

Michael F. Pitts
49 Laguna Court
Portales, NM 88130

May 20, 2005

General James T. Hill
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

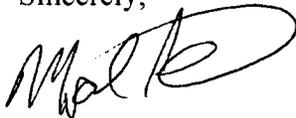
I would like to ask for your help to ensure that the closure of Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico is removed from the base closure list. I feel that the Pentagon recommendation to close Cannon did not consider some salient facts regarding this Base's role in our country's national security.

Cannon is located in Eastern New Mexico, a state with vast wide open spaces, making it very viable for training missions to be completed with little interference with other air traffic or disturbance to the citizens. Cannon has an available bombing range just a few miles from the facility, making the training missions even more effective. The weather in New Mexico is conducive to flying over 300 days per year. This means less down time for pilots and aircraft.

Additionally, many military retirees depend on this base for their services that they earned as a result of their service. This not only affects our immediate area, but the large retiree population of Lubbock TX, which lost its base a few years ago.

I realize that the country must close some bases as a cost saving measure. I only ask that the commission look at the closure list with open eyes and full disclosure of the benefits that each base provides the country as a whole as you make this difficult decision.

Sincerely,



Michael F. Pitts

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Portales, NM 88130

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The Honorable Anthony J. Principi
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

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Admiral Harold Gehman Jr.
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

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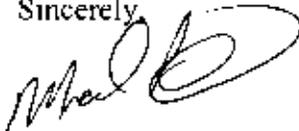
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