

House Approves Slaughter and Lee Funds for Niagara Falls Air Base

Niagara Falls, NY – Reps. Louise M. Slaughter (D-NY-28) and Chris Lee (R-NY-26) today applauded the House passage of \$5,700,000 for the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station (NFARS) included in the Fiscal Year 2010 Military Construction Appropriations Bill. Slaughter and Lee requested the key federal funding that will be used to construct an indoor firing range at the air base.

“It is important that we continue to improve and expand the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station to provide our servicemen and women with the quality facilities and equipment they deserve,” said Congresswoman Slaughter. **“What’s more, every dollar invested into the air base means more jobs and economic opportunity for Western New York.”**

The Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station is the largest employer in Niagara County and as such, is not only critical to our national security but vital to the economic well-being of the region.

“The Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station is an integral part of our community and a critical economic engine for the region,” said Congressman Lee. **“I look forward to continuing to work with Congresswoman Slaughter to ensure our servicemembers have the tools they need to be ready to answer the nation’s call to service.”**

Reps. Slaughter and Lee are strong advocates for NFARS.

Over the years Rep. Slaughter has secured millions in federal funding for NFARS, most recently securing \$9 million for a new dining facility in Fiscal Year 2009 federal appropriations. She has also been instrumental in bringing additional aircraft to the base.

Congressman Lee has visited NFARS numerous times to express his strong commitment to ensuring the base remains open and a viable part of Niagara County's economy.

In 2005, NFARS was placed on the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) list. However after months of negotiations, the New York State Congressional Delegation and the Niagara Military Affairs Council successfully pressured the BRAC Commission to take NFARS off of the list.

Continued federal investments in NFARS, like this funding for a new firing range, are instrumental to keeping the base operational and off the BRAC list.

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