

DCN: 7575

Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission

BRAC Commission

AUG 15 2005

Received

Thank you for your interest in contacting the 2005 BRAC Commission. We request that prior to sending your comment to the Commission you review the detailed information outlined on the lower portion of the page. This information includes:

Detailed explanation of the requirement that all information submitted to the Commission, including comments from this web page, be made part of the public record.

Information outlining when and how to contact the DoD Inspector General to investigate allegations of fraud, waste and abuse within the Department of Defense.

Important details on the handling of attachment material that may be covered by copyright restrictions.

Please provide your message in the space provided below. Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required. Click to learn more about other opportunities.

* Subject:

Base closing

Base/Installation/Facility:

Naval Air Station Oceana

State:

Virginia

* Comment:

Closing this base and moving all the Jets and equipment, to Cecil Field or wherever is totally ridiculous. Relocating that many Naval Personnel, their families and all their belongings are the stupidest thing I have ever heard of, it is not cost effective. It would "DEVASTATE" the Virginia/Virginia Beach economy. Furthermore if Naval Station Norfolk where under attack like Pearl Harbor was, It would be beneficial to have our Jets closer for defensive/offensive purposes.

Andrew P. Reggio
U.S. NAVY RETIRED
EG PNI

Submit

Attachments

If you wish to send an attachment, please mail it directly to us at the following address:

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

BRAC Commission

Martin A. Joseph
5269 Summer Crescent
Virginia Beach, VA 23462

AUG 15 2005

Received

August 9, 2005

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

Dear Sirs,

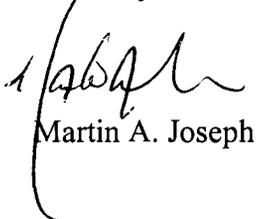
As a taxpayer, I have concerns about the government spending billions of dollars to relocate a Naval Air Station with such a strategic location to serve the Home of the Atlantic Fleet in Norfolk and protect and defend the East Coast of our great Nation.

Although there have been encroachment concerns by the Navy, I am certain that more than ever the City of Virginia Beach recognizes how important Oceana is to the largest populated city in the State of Virginia. It is evident from the publicity this matter has drawn that the City of Virginia Beach Officials will cease and desist in approving and development near the Jet Base. Oceana has proven its worth over the decades to this great nation and has the capacity and facilities to continue to serve well into the future.

Our community provides a Navy family with an exceptional quality of life and educational system for their children. It would be devastating to up-root over 12,000 families from a place and a way of life they have become accustomed to enjoy.

I'm certain that you've heard the saying "We Love Jet Noise", It is a way of life in Virginia Beach and simply comes with the territory. Oceana has been a critical base of operations for the Navy for as long as I can remember growing up in Virginia Beach. Yes, this is my home and I am a small business owner. I do not directly do business with the Navy nor do I attempt to market my company's products and services to the military; however, I urge you to remove Naval Air Station Oceana from the BRAC list.

Sincerely,



Martin A. Joseph

To Whom it may concern: AUG 15 2005

I obtained my ^{Received} US Citizenship 32 years ago & love the US! because makes me proud - NOVD to be in Annapolis & Point to be in a military community.

Most of my clients are military & I give military discounts. My business will probably close if the base leaves - I am 2 1/2 miles from the back gate.

Please do not leave Va Beach in economic distress - without the military high unemployment & business closures will surely follow.

Danielle Arduena
3116 A London Bridge Rd
Va Beach Va 23452

Majestic Homes Inc.

2005 Old Greenbrier Road, Suite 107
Chesapeake, VA 23320
Office - (757)-965-5917 Fax - (757) 965-5919

BRAC Commission

AUG 15 2005

Received

August 12, 2005

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

Ref: Naval Air Station Oceana in Virginia Beach, Virginia

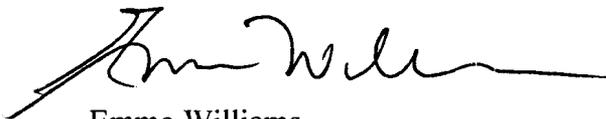
To Whom It May Concern:

I respectfully request you reconsider your recommendation of the closing or realignment of the Naval Air Station Oceana in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Your panel says' it is critical that you obtain the public's advice, assessments, and analyses to assist you in making the best possible decision. I am asking the esteemed panel to keep an open mind when you are considering the impact that closing this base would have in our area. Please consider that Virginia Beach will not be the only community to be impacted by this closing, and that all of our communities in Hampton Roads will be severely impacted by the closure of Oceana. Closing Oceana would have a major impact on our economy and would threaten our livelihood.

I was raised in a military household, my father served in the Navy for 27 years and I have lived in Virginia Beach for 42 years and I know how important the Navy is for our economic success to our community. I am also a woman home builder in Hampton Roads and I know how important keeping the base open is for the future of my company as well as the future of my employees and all of the other businesses in the community that will be affected by your decision.

In closing I am pleading to the panel to not close Oceana, this base is an important part of our economy providing 12,000 jobs and is vital to our success as a community. Our city wants and needs the U.S. Navy and I feel that we are good neighbors and are willing to do our part to keep Oceana in our backyard.

Sincerely,



Emma Williams
President
Majestic Homes Inc.

BRAC Commission

AUG 15 2005

Received

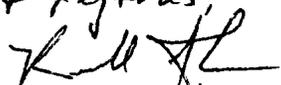
8/10/05

Dear BRAC:

Please do not close down Oceana Master Jet Base in Virginia Beach, VA. The military is welcomed & needed in this area. This base is the best location & value to the Navy & the taxpayer.

It would be too expensive to move the base to another location & the central location of Virginia Beach is the best place for the base to remain.

Texas is not a sensible alternative nor is the hurricane prone state of Florida.

Best regards,

Russell Johnson
(a registered voter)

HISTORY OF OCEANA



1943
Oceana is commissioned as an auxiliary airfield.

1952
Stepped-up training schedules and jet traffic – which requires longer runways than Norfolk has available – brings Oceana to full status as a naval air station. The station now covers 5,300 acres.

1957
Oceana is designated a master jet base.

1976
The Virginia Beach City Council approves Lynnhaven Mall, one of the largest malls in Virginia. It lies in Oceana's loudest noise zone and partly in an area where the risk of jet crashes is highest.

1985
Council rezones 30 acres that once sprouted strawberries on South Lynnhaven Road for a condo community. A Navy letter calls the development "highly incompatible" and "most undesirable." A coalition of civic leagues – armed with 1,000 signatures – opposes it, too.

1986
In May, a Navy A-6E bomber skids across Oceana Boulevard, killing two pilots and a woman in her car. It is the only time a civilian dies in a jet crash at Oceana.

1993
A year after Oceana escapes a base realignment and closure scare, the City Council adopts a noise-disclosure law and requires insulation in new homes built in noise zones – more than 16 years after the Navy began requesting it. The base marks its 50th anniversary, having grown to 16 times its original size. A takeoff or landing occurs every two minutes, on average. It employs more than 8,500 Navy personnel and 1,600 civilians and has a payroll of about \$275 million a year.

2000
Council rezones farm land along Indian River Road for Dewberry Farms, a single-family neighborhood of about 50 homes in a medium jet-noise zone.

2003
Council approves a developer's plan to demolish an aging motel off Laskin Road and replace it with a 10-building, 90-unit luxury condo complex in an accident-potential zone off Oceana's most heavily used runway. The Navy begins a tough, new stand against development near Oceana.

1942
Project, The nuts field e to ion.

1950
The first jet aircraft arrives at Oceana.

1954
Oceana is designated an all-weather air station.

1974
Swing-wing F-14 Tomcat jets, the newest Navy fighters, are assigned to Oceana.

1978
The council rezones 70 acres of industrial land for 160 homes in Oceana's loudest noise zone along London Bridge Road. Oceana's new skipper asks the council for a mandatory noise-disclosure law, but the city defers to the real-estate industry's voluntary disclosure policy.

1989
Council agrees to increase the density on 13 acres for the 96-unit apartment complex Herons Point – off Fremac Drive between Laskin Road and Interstate 264 – in the highest noise and accident-potential zones.

1999
Ten F/A-18 Hornet squadrons from Cecil Field in Jacksonville, Fla., relocate to Oceana. With the F-14 Tomcat fighters already assigned to Oceana, the base becomes the Navy's largest strike-fighter facility.

2002
Oceana opens a "Hush House" – a sound-absorbing hangar for almost all of the facility's high-power jet engine tests.

2005
The first operational squadron of F/A-18 Super Hornets arrives in Oceana.

Compiled by ANN K. JOHNSON;
photo by STEVEN M. KATZ; graphic by ROBERT D. VOPOS/The Virginian-Pilot

If our pilots can not do the training they need, do what's best for them

BRAC Commission

Dear Sir/Madam, AUG 15 2005

August 10, 05.

Received

Save our Friends, Family and Neighbors.
Losing Oceana will prove devastating and heartbreaking. Businesses will close, houses will be lost, unemployment would rise. Oceana is the only alternative for the Super Hornet aircraft and performing training missions. This is a Military Community and I am proud to live here!

Is this the thanks you will give our troops fighting in Iraq. that they cant work here or live here because we are closing a military base which employ over 12,000 people with a yearly impact of \$1.2 billion.

lets give the Troops a big thanks by letting Oceana stay. By the way Oceana has been here long before the houses, stores, and malls were built on the flight path of the sound of freedom.

The Citizens against Jet noise should give their houses and real estate tax to our military and move, maybe Iraq would be quieted for them. You can also cut the jobs of the people that allowed land to be sold to the idiots that cry against the sound of freedom.

Thankyou,
Sharon Armstrong

Lawrence Fleder
500 E. Main Street, # 1424
Norfolk, VA 23510

AUG 15 2005

Received

August 10, 2005

Base Realignment & Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Re: Oceana Navy Master Jet Base

Dear Commissioners:

BRAC has a very challenging job. So does the Pentagon and the Defense Department.

Adding Ocean to the list of base closures is a mistake. The Pentagon did not put Oceana on the closure list for many reasons. The Defense Department did not put Oceana on the closure list for many reasons. For all of those reasons Oceana should be removed from your list of base closings.

Military preparation and readiness is an issue in the domain of the Pentagon and the Defense Department. They do not want Oceana on the closure list.

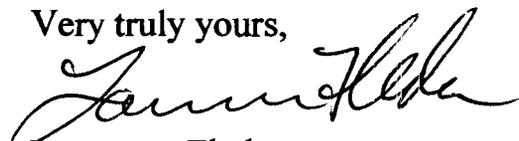
Americans and the President of the United States/Chief of Staff want to follow the advice of the Pentagon and the Defense Department. Said advice is not to put Oceana on the closure list.

Our military families do not want to change Oceana from a Master Jet Base.

Please continue to dedicate you review to the list originally delivered to you by the Pentagon and the Defense Department.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,



Lawrence Fleder

AUG 15 2005

Received

Please do not close

Oceana!

We do not need
high unemployment
issues, closed
business's, etc.

Please Protect us
as our Master Jet
Base protects us
+ you!

Monica Clay
101 E. Carlton Way
Hickory, NC 27042