

*Daniel & Joy Stoddard*

200 Murray Drive  
Clovis, NM 88101  
505-742-1423

May 30, 2005

Honorable James V. Hansen  
BRAC Commission  
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Honorable Hansen:

I am writing to you today to voice my concerns regarding Cannon Air Force Base, Clovis, NM, being on the BRAC list for closure. Over the past 50 years, our community and surrounding area has reached out and supported the military base like none other. We have done so financially, morally, spiritually, and consistently. I have lived in Clovis, NM, my whole life and cannot imagine our community without Cannon.

Cannon AFB does not fit the criteria specified for base closure. The base has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This coupled with the weather in eastern New Mexico provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots. Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war efforts as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the U.S. Navy. The space at Cannon also allows surge force requirements in training and emergency situations. The Melrose bombing range is literally seconds from the runway at Cannon. This allows pilots to get airborne, and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range. Many other places, fuel and precious time are wasted.

The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft. Once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is implemented, we will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions. This is a very important point, as it allows the Air Force to better train for real-life situations.

Our community and the surrounding areas of eastern New Mexico and west Texas have had a strong, 50 year relationship with the base. In fact, the area is

home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon AFB for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve this population. Our community has purchased land and **GIVEN** it back to the military for expansion on numerous occasions. This was done to protect valuable air space, for additional housing areas, and alternate runway facilities. The leaders of this community have spear-headed the effort to expand and convert the air space to supersonic capability through the New Mexico Training Range Initiative.

My request is that you thoroughly review the information presented before you and re-consider the request to add Cannon Air Force Base to the BRAC closure list.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joy L. Stoddard". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "J".

Joy L. Stoddard

*Daniel & Joy Stoddard*

200 Murray Drive  
Clovis, NM 88101  
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RECEIVED  
06102005

May 30, 2005

General James T. Hill  
BRAC Commission  
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

General Hill:

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Joy L. Stoddard

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May 30, 2005

Honorable Philip Coyle  
BRAC Commission  
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Honorable Coyle:

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May 30, 2005

Admiral Harold W. Gehman, Jr.  
BRAC Commission  
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Admiral Gehman:

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