

May 24, 2005 - BRAC Lawyer Agrees:

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BRAC Process Flawed, Recommendations on NFARS Wrong

Slaughter: Analysis Underscores our Argument to Save the Base

Washington, DC - Rep. Louise Slaughter (D-NY), Ranking Member of the House Rules Committee, issued the following statement this afternoon in response to the revelation that the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission Office of the Deputy General Counsel agrees with the argument that the Air Force is inappropriately using the 2005 BRAC round for purposes that contradict BRAC's true intent, and used NFARS as the primary example for making his argument to the commission.

"The BRAC Commission now understands what we have been saying for months: NFARS shouldn't be on the closure list

I am pleased that the BRAC Commission's own lawyer agrees that the Air Force used erroneous methodology to place the Niagara Falls Air Base on the Pentagon's closure list.

The fact that he went so far as to use NFARS as the primary example of how the Air Force manipulated the BRAC criteria to over estimate potential cost savings and exceeded their authority in calling for the relocation of Air National Guard assets only underscores the arguments we have been making for months.

There is no doubt that NFARS should remain open and fully operational, and that the Pentagon's evaluation which led to its placement on the closure list was incorrect and based on false information."