

DCN: 2383
CYNTHIA G. WALL
6225 C.R. 7300
LUBBOCK, TX 79424

May 19, 2005

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

RECEIVED
4-24-05
5-25-05 JR

RE: Cannon Air Force Base Closing

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is written in response to the proposed base closing list regarding Cannon Air Force Base, Clovis, New Mexico.

I was a resident of Clovis from 1954 through 1967. Cannon Air Force Base has always been a part of the community of Clovis along with Portales. With Cannon being situated between the 2 communities, there is a uniqueness for both Clovis and Portales. Both communities benefit economically from Cannon. With Cannon being the only military base in Eastern New Mexico, the Veterans from Amarillo, Lubbock and the surrounding area use Cannon's services. It would be a terrible loss economically for the Clovis area and for the Veterans if Cannon were to be closed.

The location of Cannon is important to the military because of the available air space. There are miles and miles of space for the bombing ranges, for continued training flights without the interference of other aircraft. With land being open and not heavily populated, there are no encroachment issues. Cannon has supersonic capabilities along with the ability for future training of new aircraft. Cannon has just completed a new runway which would increase their capabilities also. Another point is the fact that the land around Cannon is closely related to the land of the Middle East so training of troops would be a plus. (We even have the dust storms in the spring!)

I am now a resident of Lubbock, Texas. Lubbock is part of this region and tied to Cannon. The loss of Cannon would impact the economic well-being of the surrounding areas particularly tax base and the medical community. Plus the reduction of 9,000 residents of Cannon will greatly impact the development of the region, as well. Please remember 2 other communities, Roswell, New Mexico and Lubbock, Texas, have gone through base closing in recent memory

I ask that you seriously reconsider taking Cannon Air Force Base off of the base closure list for the benefit of our region of which Cannon is a vital part. Cannon has shown its contributions to the quality of life of the area. Added to what I feel are the military training opportunities, Cannon should remain a viable air force base.

Sincerely,

Cynthia G. Wall

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