases that are located in small towns and cities seem to foster "grass roots" support for the troops because these troops live in the community. Local companies support the ESGR program by permitting the Reservists to serve our country. The way the world is today, the military needs as much community support as possible. By combining many of these bases, the Pentagon will lose this support as well as it will definitely have a negative impact on towns like ones surrounding Niagara Falls.

In closing, I humbly request that you strongly reconsider the decision to close the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. The outstanding Reservists and Guardsmen of the 914<sup>th</sup> Airlift Wing and 107<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing have been instrumental in securing the home front as well as fighting the war on terror overseas. By consolidating Reserve units into active duty bases really does not support Reservist's troop morale.

Thank you for your time and consideration on this very important topic.

Sincerely,



Jerry D. Slipko  
Jds915@msn.com  
716-754-8465

RECEIVED

Dwight C. Rascoe  
96 State Street  
Ossining, NY 10562

05272005

May 26, 2005

D. B. C. and R. C.  
2521 South Clark Street  
Arlington, VA

Dear Sir:

I am a military buff.

Where will the 914th Airlift Wing transfer to when Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station closes?

Within the next 5 years what military installations be in New York and California?

Will the Niagara Falls property be given to any government agency?

A kind reply will be valued.

Dwight C. Rascoe

**Received**  
6/12/2005

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**Date:** Friday, May 27, 2005 9:53 AM  
**From:** F100C@aol.com  
**To:** info@nimac.org  
**CC:** CBROWN7447@aol.com  
**Subject:** Niag Falls Air Base

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To whom it may concern

I enlisted in the NY Air Guard March of 1949 shortly after its inception in December of 1948 .

I served on active duty when we were Federalized for the Korean Conflict.

With extension time served I was Honorably discharged in 1952.

I re enlisted in 1963 under the "Try One" Program. And shortly after, became an air technician until 1967. Again with an Honorable Discharge.

I had a hard time merely accepting the 107th going from a fighter squadron to an air refueling wing. Now the closing of the Air Base is just unimaginable.

A long history of activation after activation and the Niagara Falls Air Bases support of the overall picture supporting both Domestic and foreign duties should speak for its self. Not only for the 107th but also the 914th of which is at the same locale

The amount of money recently spent to upgrade this Air Base is of importance as well. Improved runways larger fuel depot etc. too many to mention.

In short the NFAB has more than done its duty and now with the massive improvements should continue to do so.

I respectfully request you NOT close this base.

Robert E Wright  
Fmr S/Sgt NYANG

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