

April 7, 2009 - Rep. Slaughter Participates in Groundbreaking at Niagara Air Base

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Slaughter Is NFARS' Strongest Congressional Advocate

Niagara Falls, NY - Congresswoman Louise M. Slaughter (D-NY-28), Chairwoman of the House Committee on Rules, today participated in the groundbreaking of a new \$23.6 million construction project at the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station (NFARS) that includes a training building, an Area Maintenance Support Activity, an Organization Maintenance Shop, and a storage building. Rep. Slaughter is NFARS' strongest advocate in Congress and has worked tirelessly to improve and expand the Base.

"I am proud of the investments we have made in the Niagara Falls Air Reserve Station. We are well on our way to becoming an indispensable base within the armed services," said Rep. Slaughter. "I look forward to continuing our work to improve and expand the Base to provide our servicemen and women with the quality facilities and equipment they deserve."

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.

"Every dollar that we invest into this air base translates into more jobs and economic opportunity for Western New York," Slaughter continued.

has a long history of defending the Base from closure. In 2005, NFARS was placed on the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) list. However after months of negotiations, Rep. Slaughter and the New York State Congressional Delegation, along with the Niagara Military Affairs Council, successfully pressured the BRAC Commission to take NFARS off of the list.

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. Her efforts have been key in keeping the reserve station operational and off the BRAC list.

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