



RECEIVED

June 28, 2005

Rep. James V. Hansen
BRAC COMMISSIONER

07 01 20 05

This is my third letter addressed to all BRAC commissioners, to our President, George W. Bush, to our Secretary of DOD, Donald Rumsfeld, to our four U.S. Congressional New Mexico delegates and also to our State and Lt. Governor of New Mexico.

I want to thank those of you who attended the June 24th BRAC hearing in Clovis, New Mexico. Especially, thankful and privileged for the six BRAC commissioners that attended the hearing and visited the CANNON AFB facility.

I am 89 years old, a military and a federal civil service employee retiring from 10 years at Cannon and 19 years at George AFB in Victorville, California. A former New Yorker, I arrived at Cannon (then named Clovis Army Air Field) on October 27, 1941 with 150 military personnel to activate the base. There were no buildings on the base and the existing Glider Field runway was being replaced to support the World WarII bombers, B24's, B17's, and finally the super bomber B29's. The 150 military personnel were housed in private homes in the city of Clovis for some 6 months. I personally resided at 801 Connelly with the Schwarts family. We finally moved on base upon completion of our barracks.

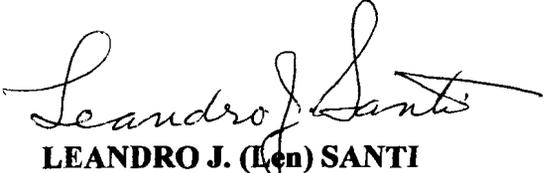
We trained aircraft crews every two months who were shipped to Europe and finally to Japan to help bring WWII to an end. I was discharged as a Warrant Officer in April 1946 and married a local farm girl. We stayed in Clovis bought our own 320-acre farm. We reared a family of three children and stayed in Clovis until 1960. A drouth hit the Clovis area from 1949 - 1955 and during that period I placed the land in the Government Soil Bank Program. I went to work as a civil service employee at Cannon beginning in 1955 - 1960. In 1960 I sold the farm and moved to George Air Force Base in California. There I finally retired in 1979 returning to Clovis to make our home. As a civilian employee I worked in the Post Engineer Office as a Construction Program Manager. We had five professional engineers who developed designs and construction of the many facilities, which you saw during your visit of Cannon and those on George AFB which closed some time ago because of flight encroachment to the Los Angeles International Airport.

I would have liked to have made this presentation at the BRAC hearing in person but this was not possible. I believe all of our local city leaders, our state and federal representatives made an excellent clear and factual presentation. Mr. Randy Harris and Chad Lydick really hit the nail on the head with the essential reasons to remove Cannon AFB from the closure list. I realize how difficult it is for the BRAC commissioners to provide

this decision. I also realize there are bases with greater valued total facility assets. But, that's because they had a greater population with much greater political support than Cannon. However, greater assets do not necessarily provide for better aircraft training and may not include a bombing range facility which exists at Cannon. Cannon provides permanent adequate Operational, Maintenance, Aircraft Engine Testing, Apron, Hangars, Runway facilities to support four squadrons with 18 aircraft in each squadron. Cannon also provides housing, recreational facilities on base in support of 4,000 plus military personnel and their families. There are no airspace encroachment problems and presently we are working to expand future airspace for supersonic aircraft that soon will be released to bases with the capability necessary for their support.

Considering the information provided at the hearing, plus the above information, I hope that Chairman Principi, Rep. James H. Bilbray, Philip Coyle, Rep. James V. Hansen, Retired Army General James T. Hill and Brigadier General Sue Ellen Turner can convince the three other commissioners to remove Cannon from the closure list. Our military personnel and their family members need a community that supports them and makes them a part of our family.

God bless our troops that are in harms way, God bless those patriots who have paid the ultimate price and those who have returned with injured bodies. May God bring peace soon, protecting our remaining soldiers and allowing them to return to their families. GOD BLESS AMERICA!



**LEANDRO J. (Len) SANTI
1124 Lexington Rd.
Clovis, NM, 88101
505-762-6065**



RECEIVED 07 01 20 05 June 28, 2005

Adm. Harold W. Gehman Jr.
BRAC COMMISSIONER

This is my third letter addressed to all BRAC commissioners, to our President, George W. Bush, to our Secretary of DOD, Donald Rumsfeld, to our four U.S. Congressional New Mexico delegates and also to our State and Lt. Governor of New Mexico.

I want to thank those of you who attended the June 24th BRAC hearing in Clovis, New Mexico. Especially, thankful and privileged for the six BRAC commissioners that attended the hearing and visited the CANNON AFB facility.

I am 89 years old, a military and a federal civil service employee retiring from 10 years at Cannon and 19 years at George AFB in Victorville, California. A former New Yorker, I arrived at Cannon (then named Clovis Army Air Field) on October 27, 1941 with 150 military personnel to activate the base. There were no buildings on the base and the existing Glider Field runway was being replaced to support the World WarII bombers, B24's, B17's, and finally the super bomber B29's. The 150 military personnel were housed in private homes in the city of Clovis for some 6 months. I personally resided at 801 Connelly with the Schwarts family. We finally moved on base upon completion of our barracks.

We trained aircraft crews every two months who were shipped to Europe and finally to Japan to help bring WWII to an end. I was discharged as a Warrant Officer in April 1946 and married a local farm girl. We stayed in Clovis bought our own 320-acre farm. We reared a family of three children and stayed in Clovis until 1960. A drouth hit the Clovis area from 1949 - 1955 and during that period I placed the land in the Government Soil Bank Program. I went to work as a civil service employee at Cannon beginning in 1955 - 1960. In 1960 I sold the farm and moved to George Air Force Base in California. There I finally retired in 1979 returning to Clovis to make our home. As a civilian employee I worked in the Post Engineer Office as a Construction Program Manager. We had five professional engineers who developed designs and construction of the many facilities, which you saw during your visit of Cannon and those on George AFB which closed some time ago because of flight encroachment to the Los Angeles International Airport.

I would have liked to have made this presentation at the BRAC hearing in person but this was not possible. I believe all of our local city leaders, our state and federal representatives made an excellent clear and factual presentation. Mr. Randy Harris and Chad Lydick really hit the nail on the head with the essential reasons to remove Cannon AFB from the closure list. I realize how difficult it is for the BRAC commissioners to provide

this decision. I also realize there are bases with greater valued total facility assets. But, that's because they had a greater population with much greater political support than Cannon. However, greater assets do not necessarily provide for better aircraft training and may not include a bombing range facility which exists at Cannon. Cannon provides permanent adequate Operational, Maintenance, Aircraft Engine Testing, Apron, Hangars, Runway facilities to support four squadrons with 18 aircraft in each squadron. Cannon also provides housing, recreational facilities on base in support of 4,000 plus military personnel and their families. There are no airspace encroachment problems and presently we are working to expand future airspace for supersonic aircraft that soon will be released to bases with the capability necessary for their support.

Considering the information provided at the hearing, plus the above information, I hope that Chairman Principi, Rep. James H. Bilbray, Philip Coyle, Rep. James V. Hansen, Retired Army General James T. Hill and Brigadier General Sue Ellen Turner can convince the three other commissioners to remove Cannon from the closure list. Our military personnel and their family members need a community that supports them and makes them a part of our family.

God bless our troops that are in harms way, God bless those patriots who have paid the ultimate price and those who have returned with injured bodies. May God bring peace soon, protecting our remaining soldiers and allowing them to return to their families. GOD BLESS AMERICA!


LEANDRO J. (Gen) SANTI
1124 Lexington Rd.
Clovis, NM, 88101
505-762-6065

RECEIVED
07 01 2005

June 28, 2005

Rep. James Bilbray
BRAC COMMISSIONER

This is my third letter addressed to all BRAC commissioners, to our President, George W. Bush, to our Secretary of DOD, Donald Rumsfeld, to our four U.S. Congressional New Mexico delegates and also to our State and Lt. Governor of New Mexico.

I want to thank those of you who attended the June 24th BRAC hearing in Clovis, New Mexico. Especially, thankful and privileged for the six BRAC commissioners that attended the hearing and visited the CANNON AFB facility.

I am 89 years old, a military and a federal civil service employee retiring from 10 years at Cannon and 19 years at George AFB in Victorville, California. A former New Yorker, I arrived at Cannon (then named Clovis Army Air Field) on October 27, 1941 with 150 military personnel to activate the base. There were no buildings on the base and the existing Glider Field runway was being replaced to support the World WarII bombers, B24's, B17's, and finally the super bomber B29's. The 150 military personnel were housed in private homes in the city of Clovis for some 6 months. I personally resided at 801 Connelly with the Schwarts family. We finally moved on base upon completion of our barracks.

We trained aircraft crews every two months who were shipped to Europe and finally to Japan to help bring WWII to an end. I was discharged as a Warrant Officer in April 1946 and married a local farm girl. We stayed in Clovis bought our own 320-acre farm. We reared a family of three children and stayed in Clovis until 1960. A drouth hit the Clovis area from 1949 - 1955 and during that period I placed the land in the Government Soil Bank Program. I went to work as a civil service employee at Cannon beginning in 1955 - 1960. In 1960 I sold the farm and moved to George Air Force Base in California. There I finally retired in 1979 returning to Clovis to make our home. As a civilian employee I worked in the Post Engineer Office as a Construction Program Manager. We had five professional engineers who developed designs and construction of the many facilities, which you saw during your visit of Cannon and those on George AFB which closed some time ago because of flight encroachment to the Los Angeles International Airport.

I would have liked to have made this presentation at the BRAC hearing in person but this was not possible. I believe all of our local city leaders, our state and federal representatives made an excellent clear and factual presentation. Mr. Randy Harris and Chad Lydick really hit the nail on the head with the essential reasons to remove Cannon AFB from the closure list. I realize how difficult it is for the BRAC commissioners to provide

this decision. I also realize there are bases with greater valued total facility assets. But, that's because they had a greater population with much greater political support than Cannon. However, greater assets do not necessarily provide for better aircraft training and may not include a bombing range facility which exists at Cannon. Cannon provides permanent adequate Operational, Maintenance, Aircraft Engine Testing, Apron, Hangars, Runway facilities to support four squadrons with 18 aircraft in each squadron. Cannon also provides housing, recreational facilities on base in support of 4,000 plus military personnel and their families. There are no airspace encroachment problems and presently we are working to expand future airspace for supersonic aircraft that soon will be released to bases with the capability necessary for their support.

Considering the information provided at the hearing, plus the above information, I hope that Chairman Principi, Rep. James H. Bilbray, Philip Coyle, Rep. James V. Hansen, Retired Army General James T. Hill and Brigadier General Sue Ellen Turner can convince the three other commissioners to remove Cannon from the closure list. Our military personnel and their family members need a community that supports them and makes them a part of our family.

God bless our troops that are in harms way, God bless those patriots who have paid the ultimate price and those who have returned with injured bodies. May God bring peace soon, protecting our remaining soldiers and allowing them to return to their families. GOD BLESS AMERICA!


LEANDRO J. (Len) SANTI
1124 Lexington Rd.
Clovis, NM, 88101
505-762-6065

RECEIVED

June 28, 2005

Ret. USAF Gen. Lloyd "Fig" Newton 07012005
BRAC COMMISSIONER

This is my third letter addressed to all BRAC commissioners, to our President, George W. Bush, to our Secretary of DOD, Donald Rumsfeld, to our four U.S. Congressional New Mexico delegates and also to our State and Lt. Governor of New Mexico.

I want to thank those of you who attended the June 24th BRAC hearing in Clovis, New Mexico. Especially, thankful and privileged for the six BRAC commissioners that attended the hearing and visited the CANNON AFB facility.

I am 89 years old, a military and a federal civil service employee retiring from 10 years at Cannon and 19 years at George AFB in Victorville, California. A former New Yorker, I arrived at Cannon (then named Clovis Army Air Field) on October 27, 1941 with 150 military personnel to activate the base. There were no buildings on the base and the existing Glider Field runway was being replaced to support the World WarII bombers, B24's, B17's, and finally the super bomber B29's. The 150 military personnel were housed in private homes in the city of Clovis for some 6 months. I personally resided at 801 Connelly with the Schwartz family. We finally moved on base upon completion of our barracks.

We trained aircraft crews every two months who were shipped to Europe and finally to Japan to help bring WWII to an end. I was discharged as a Warrant Officer in April 1946 and married a local farm girl. We stayed in Clovis bought our own 320-acre farm. We reared a family of three children and stayed in Clovis until 1960. A drouth hit the Clovis area from 1949 - 1955 and during that period I placed the land in the Government Soil Bank Program. I went to work as a civil service employee at Cannon beginning in 1955 - 1960. In 1960 I sold the farm and moved to George Air Force Base in California. There I finally retired in 1979 returning to Clovis to make our home. As a civilian employee I worked in the Post Engineer Office as a Construction Program Manager. We had five professional engineers who developed designs and construction of the many facilities, which you saw during your visit of Cannon and those on George AFB which closed some time ago because of flight encroachment to the Los Angeles International Airport.

I would have liked to have made this presentation at the BRAC hearing in person but this was not possible. I believe all of our local city leaders, our state and federal representatives made an excellent clear and factual presentation. Mr. Randy Harris and Chad Lydick really hit the nail on the head with the essential reasons to remove Cannon AFB from the closure list. I realize how difficult it is for the BRAC commissioners to provide

this decision. I also realize there are bases with greater valued total facility assets. But, that's because they had a greater population with much greater political support than Cannon. However, greater assets do not necessarily provide for better aircraft training and may not include a bombing range facility which exists at Cannon. Cannon provides permanent adequate Operational, Maintenance, Aircraft Engine Testing, Apron, Hangars, Runway facilities to support four squadrons with 18 aircraft in each squadron. Cannon also provides housing, recreational facilities on base in support of 4,000 plus military personnel and their families. There are no airspace encroachment problems and presently we are working to expand future airspace for supersonic aircraft that soon will be released to bases with the capability necessary for their support.

Considering the information provided at the hearing, plus the above information, I hope that Chairman Principi, Rep. James H. Bilbray, Philip Coyle, Rep. James V. Hansen, Retired Army General James T. Hill and Brigadier General Sue Ellen Turner can convince the three other commissioners to remove Cannon from the closure list. Our military personnel and their family members need a community that supports them and makes them a part of our family.

God bless our troops that are in harms way, God bless those patriots who have paid the ultimate price and those who have returned with injured bodies. May God bring peace soon, protecting our remaining soldiers and allowing them to return to their families. GOD BLESS AMERICA!


LEANDRO J. (Len) SANTI
1124 Lexington Rd.
Clovis, NM, 88101
505-762-6065

RECEIVED

07012005

June 28, 2005

Chmn. Anthony Principi
BRAC COMMISSIONER

This is my third letter addressed to all BRAC commissioners, to our President, George W. Bush, to our Secretary of DOD, Donald Rumsfeld, to our four U.S. Congressional New Mexico delegates and also to our State and Lt. Governor of New Mexico.

I want to thank those of you who attended the June 24th BRAC hearing in Clovis, New Mexico. Especially, thankful and privileged for the six BRAC commissioners that attended the hearing and visited the CANNON AFB facility.

I am 89 years old, a military and a federal civil service employee retiring from 10 years at Cannon and 19 years at George AFB in Victorville, California. A former New Yorker, I arrived at Cannon (then named Clovis Army Air Field) on October 27, 1941 with 150 military personnel to activate the base. There were no buildings on the base and the existing Glider Field runway was being replaced to support the World WarII bombers, B24's, B17's, and finally the super bomber B29's. The 150 military personnel were housed in private homes in the city of Clovis for some 6 months. I personally resided at 801 Connelly with the Schwarts family. We finally moved on base upon completion of our barracks.

We trained aircraft crews every two months who were shipped to Europe and finally to Japan to help bring WWII to an end. I was discharged as a Warrant Officer in April 1946 and married a local farm girl. We stayed in Clovis bought our own 320-acre farm. We reared a family of three children and stayed in Clovis until 1960. A drouth hit the Clovis area from 1949 - 1955 and during that period I placed the land in the Government Soil Bank Program. I went to work as a civil service employee at Cannon beginning in 1955 - 1960. In 1960 I sold the farm and moved to George Air Force Base in California. There I finally retired in 1979 returning to Clovis to make our home. As a civilian employee I worked in the Post Engineer Office as a Construction Program Manager. We had five professional engineers who developed designs and construction of the many facilities, which you saw during your visit of Cannon and those on George AFB which closed some time ago because of flight encroachment to the Los Angeles International Airport.

I would have liked to have made this presentation at the BRAC hearing in person but this was not possible. I believe all of our local city leaders, our state and federal representatives made an excellent clear and factual presentation. Mr. Randy Harris and Chad Lydick really hit the nail on the head with the essential reasons to remove Cannon AFB from the closure list. I realize how difficult it is for the BRAC commissioners to provide

this decision. I also realize there are bases with greater valued total facility assets. But, that's because they had a greater population with much greater political support than Cannon. However, greater assets do not necessarily provide for better aircraft training and may not include a bombing range facility which exists at Cannon. Cannon provides permanent adequate Operational, Maintenance, Aircraft Engine Testing, Apron, Hangars, Runway facilities to support four squadrons with 18 aircraft in each squadron. Cannon also provides housing, recreational facilities on base in support of 4,000 plus military personnel and their families. There are no airspace encroachment problems and presently we are working to expand future airspace for supersonic aircraft that soon will be released to bases with the capability necessary for their support.

Considering the information provided at the hearing, plus the above information, I hope that Chairman Principi, Rep. James H. Bilbray, Philip Coyle, Rep. James V. Hansen, Retired Army General James T. Hill and Brigadier General Sue Ellen Turner can convince the three other commissioners to remove Cannon from the closure list. Our military personnel and their family members need a community that supports them and makes them a part of our family.

God bless our troops that are in harms way, God bless those patriots who have paid the ultimate price and those who have returned with injured bodies. May God bring peace soon, protecting our remaining soldiers and allowing them to return to their families. GOD BLESS AMERICA!


LEANDRO J. (Len) SANTI
1124 Lexington Rd.
Clovis, NM, 88101
505-762-6065



June 28, 2005

RET. USAF GEN. Sue Ellen Turner

BRAC COMMISSIONER

07012005

This is my third letter addressed to all BRAC commissioners, to our President, George W. Bush, to our Secretary of DOD, Donald Rumsfeld, to our four U.S. Congressional New Mexico delegates and also to our State and Lt. Governor of New Mexico.

I want to thank those of you who attended the June 24th BRAC hearing in Clovis, New Mexico. Especially, thankful and privileged for the six BRAC commissioners that attended the hearing and visited the CANNON AFB facility.

I am 89 years old, a military and a federal civil service employee retiring from 10 years at Cannon and 19 years at George AFB in Victorville, California. A former New Yorker, I arrived at Cannon (then named Clovis Army Air Field) on October 27, 1941 with 150 military personnel to activate the base. There were no buildings on the base and the existing Glider Field runway was being replaced to support the World WarII bombers, B24's, B17's, and finally the super bomber B29's. The 150 military personnel were housed in private homes in the city of Clovis for some 6 months. I personally resided at 801 Connelly with the Schwarts family. We finally moved on base upon completion of our barracks.

We trained aircraft crews every two months who were shipped to Europe and finally to Japan to help bring WWII to an end. I was discharged as a Warrant Officer in April 1946 and married a local farm girl. We stayed in Clovis bought our own 320-acre farm. We reared a family of three children and stayed in Clovis until 1960. A drouth hit the Clovis area from 1949 - 1955 and during that period I placed the land in the Government Soil Bank Program. I went to work as a civil service employee at Cannon beginning in 1955 - 1960. In 1960 I sold the farm and moved to George Air Force Base in California. There I finally retired in 1979 returning to Clovis to make our home. As a civilian employee I worked in the Post Engineer Office as a Construction Program Manager. We had five professional engineers who developed designs and construction of the many facilities, which you saw during your visit of Cannon and those on George AFB which closed some time ago because of flight encroachment to the Los Angeles International Airport.

I would have liked to have made this presentation at the BRAC hearing in person but this was not possible. I believe all of our local city leaders, our state and federal representatives made an excellent clear and factual presentation. Mr. Randy Harris and Chad Lydick really hit the nail on the head with the essential reasons to remove Cannon AFB from the closure list. I realize how difficult it is for the BRAC commissioners to provide

this decision. I also realize there are bases with greater valued total facility assets. But, that's because they had a greater population with much greater political support than Cannon. However, greater assets do not necessarily provide for better aircraft training and may not include a bombing range facility which exists at Cannon. Cannon provides permanent adequate Operational, Maintenance, Aircraft Engine Testing, Apron, Hangars, Runway facilities to support four squadrons with 18 aircraft in each squadron. Cannon also provides housing, recreational facilities on base in support of 4,000 plus military personnel and their families. There are no airspace encroachment problems and presently we are working to expand future airspace for supersonic aircraft that soon will be released to bases with the capability necessary for their support.

Considering the information provided at the hearing, plus the above information, I hope that Chairman Principi, Rep. James H. Bilbray, Philip Coyle, Rep. James V. Hansen, Retired Army General James T. Hill and Brigadier General Sue Ellen Turner can convince the three other commissioners to remove Cannon from the closure list. Our military personnel and their family members need a community that supports them and makes them a part of our family.

God bless our troops that are in harms way, God bless those patriots who have paid the ultimate price and those who have returned with injured bodies. May God bring peace soon, protecting our remaining soldiers and allowing them to return to their families. GOD BLESS AMERICA!


LEANDRO J. (Len) SANTI
1124 Lexington Rd.
Clovis, NM, 88101
505-762-6065



RECEIVED

June 28, 2005

07012005

Samuel Knox Skinner
BRAC COMMISSIONER

This is my third letter addressed to all BRAC commissioners, to our President, George W. Bush, to our Secretary of DOD, Donald Rumsfeld, to our four U.S. Congressional New Mexico delegates and also to our State and Lt. Governor of New Mexico.

I want to thank those of you who attended the June 24th BRAC hearing in Clovis, New Mexico. Especially, thankful and privileged for the six BRAC commissioners that attended the hearing and visited the CANNON AFB facility.

I am 89 years old, a military and a federal civil service employee retiring from 10 years at Cannon and 19 years at George AFB in Victorville, California. A former New Yorker, I arrived at Cannon (then named Clovis Army Air Field) on October 27, 1941 with 150 military personnel to activate the base. There were no buildings on the base and the existing Glider Field runway was being replaced to support the World WarII bombers, B24's, B17's, and finally the super bomber B29's. The 150 military personnel were housed in private homes in the city of Clovis for some 6 months. I personally resided at 801 Connelly with the Schwarts family. We finally moved on base upon completion of our barracks.

We trained aircraft crews every two months who were shipped to Europe and finally to Japan to help bring WWII to an end. I was discharged as a Warrant Officer in April 1946 and married a local farm girl. We stayed in Clovis bought our own 320-acre farm. We reared a family of three children and stayed in Clovis until 1960. A drouth hit the Clovis area from 1949 - 1955 and during that period I placed the land in the Government Soil Bank Program. I went to work as a civil service employee at Cannon beginning in 1955 - 1960. In 1960 I sold the farm and moved to George Air Force Base in California. There I finally retired in 1979 returning to Clovis to make our home. As a civilian employee I worked in the Post Engineer Office as a Construction Program Manager. We had five professional engineers who developed designs and construction of the many facilities, which you saw during your visit of Cannon and those on George AFB which closed some time ago because of flight encroachment to the Los Angeles International Airport.

I would have liked to have made this presentation at the BRAC hearing in person but this was not possible. I believe all of our local city leaders, our state and federal representatives made an excellent clear and factual presentation. Mr. Randy Harris and Chad Lydick really hit the nail on the head with the essential reasons to remove Cannon AFB from the closure list. I realize how difficult it is for the BRAC commissioners to provide

this decision. I also realize there are bases with greater valued total facility assets. But, that's because they had a greater population with much greater political support than Cannon. However, greater assets do not necessarily provide for better aircraft training and may not include a bombing range facility which exists at Cannon. Cannon provides permanent adequate Operational, Maintenance, Aircraft Engine Testing, Apron, Hangars, Runway facilities to support four squadrons with 18 aircraft in each squadron. Cannon also provides housing, recreational facilities on base in support of 4,000 plus military personnel and their families. There are no airspace encroachment problems and presently we are working to expand future airspace for supersonic aircraft that soon will be released to bases with the capability necessary for their support.

Considering the information provided at the hearing, plus the above information, I hope that Chairman Principi, Rep. James H. Bilbray, Philip Coyle, Rep. James V. Hansen, Retired Army General James T. Hill and Brigadier General Sue Ellen Turner can convince the three other commissioners to remove Cannon from the closure list. Our military personnel and their family members need a community that supports them and makes them a part of our family.

God bless our troops that are in harms way, God bless those patriots who have paid the ultimate price and those who have returned with injured bodies. May God bring peace soon, protecting our remaining soldiers and allowing them to return to their families. GOD BLESS AMERICA!


LEANDRO J. (Len) SANTI
1124 Lexington Rd.
Clovis, NM, 88101
505-762-6065

07012005



RECEIVED

June 28, 2005

Philip Coyle
BRAC COMMISSIONER

This is my third letter addressed to all BRAC commissioners, to our President, George W. Bush, to our Secretary of DOD, Donald Rumsfeld, to our four U.S. Congressional New Mexico delegates and also to our State and Lt. Governor of New Mexico.

I want to thank those of you who attended the June 24th BRAC hearing in Clovis, New Mexico. Especially, thankful and privileged for the six BRAC commissioners that attended the hearing and visited the CANNON AFB facility.

I am 89 years old, a military and a federal civil service employee retiring from 10 years at Cannon and 19 years at George AFB in Victorville, California. A former New Yorker, I arrived at Cannon (then named Clovis Army Air Field) on October 27, 1941 with 150 military personnel to activate the base. There were no buildings on the base and the existing Glider Field runway was being replaced to support the World WarII bombers, B24's, B17's, and finally the super bomber B29's. The 150 military personnel were housed in private homes in the city of Clovis for some 6 months. I personally resided at 801 Connelly with the Schwarts family. We finally moved on base upon completion of our barracks.

We trained aircraft crews every two months who were shipped to Europe and finally to Japan to help bring WWII to an end. I was discharged as a Warrant Officer in April 1946 and married a local farm girl. We stayed in Clovis bought our own 320-acre farm. We reared a family of three children and stayed in Clovis until 1960. A drouth hit the Clovis area from 1949 - 1955 and during that period I placed the land in the Government Soil Bank Program. I went to work as a civil service employee at Cannon beginning in 1955 - 1960. In 1960 I sold the farm and moved to George Air Force Base in California. There I finally retired in 1979 returning to Clovis to make our home. As a civilian employee I worked in the Post Engineer Office as a Construction Program Manager. We had five professional engineers who developed designs and construction of the many facilities, which you saw during your visit of Cannon and those on George AFB which closed some time ago because of flight encroachment to the Los Angeles International Airport.

I would have liked to have made this presentation at the BRAC hearing in person but this was not possible. I believe all of our local city leaders, our state and federal representatives made an excellent clear and factual presentation. Mr. Randy Harris and Chad Lydick really hit the nail on the head with the essential reasons to remove Cannon AFB from the closure list. I realize how difficult it is for the BRAC commissioners to provide

this decision. I also realize there are bases with greater valued total facility assets. But, that's because they had a greater population with much greater political support than Cannon. However, greater assets do not necessarily provide for better aircraft training and may not include a bombing range facility which exists at Cannon. Cannon provides permanent adequate Operational, Maintenance, Aircraft Engine Testing, Apron, Hangars, Runway facilities to support four squadrons with 18 aircraft in each squadron. Cannon also provides housing, recreational facilities on base in support of 4,000 plus military personnel and their families. There are no airspace encroachment problems and presently we are working to expand future airspace for supersonic aircraft that soon will be released to bases with the capability necessary for their support.

Considering the information provided at the hearing, plus the above information, I hope that Chairman Principi, Rep. James H. Bilbray, Philip Coyle, Rep. James V. Hansen, Retired Army General James T. Hill and Brigadier General Sue Ellen Turner can convince the three other commissioners to remove Cannon from the closure list. Our military personnel and their family members need a community that supports them and makes them a part of our family.

God bless our troops that are in harms way, God bless those patriots who have paid the ultimate price and those who have returned with injured bodies. May God bring peace soon, protecting our remaining soldiers and allowing them to return to their families. GOD BLESS AMERICA!


LEANDRO J. (Len) SANTI
1124 Lexington Rd.
Clovis, NM, 88101
505-762-6065

07012005

June 28, 2005

Ret. Army Gen. James T. Hill 
BRAC COMMISSIONER

This is my third letter addressed to all BRAC commissioners, to our President, George W. Bush, to our Secretary of DOD, Donald Rumsfeld, to our four U.S. Congressional New Mexico delegates and also to our State and Lt. Governor of New Mexico.

I want to thank those of you who attended the June 24th BRAC hearing in Clovis, New Mexico. Especially, thankful and privileged for the six BRAC commissioners that attended the hearing and visited the CANNON AFB facility.

I am 89 years old, a military and a federal civil service employee retiring from 10 years at Cannon and 19 years at George AFB in Victorville, California. A former New Yorker, I arrived at Cannon (then named Clovis Army Air Field) on October 27, 1941 with 150 military personnel to activate the base. There were no buildings on the base and the existing Glider Field runway was being replaced to support the World WarII bombers, B24's, B17's, and finally the super bomber B29's. The 150 military personnel were housed in private homes in the city of Clovis for some 6 months. I personally resided at 801 Connelly with the Schwarts family. We finally moved on base upon completion of our barracks.

We trained aircraft crews every two months who were shipped to Europe and finally to Japan to help bring WWII to an end. I was discharged as a Warrant Officer in April 1946 and married a local farm girl. We stayed in Clovis bought our own 320-acre farm. We reared a family of three children and stayed in Clovis until 1960. A drouth hit the Clovis area from 1949 - 1955 and during that period I placed the land in the Government Soil Bank Program. I went to work as a civil service employee at Cannon beginning in 1955 - 1960. In 1960 I sold the farm and moved to George Air Force Base in California. There I finally retired in 1979 returning to Clovis to make our home. As a civilian employee I worked in the Post Engineer Office as a Construction Program Manager. We had five professional engineers who developed designs and construction of the many facilities, which you saw during your visit of Cannon and those on George AFB which closed some time ago because of flight encroachment to the Los Angeles International Airport.

I would have liked to have made this presentation at the BRAC hearing in person but this was not possible. I believe all of our local city leaders, our state and federal representatives made an excellent clear and factual presentation. Mr. Randy Harris and Chad Lydick really hit the nail on the head with the essential reasons to remove Cannon AFB from the closure list. I realize how difficult it is for the BRAC commissioners to provide

this decision. I also realize there are bases with greater valued total facility assets. But, that's because they had a greater population with much greater political support than Cannon. However, greater assets do not necessarily provide for better aircraft training and may not include a bombing range facility which exists at Cannon. Cannon provides permanent adequate Operational, Maintenance, Aircraft Engine Testing, Apron, Hangars, Runway facilities to support four squadrons with 18 aircraft in each squadron. Cannon also provides housing, recreational facilities on base in support of 4,000 plus military personnel and their families. There are no airspace encroachment problems and presently we are working to expand future airspace for supersonic aircraft that soon will be released to bases with the capability necessary for their support.

Considering the information provided at the hearing, plus the above information, I hope that Chairman Principi, Rep. James H. Bilbray, Philip Coyle, Rep. James V. Hansen, Retired Army General James T. Hill and Brigadier General Sue Ellen Turner can convince the three other commissioners to remove Cannon from the closure list. Our military personnel and their family members need a community that supports them and makes them a part of our family.

God bless our troops that are in harms way, God bless those patriots who have paid the ultimate price and those who have returned with injured bodies. May God bring peace soon, protecting our remaining soldiers and allowing them to return to their families. GOD BLESS AMERICA!



**LEANDRO J. (Len) SANTI
1124 Lexington Rd.
Clovis, NM, 88101
505-762-6065**