July 27, 2005

2005 Defense BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark St, ste. 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Members of the BRAC Commission,

I am a long-time resident of Willow Grove, PA (33 years), and believe that the W.G. Naval Air Station is essential to the security of the northeastern corridor of the United States.

The Base maintains up-to-date radar and runway facilities, joint operations of the Navy, Air Force, Army, Marine, and National Guard units - including the 111th Fighter Wing of the PA Air National Guard and the 913th Airlift Wing of the Air Force Reserve. The Naval Air Station provides economic benefits which include $375 million in annual area economic activity and 10,000 area jobs.

The safety and security of the American citizens should take precedence over filling the pockets of private real-estate developers who stand to benefit from the closing of this
Base.

I urge you to keep open the Willow Grove Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base and its resident armed forces active duty and reserve units.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Cantor Penny Aronson
July 26, 2005

2005 Defense BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark St. Ste 600
Arlington VA 22202

Re: Willow Grove Naval Air Station
Joint Reserve Base

Let me begin by noting that as a resident of Horsham Pa., I get to see and hear Fighters and Transports arrive at and depart from the Willow Grove Naval Air Station. I also get to drive past the station on most of my daily treks about the area.

I have read and am familiar with practically all if the arguments set forth for retaining this facility and I wholeheartedly support all of them. I would like to add further reason for not surrendering the facility with all it's strategic advantages (to the Northeast).

That is the cost and near impossibility of duplicating such a base at a later date. We have already seen the debate over a mere extension of runway at the Airport on Doylestown. As a native of Rhode Island I have witnessed the
inordinate work that has gone into creating an airport capable of handling Jet Aircraft.

As a retiree from a Petroleum company, I have seen the frustration of acquiring sites for operations ranging from service stations to distribution centers to refineries.

The strategy has been, invariably, to acquire existing facilities which are already strategically located and designed to accommodate the operation.

Willow Grove is strategically designed and located to afford us the defense logistics we require here in the Northeast. Let’s keep it!

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