

RECEIVED

6/22/2005

BRAC Commission Members,

I am writing to request that you consider **keeping Cannon AFB open!**

Closing Cannon would have a devastating effect on our small community. Clovis is a small town of approximately 35 thousand people. Clovis is a community with a big heart and an incredible relationship with the military community at Cannon. We have 350 days of sunshine, mild winters, **no encroachment issues, plenty of space for expansion and clearance for flying supersonic flights.**

Closing a base isn't really a cost savings when you factor in all the money that has to be spent to close a base, maintain buildings and environmental clean up. All personal will have to relocate to other bases, where is the savings? In the past few years, millions maybe billions of dollars have been spent on Cannon. Cannon has **2 new runways, control tower, hangers, brand new front gate** equipped with anti-terrorist devices, **fire department and dormitories.** The majority of the buildings on Cannon have been replaced over the last few years.

Where will planes flying over Melrose Bombing Range divert to when there is an **in flight emergency?** Albuquerque is 224 miles, Alamogordo is 245 miles and Amarillo is 105 miles. **Time is critical to the safety of Air Force resources when flying multi million dollar aircraft during emergencies.** The local airport isn't equipped to handle large aircraft.

Retired military people in our community and people living in Roswell NM and Lubbock and Amarillo TX have to travel to Clovis for medical care and prescriptions, they will now have to travel to Albuquerque and Alamogordo.

Real Estate values will plummet when the housing market is flooded with ~~vacant housing~~. Who funds HAP (Housing Assistance Program)? It is the DOD, again no savings! **HAP only pays 75% of the existing mortgage,** creating further financial hardship on military members that have purchased real estate. There will be approximately **700 houses** on the market if Cannon is closed. The **1644 military houses** in Clovis and Portales NM will also be vacant and will have to be maintained by the government.

Please consider **Cannon AFB for expansion, not closure.**

Sincerely,



Suzanne Oswald

06212005

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Suzanne Oswald

A rectangular stamp with the text "BRAC Commission" on the top line and "Received" on the bottom line. The text is in a bold, sans-serif font. The stamp is slightly tilted and has a textured, ink-like appearance.

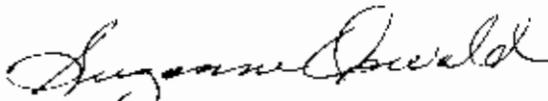
BRAC Commission
Received

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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Suzanne Oswald". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Suzanne Oswald

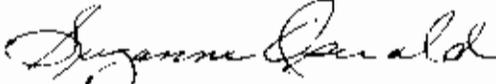
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