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BRAC Commission  
3521 South Clark Street  
Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

BRAC Commission Members,

Please consider finding a way to **keep Cannon AFB open and operational**. Cannon AFB has a lot of potential; we have **perfect flying weather over Eastern New Mexico** which is **essential for safer training scenarios for pilots**. **The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon**. Cannon has the **space and facilities** to accommodate joint war-fighting, training and readiness. Cannon AFB recently participated in a joint training effort between Cannon AFB and the US Navy. Cannon AFB has ample space and **ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations**. Cannon AFB is the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the **F-22, Joint Strike Fighter or a variety of other military aircraft**. The base has an **abundance of air space and no encroachment issues**. 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 train for real-life situations**. Clovis, Portales, Roswell and West Texas have a large retiree population. These people rely on Cannon AFB for healthcare, grocery shopping and prescription service. There are far more **reasons to expand Cannon AFB** than to close it.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Oswald

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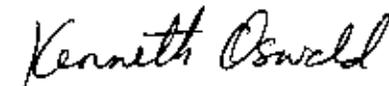
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