

May 20, 2005

BRAC COMMISSION
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

06102005

Dear BRAC COMMISSIONERS: *Air Force Brig. Gen. Sue Ellen Turner*

As a concerned citizen of Clovis, New Mexico and for the keeping of Cannon Air Force Base, I want you to hear my personal reasons for taking Cannon off the base closure list.

I feel this was a judgment call made without knowing all the pertinent facts which make Cannon a special base. I want you to consider this plea along with those of our community and surrounding area.

First of all we have over 300 good flying days a year. We have bright sunny weather with very little rain or snow. It is excellent for daytime or night flying maneuvers. This makes for perfect training. When citizens hear the planes flying at night or zooming around in the day, I thank God for allowing them to protect us and our nation.

The additional air space that is currently being negotiated for purchase will allow for greater missions for many different planes which need supersonic airspace.

The Melrose bombing range is only seconds away for great training and blends into our farm land with no problems. It is vital to training missions for war time planes to practice maneuvers.

The air force personnel that come into Clovis are looking for families to take them under their wings and offer them a place to belong. We do this without reluctance. We can help them meet each need whether it be to find schools for their children, homes to rent or buy, suggestions of places to eat, or shop. We bring them into our churches and offer them closeness to God as a family. We comfort them when they have family members who must be deployed. We give them our hugs when they are ill or loose a loved one. These are some of the reasons why many who are stationed here make a personal reason to come back to Clovis to retire.

Our military retirees now are a great number of our area population and have a great voice in our local, state and national government. Many are getting up in years. They are very concerned over this disturbing news that a group of Government officials can actually change the course of their lives with a single stroke of a pen. Many veteran retirees serve on local civic government positions; have teaching positions, and other income which make their income taxes higher. Still they are able to maintain their independence and be productive citizens. Many returned to Clovis or elected to retire here because of our lower cost of living. Property taxes are very low and housing is very affordable.

There is a brand new Veteran's Clinic in our community and many military families use this facility as well as the state of the art Commissary on base. The local hospital has just hired 60 new doctors to help provide the medical needs for the military when the base hospital was closed. They are doing major renovations to the Emergency Room, and adding a Cancer and Heart Wing. The hospital would not have considered making these costly improvements if they had had knowledge Cannon Air Force Base closing. This news is depleting so much of our local economy and will severely hurt our economic base for our surrounding businesses.

The two area colleges are also a great plus factor as all the military and their families can continue to work on furthering their education while they are stationed here in Clovis or Portales. They offer online classes as well to not hinder their busy schedules. They offer child care as well.

Over 3/4th of my income as a Realtor came from selling and renting homes to Veterans. I have 7 web sites and I start a dialog sometimes over a year before actual orders are signed when they may be coming to Cannon to get a local relocation packet, housing, school, recreational information. I feel as if I know my clients long before their arrival. Many have bought homes sight unseen because I have met their needs by taking video and digital pictures of neighborhoods, measured the room sizes and provided any information necessary to help make them an informed decision. I usually have their loans approved often with the assistance of local lenders who partner in their buying process. It makes the veterans feel taken care of coming to an unknown community.

When they first arrive the wind may be blowing and we may be in a no rain time of year where the land is flat and the grass is brown, but soon there is more to be found in Clovis than rolling green hills and lots of trees. It is the friendliness and caring of the community. The veterans learn to love us as we love them.

I want to personally plead with you to consider and reconsider your previous decision and consider the impact on our local area communities and our economy.

In addition the air force personnel stationed here at Cannon do not want to leave Clovis. Countless families want to stay here, but will go if sent somewhere else, but if given the choice. Clovis is like no other home to them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sharon Hicks". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

May 20, 2005

BRAC COMMISSION
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

RECEIVED

06102005

Dear BRAC COMMISSIONERS:

Army Gen. James T. Hill

As a concerned citizen of Clovis, New Mexico and for the keeping of Cannon Air Force Base, I want you to hear my personal reasons for taking Cannon off the base closure list.

I feel this was a judgment call made without knowing all the pertinent facts which make Cannon a special base. I want you to consider this plea along with those of our community and surrounding area.

First of all we have over 300 good flying days a year. We have bright sunny weather with very little rain or snow. It is excellent for daytime or night flying maneuvers. This makes for perfect training. When citizens hear the planes flying at night or zooming around in the day, I thank God for allowing them to protect us and our nation.

The additional air space that is currently being negotiated for purchase will allow for greater missions for many different planes which need supersonic airspace.

The McRose bombing range is only seconds away for great training and blends into our farm land with no problems. It is vital to training missions for war time planes to practice maneuvers.

The air force personnel that come into Clovis are looking for families to take them under their wings and offer them a place to belong. We do this without reluctance. We can help them meet each need whether it be to find schools for their children, homes to rent or buy, suggestions of places to eat, or shop. We bring them into our churches and offer them closeness to God as a family. We comfort them when they have family members who must be deployed. We give them our hugs when they are ill or loose a loved one. These are some of the reasons why many who are stationed here make a personal reason to come back to Clovis to retire.

Our military retirees now are a great number of our area population and have a great voice in our local, state and national government. Many are getting up in years. They are very concerned over this disturbing news that a group of Government officials can actually change the course of their lives with a single stroke of a pen. Many veteran retirees serve on local civic government positions; have teaching positions, and other income which make their income taxes higher. Still they are able to maintain their independence and be productive citizens. Many returned to Clovis or elected to retire here because of our lower cost of living. Property taxes are very low and housing is very affordable.

There is a brand new Veteran's Clinic in our community and many military families use this facility as well as the state of the art Commissary on base. The local hospital has just hired 60 new doctors to help provide the medical needs for the military when the base hospital was closed. They are doing major renovations to the Emergency Room, and adding a Cancer and Heart Wing. The hospital would not have considered making these costly improvements if they had had knowledge Cannon Air Force Base closing. This news is depleting so much of our local economy and will severely hurt our economic base for our surrounding businesses.

The two area colleges are also a great plus factor as all the military and their families can continue to work on furthering their education while they are stationed here in Clovis or Portales. They offer online classes as well to not hinder their busy schedules. They offer child care as well.

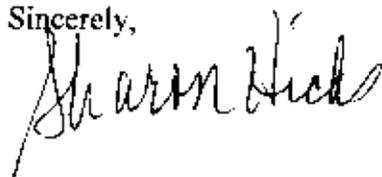
Over 3/4th of my income as a Realtor came from selling and renting homes to Veterans. I have 7 web sites and I start a dialog sometimes over a year before actual orders are signed when they may be coming to Cannon to get a local relocation packet, housing, school, recreational information. I feel as if I know my clients long before their arrival. Many have bought homes sight unseen because I have met their needs by taking video and digital pictures of neighborhoods, measured the room sizes and provided any information necessary to help make them an informed decision. I usually have their loans approved often with the assistance of local lenders who partner in their buying process. It makes the veterans feel taken care of coming to an unknown community.

When they first arrive the wind may be blowing and we may be in a no rain time of year where the land is flat and the grass is brown, but soon there is more to be found in Clovis than rolling green hills and lots of trees. It is the friendliness and caring of the community. The veterans learn to love us as we love them.

I want to personally plead with you to consider and reconsider your previous decision and consider the impact on our local area communities and our economy.

In addition the air force personnel stationed here at Cannon do not want to leave Clovis. Countless families want to stay here, but will go if sent somewhere else, but if given the choice. Clovis is like no other home to them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon Hicks". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

May 20, 2005

BRAC COMMISSION
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

RECEIVED
06102005

Dear BRAC COMMISSIONERS:

Samuel K. Skinner

As a concerned citizen of Clovis, New Mexico and for the keeping of Cannon Air Force Base, I want you to hear my personal reasons for taking Cannon off the base closure list.

I feel this was a judgment call made without knowing all the pertinent facts which make Cannon a special base. I want you to consider this plea along with those of our community and surrounding area.

First of all we have over 300 good flying days a year. We have bright sunny weather with very little rain or snow. It is excellent for daytime or night flying maneuvers. This makes for perfect training. When citizens hear the planes flying at night or zooming around in the day, I thank God for allowing them to protect us and our nation.

The additional air space that is currently being negotiated for purchase will allow for greater missions for many different planes which need supersonic airspace.

The Melrose bombing range is only seconds away for great training and blends into our farm land with no problems. It is vital to training missions for war time planes to practice maneuvers.

The air force personnel that come into Clovis are looking for families to take them under their wings and offer them a place to belong. We do this without reluctance. We can help them meet each need whether it be to find schools for their children, homes to rent or buy, suggestions of places to eat, or shop. We bring them into our churches and offer them closeness to God as a family. We comfort them when they have family members who must be deployed. We give them our hugs when they are ill or loose a loved one. These are some of the reasons why many who are stationed here make a personal reason to come back to Clovis to retire.

Our military retirees now are a great number of our area population and have a great voice in our local, state and national government. Many are getting up in years. They are very concerned over this disturbing news that a group of Government officials can actually change the course of their lives with a single stroke of a pen. Many veteran retirees serve on local civic government positions; have teaching positions, and other income which make their income taxes higher. Still they are able to maintain their independence and be productive citizens. Many returned to Clovis or elected to retire here because of our lower cost of living. Property taxes are very low and housing is very affordable.

There is a brand new Veteran's Clinic in our community and many military families use this facility as well as the state of the art Commissary on base. The local hospital has just hired 60 new doctors to help provide the medical needs for the military when the base hospital was closed. They are doing major renovations to the Emergency Room, and adding a Cancer and Heart Wing. The hospital would not have considered making these costly improvements if they had had knowledge Cannon Air Force Base closing. This news is depleting so much of our local economy and will severely hurt our economic base for our surrounding businesses.

The two area colleges are also a great plus factor as all the military and their families can continue to work on furthering their education while they are stationed here in Clovis or Portales. They offer online classes as well to not hinder their busy schedules. They offer child care as well.

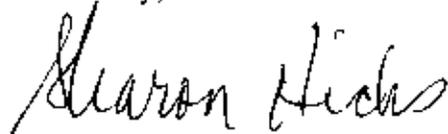
Over 3/4th of my income as a Realtor came from selling and renting homes to Veterans. I have 7 web sites and I start a dialog sometimes over a year before actual orders are signed when they may be coming to Cannon to get a local relocation packet, housing, school, recreational information. I feel as if I know my clients long before their arrival. Many have bought homes sight unseen because I have met their needs by taking video and digital pictures of neighborhoods, measured the room sizes and provided any information necessary to help make them an informed decision. I usually have their loans approved often with the assistance of local lenders who partner in their buying process. It makes the veterans feel taken care of coming to an unknown community.

When they first arrive the wind may be blowing and we may be in a no rain time of year where the land is flat and the grass is brown, but soon there is more to be found in Clovis than rolling green hills and lots of trees. It is the friendliness and caring of the community. The veterans learn to love us as we love them.

I want to personally plead with you to consider and reconsider your previous decision and consider the impact on our local area communities and our economy.

In addition the air force personnel stationed here at Cannon do not want to leave Clovis. Countless families want to stay here, but will go if sent somewhere else, but if given the choice. Clovis is like no other home to them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon Hicks". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Sharon Hicks".

May 20, 2005

BRAC COMMISSION
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

06102005

Dear BRAC COMMISSIONERS:

Adm. Harold W. Mehan Jr.

As a concerned citizen of Clovis, New Mexico and for the keeping of Cannon Air Force Base, I want you to hear my personal reasons for taking Cannon off the base closure list.

I feel this was a judgment call made without knowing all the pertinent facts which make Cannon a special base. I want you to consider this plea along with those of our community and surrounding area.

First of all we have over 300 good flying days a year. We have bright sunny weather with very little rain or snow. It is excellent for daytime or night flying maneuvers. This makes for perfect training. When citizens hear the planes flying at night or zooming around in the day, I thank God for allowing them to protect us and our nation.

The additional air space that is currently being negotiated for purchase will allow for greater missions for many different planes which need supersonic airspace.

The Melrose bombing range is only seconds away for great training and blends into our farm land with no problems. It is vital to training missions for war time planes to practice maneuvers.

The air force personnel that come into Clovis are looking for families to take them under their wings and offer them a place to belong. We do this without reluctance. We can help them meet each need whether it be to find schools for their children, homes to rent or buy, suggestions of places to eat, or shop. We bring them into our churches and offer them closeness to God as a family. We comfort them when they have family members who must be deployed. We give them our hugs when they are ill or loose a loved one. These are some of the reasons why many who are stationed here make a personal reason to come back to Clovis to retire.

Our military retirees now are a great number of our area population and have a great voice in our local, state and national government. Many are getting up in years. They are very concerned over this disturbing news that a group of Government officials can actually change the course of their lives with a single stroke of a pen. Many veteran retirees serve on local civic government positions; have teaching positions, and other income which make their income taxes higher. Still they are able to maintain their independence and be productive citizens. Many returned to Clovis or elected to retire here because of our lower cost of living. Property taxes are very low and housing is very affordable.

There is a brand new Veteran's Clinic in our community and many military families use this facility as well as the state of the art Commissary on base. The local hospital has just hired 60 new doctors to help provide the medical needs for the military when the base hospital was closed. They are doing major renovations to the Emergency Room, and adding a Cancer and Heart Wing. The hospital would not have considered making these costly improvements if they had had knowledge Cannon Air Force Base closing. This news is depleting so much of our local economy and will severely hurt our economic base for our surrounding businesses.

The two area colleges are also a great plus factor as all the military and their families can continue to work on furthering their education while they are stationed here in Clovis or Portales. They offer online classes as well to not hinder their busy schedules. They offer child care as well.

Over 3/4th of my income as a Realtor came from selling and renting homes to Veterans. I have 7 web sites and I start a dialog sometimes over a year before actual orders are signed when they may be coming to Cannon to get a local relocation packet, housing, school, recreational information. I feel as if I know my clients long before their arrival. Many have bought homes sight unseen because I have met their needs by taking video and digital pictures of neighborhoods, measured the room sizes and provided any information necessary to help make them an informed decision. I usually have their loans approved often with the assistance of local lenders who partner in their buying process. It makes the veterans feel taken care of coming to an unknown community.

When they first arrive the wind may be blowing and we may be in a no rain time of year where the land is flat and the grass is brown, but soon there is more to be found in Clovis than rolling green hills and lots of trees. It is the friendliness and caring of the community. The veterans learn to love us as we love them.

I want to personally plead with you to consider and reconsider your previous decision and consider the impact on our local area communities and our economy.

In addition the air force personnel stationed here at Cannon do not want to leave Clovis. Countless families want to stay here, but will go if sent somewhere else, but if given the choice. Clovis is like no other home to them.

Sincerely,

Sharon Hicks

May 20, 2005

BRAC COMMISSION
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

06102005

Dear BRAC COMMISSIONERS:

Rep. James Bilbray

As a concerned citizen of Clovis, New Mexico and for the keeping of Cannon Air Force Base, I want you to hear my personal reasons for taking Cannon off the base closure list.

I feel this was a judgment call made without knowing all the pertinent facts which make Cannon a special base. I want you to consider this plea along with those of our community and surrounding area.

First of all we have over 300 good flying days a year. We have bright sunny weather with very little rain or snow. It is excellent for daytime or night flying maneuvers. This makes for perfect training. When citizens hear the planes flying at night or zooming around in the day, I thank God for allowing them to protect us and our nation.

The additional air space that is currently being negotiated for purchase will allow for greater missions for many different planes which need supersonic airspace.

The Melrose bombing range is only seconds away for great training and blends into our farm land with no problems. It is vital to training missions for war time planes to practice maneuvers.

The air force personnel that come into Clovis are looking for families to take them under their wings and offer them a place to belong. We do this without reluctance. We can help them meet each need whether it be to find schools for their children, homes to rent or buy, suggestions of places to eat, or shop. We bring them into our churches and offer them closeness to God as a family. We comfort them when they have family members who must be deployed. We give them our hugs when they are ill or loose a loved one. These are some of the reasons why many who are stationed here make a personal reason to come back to Clovis to retire.

Our military retirees now are a great number of our area population and have a great voice in our local, state and national government. Many are getting up in years. They are very concerned over this disturbing news that a group of Government officials can actually change the course of their lives with a single stroke of a pen. Many veteran retirees serve on local civic government positions; have teaching positions, and other income which make their income taxes higher. Still they are able to maintain their independence and be productive citizens. Many returned to Clovis or elected to retire here because of our lower cost of living. Property taxes are very low and housing is very affordable.

There is a brand new Veteran's Clinic in our community and many military families use this facility as well as the state of the art Commissary on base. The local hospital has just hired 60 new doctors to help provide the medical needs for the military when the base hospital was closed. They are doing major renovations to the Emergency Room, and adding a Cancer and Heart Wing. The hospital would not have considered making these costly improvements if they had had knowledge Cannon Air Force Base closing. This news is depleting so much of our local economy and will severely hurt our economic base for our surrounding businesses.

The two area colleges are also a great plus factor as all the military and their families can continue to work on furthering their education while they are stationed here in Clovis or Portales. They offer online classes as well to not hinder their busy schedules. They offer child care as well.

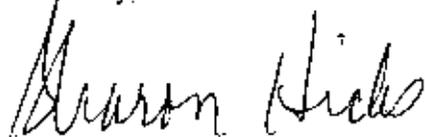
Over 3/4th of my income as a Realtor came from selling and renting homes to Veterans. I have 7 web sites and I start a dialog sometimes over a year before actual orders are signed when they may be coming to Cannon to get a local relocation packet, housing, school, recreational information. I feel as if I know my clients long before their arrival. Many have bought homes sight unseen because I have met their needs by taking video and digital pictures of neighborhoods, measured the room sizes and provided any information necessary to help make them an informed decision. I usually have their loans approved often with the assistance of local lenders who partner in their buying process. It makes the veterans feel taken care of coming to an unknown community.

When they first arrive the wind may be blowing and we may be in a no rain time of year where the land is flat and the grass is brown, but soon there is more to be found in Clovis than rolling green hills and lots of trees. It is the friendliness and caring of the community. The veterans learn to love us as we love them.

I want to personally plead with you to consider and reconsider your previous decision and consider the impact on our local area communities and our economy.

In addition the air force personnel stationed here at Cannon do not want to leave Clovis. Countless families want to stay here, but will go if sent somewhere else, but if given the choice. Clovis is like no other home to them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Aaron Hicks". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

May 20, 2005

BRAC COMMISSION
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

RECEIVED

06102005

Dear BRAC COMMISSIONERS:

Air Force Men, Lloyd W. Newton

As a concerned citizen of Clovis, New Mexico and for the keeping of Cannon Air Force Base, I want you to hear my personal reasons for taking Cannon off the base closure list.

I feel this was a judgment call made without knowing all the pertinent facts which make Cannon a special base. I want you to consider this plea along with those of our community and surrounding area.

First of all we have over 300 good flying days a year. We have bright sunny weather with very little rain or snow. It is excellent for daytime or night flying maneuvers. This makes for perfect training. When citizens hear the planes flying at night or zooming around in the day, I thank God for allowing them to protect us and our nation.

The additional air space that is currently being negotiated for purchase will allow for greater missions for many different planes which need supersonic airspace.

The Melrose bombing range is only seconds away for great training and blends into our farm land with no problems. It is vital to training missions for war time planes to practice maneuvers.

The air force personnel that come into Clovis are looking for families to take them under their wings and offer them a place to belong. We do this without reluctance. We can help them meet each need whether it be to find schools for their children, homes to rent or buy, suggestions of places to eat, or shop. We bring them into our churches and offer them closeness to God as a family. We comfort them when they have family members who must be deployed. We give them our hugs when they are ill or loose a loved one. These are some of the reasons why many who are stationed here make a personal reason to come back to Clovis to retire.

Our military retirees now are a great number of our area population and have a great voice in our local, state and national government. Many are getting up in years. They are very concerned over this disturbing news that a group of Government officials can actually change the course of their lives with a single stroke of a pen. Many veteran retirees serve on local civic government positions; have teaching positions, and other income which make their income taxes higher. Still they are able to maintain their independence and be productive citizens. Many returned to Clovis or elected to retire here because of our lower cost of living. Property taxes are very low and housing is very affordable.

There is a brand new Veteran's Clinic in our community and many military families use this facility as well as the state of the art Commissary on base. The local hospital has just hired 60 new doctors to help provide the medical needs for the military when the base hospital was closed. They are doing major renovations to the Emergency Room, and adding a Cancer and Heart Wing. The hospital would not have considered making these costly improvements if they had had knowledge Cannon Air Force Base closing. This news is depleting so much of our local economy and will severely hurt our economic base for our surrounding businesses.

The two area colleges are also a great plus factor as all the military and their families can continue to work on furthering their education while they are stationed here in Clovis or Portales. They offer online classes as well to not hinder their busy schedules. They offer child care as well.

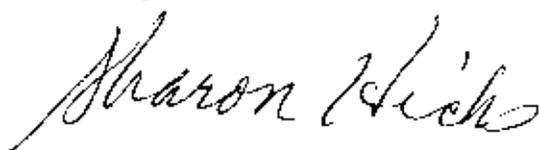
Over 3/4th of my income as a Realtor came from selling and renting homes to Veterans. I have 7 web sites and I start a dialog sometimes over a year before actual orders are signed when they may be coming to Cannon to get a local relocation packet, housing, school, recreational information. I feel as if I know my clients long before their arrival. Many have bought homes sight unseen because I have met their needs by taking video and digital pictures of neighborhoods, measured the room sizes and provided any information necessary to help make them an informed decision. I usually have their loans approved often with the assistance of local lenders who partner in their buying process. It makes the veterans feel taken care of coming to an unknown community.

When they first arrive the wind may be blowing and we may be in a no rain time of year where the land is flat and the grass is brown, but soon there is more to be found in Clovis than rolling green hills and lots of trees. It is the friendliness and caring of the community. The veterans learn to love us as we love them.

I want to personally plead with you to consider and reconsider your previous decision and consider the impact on our local area communities and our economy.

In addition the air force personnel stationed here at Cannon do not want to leave Clovis. Countless families want to stay here, but will go if sent somewhere else, but if given the choice. Clovis is like no other home to them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon Hicks". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name "Sharon Hicks".

May 20, 2005

BRAC COMMISSION
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

06102005

Dear BRAC COMMISSIONERS:

Philip E. Coyle III.

As a concerned citizen of Clovis, New Mexico and for the keeping of Cannon Air Force Base, I want you to hear my personal reasons for taking Cannon off the base closure list.

I feel this was a judgment call made without knowing all the pertinent facts which make Cannon a special base. I want you to consider this plea along with those of our community and surrounding area.

First of all we have over 300 good flying days a year. We have bright sunny weather with very little rain or snow. It is excellent for daytime or night flying maneuvers. This makes for perfect training. When citizens hear the planes flying at night or zooming around in the day, I thank God for allowing them to protect us and our nation.

The additional air space that is currently being negotiated for purchase will allow for greater missions for many different planes which need supersonic airspace.

The Melrose bombing range is only seconds away for great training and blends into our farm land with no problems. It is vital to training missions for war time planes to practice maneuvers.

The air force personnel that come into Clovis are looking for families to take them under their wings and offer them a place to belong. We do this without reluctance. We can help them meet each need whether it be to find schools for their children, homes to rent or buy, suggestions of places to eat, or shop. We bring them into our churches and offer them closeness to God as a family. We comfort them when they have family members who must be deployed. We give them our hugs when they are ill or loose a loved one. These are some of the reasons why many who are stationed here make a personal reason to come back to Clovis to retire.

Our military retirees now are a great number of our area population and have a great voice in our local, state and national government. Many are getting up in years. They are very concerned over this disturbing news that a group of Government officials can actually change the course of their lives with a single stroke of a pen. Many veteran retirees serve on local civic government positions; have teaching positions, and other income which make their income taxes higher. Still they are able to maintain their independence and be productive citizens. Many returned to Clovis or elected to retire here because of our lower cost of living. Property taxes are very low and housing is very affordable.

There is a brand new Veteran's Clinic in our community and many military families use this facility as well as the state of the art Commissary on base. The local hospital has just hired 60 new doctors to help provide the medical needs for the military when the base hospital was closed. They are doing major renovations to the Emergency Room, and adding a Cancer and Heart Wing. The hospital would not have considered making these costly improvements if they had had knowledge Cannon Air Force Base closing. This news is depleting so much of our local economy and will severely hurt our economic base for our surrounding businesses.

The two area colleges are also a great plus factor as all the military and their families can continue to work on furthering their education while they are stationed here in Clovis or Portales. They offer online classes as well to not hinder their busy schedules. They offer child care as well.

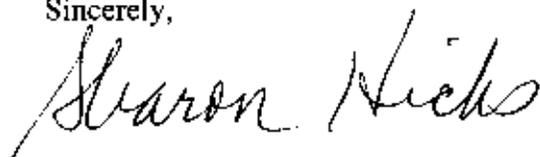
Over 3/4th of my income as a Realtor came from selling and renting homes to Veterans. I have 7 web sites and I start a dialog sometimes over a year before actual orders are signed when they may be coming to Cannon to get a local relocation packet, housing, school, recreational information. I feel as if I know my clients long before their arrival. Many have bought homes sight unseen because I have met their needs by taking video and digital pictures of neighborhoods, measured the room sizes and provided any information necessary to help make them an informed decision. I usually have their loans approved often with the assistance of local lenders who partner in their buying process. It makes the veterans feel taken care of coming to an unknown community.

When they first arrive the wind may be blowing and we may be in a no rain time of year where the land is flat and the grass is brown, but soon there is more to be found in Clovis than rolling green hills and lots of trees. It is the friendliness and caring of the community. The veterans learn to love us as we love them.

I want to personally plead with you to consider and reconsider your previous decision and consider the impact on our local area communities and our economy.

In addition the air force personnel stationed here at Cannon do not want to leave Clovis. Countless families want to stay here, but will go if sent somewhere else, but if given the choice. Clovis is like no other home to them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon Hicks". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name "Sharon Hicks".

RECEIVED

May 20, 2005

06102005

BRAC COMMISSION
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear BRAC COMMISSIONERS:

Rep. James V. Hanson

As a concerned citizen of Clovis, New Mexico and for the keeping of Cannon Air Force Base, I want you to hear my personal reasons for taking Cannon off the base closure list.

I feel this was a judgment call made without knowing all the pertinent facts which make Cannon a special base. I want you to consider this plea along with those of our community and surrounding area.

First of all we have over 300 good flying days a year. We have bright sunny weather with very little rain or snow. It is excellent for daytime or night flying maneuvers. This makes for perfect training. When citizens hear the planes flying at night or zooming around in the day, I thank God for allowing them to protect us and our nation.

The additional air space that is currently being negotiated for purchase will allow for greater missions for many different planes which need supersonic airspace.

The Melrose bombing range is only seconds away for great training and blends into our farm land with no problems. It is vital to training missions for war time planes to practice maneuvers.

The air force personnel that come into Clovis are looking for families to take them under their wings and offer them a place to belong. We do this without reluctance. We can help them meet each need whether it be to find schools for their children, homes to rent or buy, suggestions of places to eat, or shop. We bring them into our churches and offer them closeness to God as a family. We comfort them when they have family members who must be deployed. We give them our hugs when they are ill or loose a loved one. These are some of the reasons why many who are stationed here make a personal reason to come back to Clovis to retire.

Our military retirees now are a great number of our area population and have a great voice in our local, state and national government. Many are getting up in years. They are very concerned over this disturbing news that a group of Government officials can actually change the course of their lives with a single stroke of a pen. Many veteran retirees serve on local civic government positions; have teaching positions, and other income which make their income taxes higher. Still they are able to maintain their independence and be productive citizens. Many returned to Clovis or elected to retire here because of our lower cost of living. Property taxes are very low and housing is very affordable.

There is a brand new Veteran's Clinic in our community and many military families use this facility as well as the state of the art Commissary on base. The local hospital has just hired 60 new doctors to help provide the medical needs for the military when the base hospital was closed. They are doing major renovations to the Emergency Room, and adding a Cancer and Heart Wing. The hospital would not have considered making these costly improvements if they had had knowledge Cannon Air Force Base closing. This news is depleting so much of our local economy and will severely hurt our economic base for our surrounding businesses.

The two area colleges are also a great plus factor as all the military and their families can continue to work on furthering their education while they are stationed here in Clovis or Portales. They offer online classes as well to not hinder their busy schedules. They offer child care as well.

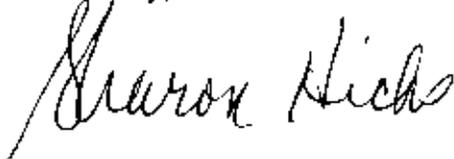
Over 3/4th of my income as a Realtor came from selling and renting homes to Veterans. I have 7 web sites and I start a dialog sometimes over a year before actual orders are signed when they may be coming to Cannon to get a local relocation packet, housing, school, recreational information. I feel as if I know my clients long before their arrival. Many have bought homes sight unseen because I have met their needs by taking video and digital pictures of neighborhoods, measured the room sizes and provided any information necessary to help make them an informed decision. I usually have their loans approved often with the assistance of local lenders who partner in their buying process. It makes the veterans feel taken care of coming to an unknown community.

When they first arrive the wind may be blowing and we may be in a no rain time of year where the land is flat and the grass is brown, but soon there is more to be found in Clovis than rolling green hills and lots of trees. It is the friendliness and caring of the community. The veterans learn to love us as we love them.

I want to personally plead with you to consider and reconsider your previous decision and consider the impact on our local area communities and our economy.

In addition the air force personnel stationed here at Cannon do not want to leave Clovis. Countless families want to stay here, but will go if sent somewhere else, but if given the choice. Clovis is like no other home to them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon Hicks". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name "Sharon Hicks".