

**BRAC Commission
Received**
6/23/2005

June 9, 2005

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner
THE BRAC COMMISSION
2521 S. Clark St.
Arlington, VA 22202

Re: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Brigadier General Turner:

As a caring, concerned, longtime citizen of Clovis, New Mexico, I am writing in regards to Cannon Air Force Base being on the BRAC list for closure. Our town needs to keep Cannon Air Force Base. Without the base many people in Clovis will lose their jobs. Our livelihood depends on keeping Cannon. As an employee of Clovis Community College, I am very concerned about the drop in enrollment of students since so many of our students are from the base. Also, my husband and I are owners of a real estate appraisal company here in Clovis and our business will be greatly affected.

Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure. The base has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots. 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. The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training ability. The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. This allows pilots to get airborne, and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range, rather than spending all of their fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, and then returning to the base. Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the U.S. Navy. 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. Cannon has won countless awards, both on ACC level, Air Force and NAF levels, and national and STAT levels. The relationship between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding towns; Clovis, Portales, West Texas, and others, is unlike any other installation in the country. Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

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We have had a strong 50-year relationship with the base. In the early 90s, ^{6/23/2005}Curry County, in conjunction with the state of New Mexico, purchased air easements around Cannon Air Force base and GAVE them to the Air Force. This was done to protect that air space from encroachment and was an important issue for the Air Force. The local community purchased the land north of Cannon Air Force Base and GAVE it back to the Air Force for additional housing, now known as Chavez Manor. Within the last few years, our community purchased land west of Cannon and GAVE it back to the Air Force for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at the base. Leaders within our community spear-headed the effort to expand and convert the air space to supersonic capability through the New Mexico Training Range Initiative.

In summary, the community has reached out and supported the base like no other community over the last 50 years. We've done so financially, morally, spiritually and above all, consistently.

Please keep Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico open!

Respectfully submitted,



Jo Ann Johnson

**BRAC Commission
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6/23/2005

June 9, 2005

General Lloyd W. "Fig" Newton
THE BRAC COMMISSION
2521 S. Clark St.
Arlington, VA 22202

Re: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear General Newton:

As a caring, concerned, longtime citizen of Clovis, New Mexico, I am writing in regards to Cannon Air Force Base being on the BRAC list for closure. Our town needs to keep Cannon Air Force Base. Without the base many people in Clovis will lose their jobs. Our livelihood depends on keeping Cannon. As an employee of Clovis Community College, I am very concerned about the drop in enrollment of students since so many of our students are from the base. Also, my husband and I are owners of a real estate appraisal company here in Clovis and our business will be greatly affected.

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Jo Ann Johnson

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The Honorable Anthony J. Principi
Chairman
THE BRAC COMMISSION
2521 S. Clark St.
Arlington, VA 22202

Re: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Honorable Principi:

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June 9, 2005

The Honorable James V. Hansen
THE BRAC COMMISSION
2521 S. Clark St.
Arlington, VA 22202

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Dear Honorable Hansen:

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June 9, 2005

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner
THE BRAC COMMISSION
2521 S. Clark St.
Arlington, VA 22202

Re: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Honorable Skinner:

As a caring, concerned, longtime citizen of Clovis, New Mexico, I am writing in regards to Cannon Air Force Base being on the BRAC list for closure. Our town needs to keep Cannon Air Force Base. Without the base many people in Clovis will lose their jobs. Our livelihood depends on keeping Cannon. As an employee of Clovis Community College, I am very concerned about the drop in enrollment of students since so many of our students are from the base. Also, my husband and I are owners of a real estate appraisal company here in Clovis and our business will be greatly affected.

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Jo Ann Johnson

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General James T. Hill
THE BRAC COMMISSION
2521 S. Clark St.
Arlington, VA 22202

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Jo Ann Johnson

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June 9, 2005

The Honorable Philip Coyle
THE BRAC COMMISSION
2521 S. Clark St.
Arlington, VA 22202

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Dear Honorable Coyle:

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Jo Ann Johnson

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6/23/2005

June 9, 2005

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
THE BRAC COMMISSION
2521 S. Clark St.
Arlington, VA 22202

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June 9, 2005

Admiral Harold W. (Hal) Gehman, Jr.
THE BRAC COMMISSION
2521 S. Clark St.
Arlington, VA 22202

Re: Cannon Air Force Base

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