



Base Realignment and Closure Commission,

I am writing this letter in response to the recent decision to close Cannon AFB, NM. One of the criteria used in evaluating bases for potential closure is economic impact. It seems it does not get the credence it deserves!

In this particular instance it is obvious the importance of economic impact concerning the Clovis Community was over looked in the decision to close Cannon AFB. As I have read about the desired results the United States Government is trying to achieve by realigning and closing bases, I cannot help but wonder why more consideration hasn't been given to the economic impact a base closure has on a community.

There are obviously many ways to achieve an end result that strengthens the military and reduces military spending over time so as to acquire better, more technologically advanced war fighting assets. Taking in account location, capability and speculating the future needs of the military, a number of combinations of base closures could take place to meet the desired end result. An example of this would be Luke AFB, Arizona.

Because of the location of Luke in relation to the city of Phoenix, it is a matter of time before it is so encroached upon that the base will have to close. Furthermore flying high performance jet aircraft in a highly populated area is not good/smart business. Additionally, I don't think it would be unfair to say that the economic impact to the city of Phoenix would be minimal if Luke were to close. It pales in comparison to the impact the Cannon closure will have on the Clovis community.

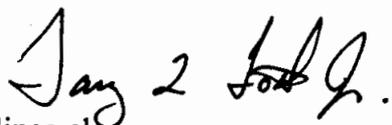
From a budget standpoint, does it not make sense to save money for the future by spending a little money now and expanding Cannon AFB? Cannon has many assets to offer. The Melrose bombing range, which undoubtedly could be expanded, if need be. There is plenty of approved open air space around Cannon for realistic air combat training and the base has plenty of ramp space and potential space for expansion.

Looking at Luke 30 years ago, although Phoenix was a large metropolitan area already, the city had not yet encroached the base as it has now. Looking at the future, if Cannon was expanded to accommodate both Luke's current training mission and the current mission of Cannon, in comparison, based on the size of Clovis, the city would never encroach the base! Regardless if it is the F-16 or any other fighter, Cannon would provide a long-term solution for providing war fighting capability, a realistic training environment with room for expansion and would not compromise the economy of this community.

When decisions are made that have no impact to the decision makers, they don't have to suffer the consequences of their actions. Those affected are people who are trying to live the American dream, prosper in a wonderful community and provide a wholesome lifestyle for their families. Clovis is in the midst of community growth that will eventually make the community even a better place to live than it already is. By closing Cannon, your decision will have a devastating impact on this community, including

potentially closing schools, loss of jobs, loss of government funding and ending the growth recently experienced. All of which lead to a large economic impact for the community. Those who have chosen to live in and around Clovis are farmers, retirees, and people trying to provide for their families in a small town. The people of Phoenix, even retirees, have a much larger resource base in terms of where to seek medical care, shopping, and social activities. The people of Clovis are much more dependent upon the base. Clovis deserves the opportunity to grow and prosper just like any other city in our great nation and the decision to close the base has jeopardized that.

Our elected representatives have the responsibility to ensure that our military remains strong and capable and our nation prospers. It is a time to remove politics from the BRAC process and do what is right, remove Cannon for base closure and find an alternative that has less far less impact but achieves the same intended results. Invest now in the Clovis Community and Cannon AFB and secure a future for this wonderful town that will continue to support the base now and for years to come.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary L. Foster Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sincerely,  
Gary L. Foster Jr,  
MSGT, USAF, Ret

Base Realignment and Closure Commission,



I am writing this letter in response to the recent decision to close Cannon AFB, NM. One of the criteria used in evaluating bases for potential closure is economic impact. It seems it does not get the credence it deserves!

In this particular instance it is obvious the importance of economic impact concerning the Clovis Community was over looked in the decision to close Cannon AFB. As I have read about the desired results the United States Government is trying to achieve by realigning and closing bases, I cannot help but wonder why more consideration hasn't been given to the economic impact a base closure has on a community.

There are obviously many ways to achieve an end result that strengthens the military and reduces military spending over time so as to acquire better, more technologically advanced war fighting assets. Taking in account location, capability and speculating the future needs of the military, a number of combinations of base closures could take place to meet the desired end result. An example of this would be Luke AFB, Arizona.

Because of the location of Luke in relation to the city of Phoenix, it is a matter of time before it is so encroached upon that the base will have to close. Furthermore flying high performance jet aircraft in a highly populated area is not good/smart business. Additionally, I don't think it would be unfair to say that the economic impact to the city of Phoenix would be minimal if Luke were to close. It pales in comparison to the impact the Cannon closure will have on the Clovis community.

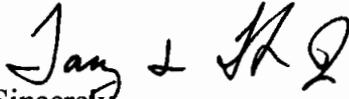
From a budget standpoint, does it not make sense to save money for the future by spending a little money now and expanding Cannon AFB? Cannon has many assets to offer. The Melrose bombing range, which undoubtedly could be expanded, if need be. There is plenty of approved open air space around Cannon for realistic air combat training and the base has plenty of ramp space and potential space for expansion.

Looking at Luke 30 years ago, although Phoenix was a large metropolitan area already, the city had not yet encroached the base as it has now. Looking at the future, if Cannon was expanded to accommodate both Luke's current training mission and the current mission of Cannon, in comparison, based on the size of Clovis, the city would never encroach the base! Regardless if it is the F-16 or any other fighter, Cannon would provide a long-term solution for providing war fighting capability, a realistic training environment with room for expansion and would not compromise the economy of this community.

When decisions are made that have no impact to the decision makers, they don't have to suffer the consequences of their actions. Those affected are people who are trying to live the American dream, prosper in a wonderful community and provide a wholesome lifestyle for their families. Clovis is in the midst of community growth that will eventually make the community even a better place to live than it already is. By closing Cannon, your decision will have a devastating impact on this community, including

potentially closing schools, loss of jobs, loss of government funding and ending the growth recently experienced. All of which lead to a large economic impact for the community. Those who have chosen to live in and around Clovis are farmers, retirees, and people trying to provide for their families in a small town. The people of Phoenix, even retirees, have a much larger resource base in terms of where to seek medical care, shopping, and social activities. The people of Clovis are much more dependent upon the base. Clovis deserves the opportunity to grow and prosper just like any other city in our great nation and the decision to close the base has jeopardized that.

Our elected representatives have the responsibility to ensure that our military remains strong and capable and our nation prospers. It is a time to remove politics from the BRAC process and do what is right, remove Cannon for base closure and find an alternative that has less far less impact but achieves the same intended results. Invest now in the Clovis Community and Cannon AFB and secure a future for this wonderful town that will continue to support the base now and for years to come.



Sincerely,  
Gary L. Foster Jr,  
MSGT, USAF, Ret



Base Realignment and Closure Commission,

I am writing this letter in response to the recent decision to close Cannon AFB, NM. One of the criteria used in evaluating bases for potential closure is economic impact. It seems it does not get the credence it deserves!

In this particular instance it is obvious the importance of economic impact concerning the Clovis Community was over looked in the decision to close Cannon AFB. As I have read about the desired results the United States Government is trying to achieve by realigning and closing bases, I cannot help but wonder why more consideration hasn't been given to the economic impact a base closure has on a community.

There are obviously many ways to achieve an end result that strengthens the military and reduces military spending over time so as to acquire better, more technologically advanced war fighting assets. Taking in account location, capability and speculating the future needs of the military, a number of combinations of base closures could take place to meet the desired end result. An example of this would be Luke AFB, Arizona.

Because of the location of Luke in relation to the city of Phoenix, it is a matter of time before it is so encroached upon that the base will have to close. Furthermore flying high performance jet aircraft in a highly populated area is not good/smart business. Additionally, I don't think it would be unfair to say that the economic impact to the city of Phoenix would be minimal if Luke were to close. It pales in comparison to the impact the Cannon closure will have on the Clovis community.

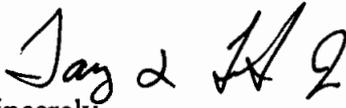
From a budget standpoint, does it not make sense to save money for the future by spending a little money now and expanding Cannon AFB? Cannon has many assets to offer. The Melrose bombing range, which undoubtedly could be expanded, if need be. There is plenty of approved open air space around Cannon for realistic air combat training and the base has plenty of ramp space and potential space for expansion.

Looking at Luke 30 years ago, although Phoenix was a large metropolitan area already, the city had not yet encroached the base as it has now. Looking at the future, if Cannon was expanded to accommodate both Luke's current training mission and the current mission of Cannon, in comparison, based on the size of Clovis, the city would never encroach the base! Regardless if it is the F-16 or any other fighter, Cannon would provide a long-term solution for providing war fighting capability, a realistic training environment with room for expansion and would not compromise the economy of this community.

When decisions are made that have no impact to the decision makers, they don't have to suffer the consequences of their actions. Those affected are people who are trying to live the American dream, prosper in a wonderful community and provide a wholesome lifestyle for their families. Clovis is in the midst of community growth that will eventually make the community even a better place to live than it already is. By closing Cannon, your decision will have a devastating impact on this community, including

potentially closing schools, loss of jobs, loss of government funding and ending the growth recently experienced. All of which lead to a large economic impact for the community. Those who have chosen to live in and around Clovis are farmers, retirees, and people trying to provide for their families in a small town. The people of Phoenix, even retirees, have a much larger resource base in terms of where to seek medical care, shopping, and social activities. The people of Clovis are much more dependent upon the base. Clovis deserves the opportunity to grow and prosper just like any other city in our great nation and the decision to close the base has jeopardized that.

Our elected representatives have the responsibility to ensure that our military remains strong and capable and our nation prospers. It is a time to remove politics from the BRAC process and do what is right, remove Cannon for base closure and find an alternative that has less far less impact but achieves the same intended results. Invest now in the Clovis Community and Cannon AFB and secure a future for this wonderful town that will continue to support the base now and for years to come.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary L. Foster Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sincerely,  
Gary L. Foster Jr,  
MSGT, USAF, Ret



Base Realignment and Closure Commission,

I am writing this letter in response to the recent decision to close Cannon AFB, NM. One of the criteria used in evaluating bases for potential closure is economic impact. It seems it does not get the credence it deserves!

In this particular instance it is obvious the importance of economic impact concerning the Clovis Community was over looked in the decision to close Cannon AFB. As I have read about the desired results the United States Government is trying to achieve by realigning and closing bases, I cannot help but wonder why more consideration hasn't been given to the economic impact a base closure has on a community.

There are obviously many ways to achieve an end result that strengthens the military and reduces military spending over time so as to acquire better, more technologically advanced war fighting assets. Taking in account location, capability and speculating the future needs of the military, a number of combinations of base closures could take place to meet the desired end result. An example of this would be Luke AFB, Arizona.

Because of the location of Luke in relation to the city of Phoenix, it is a matter of time before it is so encroached upon that the base will have to close. Furthermore flying high performance jet aircraft in a highly populated area is not good/smart business. Additionally, I don't think it would be unfair to say that the economic impact to the city of Phoenix would be minimal if Luke were to close. It pales in comparison to the impact the Cannon closure will have on the Clovis community.

From a budget standpoint, does it not make sense to save money for the future by spending a little money now and expanding Cannon AFB? Cannon has many assets to offer. The Melrose bombing range, which undoubtedly could be expanded, if need be. There is plenty of approved open air space around Cannon for realistic air combat training and the base has plenty of ramp space and potential space for expansion.

Looking at Luke 30 years ago, although Phoenix was a large metropolitan area already, the city had not yet encroached the base as it has now. Looking at the future, if Cannon was expanded to accommodate both Luke's current training mission and the current mission of Cannon, in comparison, based on the size of Clovis, the city would never encroach the base! Regardless if it is the F-16 or any other fighter, Cannon would provide a long-term solution for providing war fighting capability, a realistic training environment with room for expansion and would not compromise the economy of this community.

When decisions are made that have no impact to the decision makers, they don't have to suffer the consequences of their actions. Those affected are people who are trying to live the American dream, prosper in a wonderful community and provide a wholesome lifestyle for their families. Clovis is in the midst of community growth that will eventually make the community even a better place to live than it already is. By closing Cannon, your decision will have a devastating impact on this community, including

potentially closing schools, loss of jobs, loss of government funding and ending the growth recently experienced. All of which lead to a large economic impact for the community. Those who have chosen to live in and around Clovis are farmers, retirees, and people trying to provide for their families in a small town. The people of Phoenix, even retirees, have a much larger resource base in terms of where to seek medical care, shopping, and social activities. The people of Clovis are much more dependent upon the base. Clovis deserves the opportunity to grow and prosper just like any other city in our great nation and the decision to close the base has jeopardized that.

Our elected representatives have the responsibility to ensure that our military remains strong and capable and our nation prospers. It is a time to remove politics from the BRAC process and do what is right, remove Cannon for base closure and find an alternative that has less far less impact but achieves the same intended results. Invest now in the Clovis Community and Cannon AFB and secure a future for this wonderful town that will continue to support the base now and for years to come.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gary L. Foster Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Sincerely,  
Gary L. Foster Jr,  
MSGT, USAF, Ret



Base Realignment and Closure Commission,

I am writing this letter in response to the recent decision to close Cannon AFB, NM. One of the criteria used in evaluating bases for potential closure is economic impact. It seems it does not get the credence it deserves!

In this particular instance it is obvious the importance of economic impact concerning the Clovis Community was over looked in the decision to close Cannon AFB. As I have read about the desired results the United States Government is trying to achieve by realigning and closing bases, I cannot help but wonder why more consideration hasn't been given to the economic impact a base closure has on a community.

There are obviously many ways to achieve an end result that strengthens the military and reduces military spending over time so as to acquire better, more technologically advanced war fighting assets. Taking in account location, capability and speculating the future needs of the military, a number of combinations of base closures could take place to meet the desired end result. An example of this would be Luke AFB, Arizona.

Because of the location of Luke in relation to the city of Phoenix, it is a matter of time before it is so encroached upon that the base will have to close. Furthermore flying high performance jet aircraft in a highly populated area is not good/smart business. Additionally, I don't think it would be unfair to say that the economic impact to the city of Phoenix would be minimal if Luke were to close. It pales in comparison to the impact the Cannon closure will have on the Clovis community.

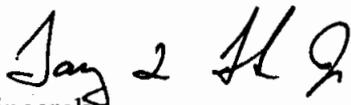
From a budget standpoint, does it not make sense to save money for the future by spending a little money now and expanding Cannon AFB? Cannon has many assets to offer. The Melrose bombing range, which undoubtedly could be expanded, if need be. There is plenty of approved open air space around Cannon for realistic air combat training and the base has plenty of ramp space and potential space for expansion.

Looking at Luke 30 years ago, although Phoenix was a large metropolitan area already, the city had not yet encroached the base as it has now. Looking at the future, if Cannon was expanded to accommodate both Luke's current training mission and the current mission of Cannon, in comparison, based on the size of Clovis, the city would never encroach the base! Regardless if it is the F-16 or any other fighter, Cannon would provide a long-term solution for providing war fighting capability, a realistic training environment with room for expansion and would not compromise the economy of this community.

When decisions are made that have no impact to the decision makers, they don't have to suffer the consequences of their actions. Those affected are people who are trying to live the American dream, prosper in a wonderful community and provide a wholesome lifestyle for their families. Clovis is in the midst of community growth that will eventually make the community even a better place to live than it already is. By closing Cannon, your decision will have a devastating impact on this community, including

potentially closing schools, loss of jobs, loss of government funding and ending the growth recently experienced. All of which lead to a large economic impact for the community. Those who have chosen to live in and around Clovis are farmers, retirees, and people trying to provide for their families in a small town. The people of Phoenix, even retirees, have a much larger resource base in terms of where to seek medical care, shopping, and social activities. The people of Clovis are much more dependent upon the base. Clovis deserves the opportunity to grow and prosper just like any other city in our great nation and the decision to close the base has jeopardized that.

Our elected representatives have the responsibility to ensure that our military remains strong and capable and our nation prospers. It is a time to remove politics from the BRAC process and do what is right, remove Cannon for base closure and find an alternative that has less far less impact but achieves the same intended results. Invest now in the Clovis Community and Cannon AFB and secure a future for this wonderful town that will continue to support the base now and for years to come.

  
Sincerely,  
Gary L. Foster Jr,  
MSGT, USAF, Ret



Base Realignment and Closure Commission,

I am writing this letter in response to the recent decision to close Cannon AFB, NM. One of the criteria used in evaluating bases for potential closure is economic impact. It seems it does not get the credence it deserves!

In this particular instance it is obvious the importance of economic impact concerning the Clovis Community was over looked in the decision to close Cannon AFB. As I have read about the desired results the United States Government is trying to achieve by realigning and closing bases, I cannot help but wonder why more consideration hasn't been given to the economic impact a base closure has on a community.

There are obviously many ways to achieve an end result that strengthens the military and reduces military spending over time so as to acquire better, more technologically advanced war fighting assets. Taking in account location, capability and speculating the future needs of the military, a number of combinations of base closures could take place to meet the desired end result. An example of this would be Luke AFB, Arizona.

Because of the location of Luke in relation to the city of Phoenix, it is a matter of time before it is so encroached upon that the base will have to close. Furthermore flying high performance jet aircraft in a highly populated area is not good/smart business. Additionally, I don't think it would be unfair to say that the economic impact to the city of Phoenix would be minimal if Luke were to close. It pales in comparison to the impact the Cannon closure will have on the Clovis community.

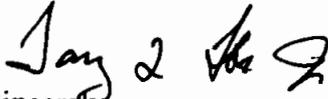
From a budget standpoint, does it not make sense to save money for the future by spending a little money now and expanding Cannon AFB? Cannon has many assets to offer. The Melrose bombing range, which undoubtedly could be expanded, if need be. There is plenty of approved open air space around Cannon for realistic air combat training and the base has plenty of ramp space and potential space for expansion.

Looking at Luke 30 years ago, although Phoenix was a large metropolitan area already, the city had not yet encroached the base as it has now. Looking at the future, if Cannon was expanded to accommodate both Luke's current training mission and the current mission of Cannon, in comparison, based on the size of Clovis, the city would never encroach the base! Regardless if it is the F-16 or any other fighter, Cannon would provide a long-term solution for providing war fighting capability, a realistic training environment with room for expansion and would not compromise the economy of this community.

When decisions are made that have no impact to the decision makers, they don't have to suffer the consequences of their actions. Those affected are people who are trying to live the American dream, prosper in a wonderful community and provide a wholesome lifestyle for their families. Clovis is in the midst of community growth that will eventually make the community even a better place to live than it already is. By closing Cannon, your decision will have a devastating impact on this community, including

potentially closing schools, loss of jobs, loss of government funding and ending the growth recently experienced. All of which lead to a large economic impact for the community. Those who have chosen to live in and around Clovis are farmers, retirees, and people trying to provide for their families in a small town. The people of Phoenix, even retirees, have a much larger resource base in terms of where to seek medical care, shopping, and social activities. The people of Clovis are much more dependent upon the base. Clovis deserves the opportunity to grow and prosper just like any other city in our great nation and the decision to close the base has jeopardized that.

Our elected representatives have the responsibility to ensure that our military remains strong and capable and our nation prospers. It is a time to remove politics from the BRAC process and do what is right, remove Cannon for base closure and find an alternative that has less far less impact but achieves the same intended results. Invest now in the Clovis Community and Cannon AFB and secure a future for this wonderful town that will continue to support the base now and for years to come.



Sincerely,  
Gary L. Foster Jr,  
MSGT, USAF, Ret