



RECEIVED

A 80044

06132005

6-11-05

Dear Philip Coyle,

I am writing this letter in an effort to keep Cannon A.F.B. open. In July 1977 we received orders to Cannon. We wanted to go to southern California, therefore it was hard to come to Cannon with an open mind. We remained here for 5 years. On that time we were thoroughly accepted by the community and grew beyond measure as individuals and as a family.

My husband was able to get his Bachelors degree because of Eastern New Mexico University being so close. I was employed by the school district and Base gym. My children recieved an outstanding education and when we did relocate to California they were a year ahead in all their classes.

We have never known a community more welcoming and accepting of Air Force members, spouses and children. This community thrives on the diversity Cannon provides. The Base itself offers massive air space which should be critical to the Air Force. A bombing range in very close proximity and excellent flying weather. Cannon has room to expand. No encroachment problems here!

The money "we" the taxpayers have spent to update this Base recently should be put to good use to see Cannon grow and thrive

Let's keep Cannon Air Force Base Open!

Capt. & Mrs. Roger Maddy
Retired USAF

Dear Anthony J. Principi, I am writing this letter in an effort to keep Cannon AFB opened. In July 1977 we received orders to Cannon. We wanted southern CA., therefore it was hard to come to CAFB with an opened mind. We remained at CAFB for 5 years. On that time we were thoroughly accepted by the community and grew beyond measure as individuals and as a family.

My husband was able to get his Bachelors degree and I was employed by the school district and the base gym. My children received an outstanding education and when we did relocate to southern CA they were a year ahead in all their classes.

In 26 years I have never know a community more welcoming and accepting of Air Force members, spouses and children. This community thrives on the diversity CAFB provides.

The base itself offers outstanding air space which is critical to the A.F. a bombing range within 20 miles, and excellent flying weather. Cannon has alot of room to grow and has a record of excellency. There are also no encroachment problems. The money we the tax payers have spent to update and renovate the Base recently should be put to good use to see Cannon grow and thrive.

Keep Cannon Air Force Base opened.

Sincerely,

CAPT. & MRS. Roger D. Maddy

Dear James Bilbray, I am writing this letter in an effort to keep Cannon A.F.B. opened. In July 1977 we received orders to Cannon. We wanted to go to Southern California, therefore it was hard to come to Cannon with an opened mind. We remained here for 5 years. In that time we were thoroughly accepted by the community and grew beyond measure as individuals and as a family.

My husband was able to get his Bachelors degree and I was employed by the school district and base gym. My children received an outstanding education and when we get orders to California they were a year ahead in all their classes.

I have never known a community more welcoming and accepting of Air Force members, spouses and children. This community thrives on the diversity Cannon provides.

The base itself offers massive air space which should be critical to the Air Force. A bombing range in very close proximity and excellent flying weather. Cannon has a lot of room to grow and has a record of excellence. The money "we" the taxpayers have spent to update the Base recently should be put to good use to see Cannon grow and thrive.

Let's Keep Cannon Opened!

Sincerely,

Capt. & Mrs. R. Maddy
USAF Retired

6-11-05

Dear Mr. James Hansen,

I am writing this letter in an effort to keep Cannon AFB open. In July 1977 we received orders to Cannon. We wanted Southern California, therefore we did not come to Cannon because we wanted to. We remained for 5 years. On that time we were thoroughly accepted by the community and grew beyond measure as individuals and as a family.

I was able to earn my Bachelors degree because Eastern New Mexico University is 20 miles away. My wife was employed by the school district and base gym. My children received an outstanding education and when we did get orders to California they were a year ahead in all their classes.

As a career Air Force family we have never known a community more welcoming and accepting of Air Force members spouses and children. This community thrives on the diversity Cannon provides. We cried when we left and since have returned and retired.

The Base itself offers massive air space which should be critical to the Air Force. A bombing range within 20 miles from the Base, and excellent flying weather. Average 350 days of sunshine. Cannon has alot of room to grow and has a record of excellency. We have not one encroachment problem.

The money "we" the top payers have spent to update Cannon recently should be put to good use, to see Cannon grow and thrive. Lets keep CAFB open.

Capt. & Mrs. Roger Maddy
USAF Retired

6-11-05

Dear Mr. Harold Gehman Jr., I am writing this letter in an effort to keep Cannon A.F.B. opened. On July 1977 we received order to Cannon. We had wanted to go to southern California therefore it was hard to come to Cannon with an open mind. We remained here for 5 years. On that time we were thoroughly accepted by the community and grew beyond measure as individuals and as a family.

My husband was able to earn his Bachelors degree and I was employed by the local school district and base gym. Our children received an outstanding education and when we did relocate to southern California they were a year ahead in all their classes.

As a career Air Force family we have never known a community more welcoming and accepting of Air Force members, spouses and children. This community thrives on the diversity Cannon provides.

The Base itself offers massive air space which should be critical to the Air Force. A bombing range in very close proximity to the Base and excellent flying weather. Cannon has plenty of room to expand no problems of encroachment here. The Base has a record of excellency.

The money "we" the taxpayers have spent to update this Base recently should be put to good use to see Cannon grow and thrive. Lets keep Cannon open.

CAPT. & Mrs. Roger Maddy
Retired USAF

RECEIVED

DEAR HONORABLE J. PRINCIPAL

06132005

I AM WRITING THIS IN REGARD
TO THE POSSIBLE CLOSURE OF
CANNON AFB, NM. I AM A
RETIRED USAF MEMBER, AND
HAVE WANTED TO LIVE THE REST
OF MY LIFE IN CLOVIS, NM.
IF THE BASE CLOSES, ME AND MY
FAMILY, AS WELL AS SEVERAL
OTHER RETIREES WILL RELY
TO CONTINUE TO RECEIVE OUR
BENEFITS. THIS, ALONG WITH
SEVERAL THOUSANDS OF LOST REVENUE
TO THE COMMUNITY WILL BE
CATASTROPHIC TO CLOVIS AND
THE SURROUNDING AREA.

I PLEA WITH YOU TO REMOVE
CANNON FROM THE BRAC LIST.

SINCERELY

BOB LATHE

Bob Lathe

DEAR GENERAL LLOYD W. "FIG"
NEWTON,

I AM WRITING THIS IN REGARD TO
THE CLOSURE OF CANNON AFB, NM.
I AM A RETIRED USAF MEMBER
AND HAD WANTED TO LIVE THE REST
OF MY LIFE IN CLOVIS, NM. IF
THE BASE CLOSES, ME AND MY FAMILY,
AS WELL AS MANY HUNDREDS OF
RETIRES WILL BE FORCED TO RELOCATE
IN ORDER TO RECEIVE MANY OF OUR
BENEFITS. THIS ALONG WITH MILLIONS
OF LOST REVENUE TO THE COMMUNITY
WILL BE CATASTROPHIC TO CLOVIS AND
THE SURROUNDING AREA.

I PLEA WITH YOU TO REMOVE
CANNON AFB FROM THE BRAC LIST.

REGARDS,
BOB LAHUE
A. LaHue

DEAR GENERAL JAMES T. HILL,
I AM WRITING THIS IN REGARD
TO THE CLOSURE OF CANNON AFB, NM.
I AM A RETIRED USAF MEMBER
WHO HAD WANTED TO LIVE THE REST
OF MY LIFE IN LOUIS, NM. IF THE
BASE CLOSES, ME AND MY FAMILY,
AS WELL AS MANY HUNDREDS OF RETIREES
WILL BE FORCED TO RELOCATE IN
ORDER TO RECEIVE MANY OF OUR
BENEFITS. THIS ALONG WITH MILLIONS
OF LOST REVENUE TO THE COMMUNITY
WILL BE CATASTROPHIC TO LOUIS
AND THE SURROUNDING AREA.

I PLEA WITH YOU TO REMOVE
CANNON AFB FROM THE BRAC LIST.

REGARDS
BOB LAHRE
A. L. Lohre

DEAR HONORABLE JAMES V.
HANSEN,

I AM WRITING THIS IN
REGARD TO THE CLOSURE OF CANNON
AFB, NM. I AM A RETIRED USAF
MEMBER, AND HAD WANTED TO LIVE
THE REST OF MY LIFE IN LOUIS, NM.
IF THE BASE CLOSES, ME AND MY
FAMILY, AS WELL AS SEVERAL OTHER
RETIREES, WILL BE FORCED TO RELOCATE
IN ORDER TO AVOID MANY OF OUR
BENEFITS. THIS ALONG WITH MILLIONS
OF LOST REVENUE TO THE COMMUNITY
WILL BE CATASTROPHIC TO LOUIS AND
THE SURROUNDING AREA.

I PLEA WITH YOU TO REMOVE
CANNON AFB FROM THE BRAC LIST.

REGARDS,

BOB LATHE

RL Lathe

RECEIVED
06072005

May 20, 2005

BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark St.
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Members of the BRAC Commission:

I am taking the time to try to persuade you to remove Cannon Air Force Base from your list of base closings. I believe it would be detrimental to the surrounding community which in turn will affect the economy, income and other things.

Please take a moment to consider the advantages to keeping Cannon AFB:

1. The surrounding areas will continue to grow if Cannon stays.

This area, namely Clovis, NM has begun in the recent months to grow tremendously, no doubt because of the presence of the base and its military members consuming the available resources. There are a huge number of houses being built; many new restaurants are investing in our locale. It has been said that even new stores are planning on coming to us soon, of course only if the base stays. With the pending openings of so many restaurants and stores, the economy will get a boost, more money will be spent, which means more money for good ol' Uncle Sam. However, I believe that should the base be closed this little military town will for sure suffer. It is clear that this town thrives on the presence of the base, depends on it in fact. If you visit our base and our area you will see just how much this place wants and needs Cannon AFB to stick around.

2. Upon closing, loss of jobs.

If Cannon AFB closes there will be so many jobs lost. A good number of these jobs belong to handicapped and developmentally disabled employees. If these people loose their jobs (most of which are contracted with DECA, the Pecos Trail dining facility, as well as custodial jobs) it would be extremely difficult to place them in their surrounding community. It is sad to say that most employers are less than willing to accept and work with people with disabilities (I won't mention names, but the company I work for, helping to place developmentally disabled clients into jobs, has had extreme difficulties with certain home improvement stores in town), and these guys are only a portion of those that will loose jobs. Another downfall would be that if Cannon closes, the workers currently employed on the base will flood the market, with not enough jobs to go around the Unemployment office will soon be flooded; all these people will be holding their hands out for government support...And if not the Unemployment office, then Social Security.

3. Cannon provides needed security, overseas and stateside.

During the recent activities in Iraq, Cannon's F-16 squadrons played a huge role in the initial "Shock and Awe" operation. I don't know exact numbers but I do know that Cannon's fighter pilots dropped a huge amount of ammunition on Iraqi soil. Not to mention the fact that Cannon has consistently flown for the President when he visits his

ranch in Crawford, TX. At any given moment Cannon is ready and willing to provide support for any national security issue. Getting rid of Cannon will only weaken our ability to defend ourselves and dissolve the patriotism of those in the surrounding townships.

4. Recent starting of base housing improvements.

Not too long ago, I was complaining about the fact that I have only one outlet in my bathrooms...Now I can hear ya'll saying, what in the world does that have to do with anything??? Well here is my point. The housing that is currently located on the base is in need of improvement (in my humble opinion), it seems to me that these houses have been around since the 1950's. Now I am sure the houses are not that old, but it is extremely evident that they are outdated. Well, since I have only given you more reason to close the base, let me say this: Cannon has announced that "Privatization" would be taking effect in the coming months and years, where all base housing will be rebuilt or remodeled to be more suitable for human habitation. I think this would only beautify the base and make it more appealing to military members.

These reasons are just the tip of the iceberg. And I am sure I have not elaborated to the full extent that is possible, but have made my point. Please come here with an open mind and open eyes. See that the community depends upon and thrives upon Cannon Air Force Base and its members. Understand that if this base closes there will be a huge impact on the economy locally and on a broader spectrum. Keep in mind the promised improvements to base housing. I am requesting that the Commission consider removing Cannon AFB from its list of recommended base closings; to keep the community and help it grow.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Kristi Holder
Records Clerk
Clovis, NM

RECEIVED
4/24/05
5:34:05 JR

18 May 2005

BRAC commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Va., 22202

To all BRAC Commissioners,

Let me start off by letting you know a little bit about me and the company I work for. My name is Michael Rael, and I work for a family ran local construction company (Nick Griego and Sons Construction, Inc.) here in **Clovis, New Mexico**. We have been in business for approximately thirty four years. My great grandfather started the business and my grandfather, Nick Griego Sr., took it from there. Along with my grandfather I have five uncles that are owners of Nick Griego and Sons Construction, Inc. I have worked for this construction company for twelve years, and I am currently a Quality Control Manager on **Cannon Air Force Base**. We have completed some highly advanced, current with technology projects on this base in the last ten or so years. This base has a new Security Force Operation Center that has just completed and a highly advanced Flight Simulator Building, which to my understanding both of these facilities are one of the best in this area. There is also a new top of the line Fire Station that has just been completed this last year. This is just to name a few of the many great facilities that are here at Cannon Air Force Base. What I'm trying to get at is, there are extraordinary facilities that are here at **Cannon Air Force Base**, along with many different benefits this Base has to offer that others can not. I just think it would be a shame if they are not used for their intended purpose and in a benefit for the United States Military.

Along with the facilities mentioned above, we have **unlimited air space** for sortie training. Again, my understanding is that unlimited air space is of real importance for training purposes for the military. I believe that is one of the many crucial benefits that have to help **Cannon Air Force Base** remain operating. In addition to the air space, we have a near by **Bombing Range** that is one of the best, and is around forty five miles from the **Cannon Air Force Base's** location. Those few miles are saving a lot on the fuel cost for training, and I am sure it saves millions of dollars. Also I believe this Bombing Range to be one of only four located in the United States. I just cannot conceive the thought of closing such a strategic Air Force Base, which is so closely located to this Bombing Range, and has the unlimited air space. The State of New Mexico is also about to let this air space be used for **Super Sonic Speed Training**, which is one of a few if not the only air space available to accommodate this type of training. This is a huge benefit for all branches of the United States Military and is of a great need.

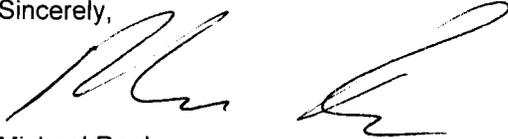
Cannon Air Force Base also has the **capabilities of expanding** in any direction if needed, which other bases that are not on the list or are realigning on the list have little to no land for expansion. There is unlimited land in all directions which makes this Base a real asset to the military. There are some awesome runways located on this Base, which I am proud to say we (Nick Griego and Sons Construction, Inc.) has been apart of constructing. We have a new ILS system that is scheduled for completion in September of this current year along with an Approach Lighting project that makes this runway one of the most up to date in technology in the military.

Cannon Air Force Base just has some incredible assets that are real beneficial to the military and the direction it is going in.

According to Branch Leaders, the number one criteria for the creation of the BRAC list is military value, and **Cannon Air Force Base** meets and exceeds this criteria along with other criteria that is imposed for selection. We have endless expansion capabilities, top of the line facilities, a near by Bombing Range, Super Sonic Speed Training, and unlimited air space available. These are all great needs and it is all here at **Cannon Air Force Base**. Not to mention, the weather is favorable for the flight training that is needed in all branches of the military. These benefits should make the military value of **Cannon Air Force Base** exceed any other. Again, **Cannon Air Force Base** is a very valuable and important part of the Air Force's future, and we need to keep this Base in operation.

On the community effect, it will be extremely devastating to have this wonderful base be shut down. There will approximately be forty eight hundred plus jobs lost, which accounts for twenty to twenty five percent of the work force in Clovis, New Mexico and surrounding areas. This community would take a mighty blow that is just unimaginable. **Cannon Air Force Base** is the heart of Clovis and surrounding communities, and closure of this Base would just be damaging. I just believe that the facts will show that keeping **Cannon Air Force Base** open is very crucial and well needed for the future of the United States Military. Again thoroughly look at the benefits that **Cannon Air Force Base** has to offer and make the right decision of keeping this extraordinary Base in operation. Thanks.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael Rael', written in a cursive style.

Michael Rael



06272005

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.

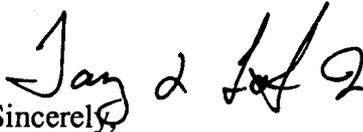
From a budget standpoint, does it not make sense to save money for the future by spending a little money now and expanding Cannon AFB? Cannon has many assets to offer. The Melrose bombing range, which undoubtedly could be expanded, if need be. There is plenty of approved open air space around Cannon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

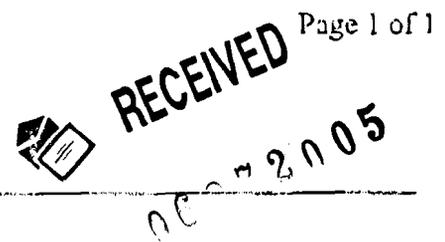
When decisions are made that have no impact to the decision makers, they don't have to suffer the consequences of their actions. Those affected are people who are trying to live the American dream, prosper in a wonderful community and provide a wholesome lifestyle for their families. Clovis is in the 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



Marilyn Belcher

To: www.defenselink.mil
Subject: Cannon Air Force Base

I feel I should get an email on the way. I am certain you have already received many for people in this area and they have all probably said approximately the same thing.

I do think our wonderful weather here in New Mexico is of great importance--we have a mild, dry, healthful type weather--the planes can fly at least 96 out of 100 days.

Cannon has an air-ground bombing range within five minutes flying time so more runs can be made before refueling becomes necessary.

Also, the terrain is level for miles in every direction which should be a plus for training. To my knowledge, there has never been an plane accident traceable to weather or rugged terrain in this area.

There is a very low density of commercial flights in this area so wide open spaces are available to the military planes.

The facilities on Cannon Air Force Base are outstanding. This is my judgement from being on many bases during my husband's 23 years in the Air Force.

There is great community support for Cannon. Also, many projects are carried out by the ones stationed at CAFB which is helpful and greatly appreciated by the community.

Clovis, Amarillo, Lubbock, Portales, are only a few of the communities which will be affected economically if CAFB is kept on the closure list.

I do hope you will come see for yourselves what CAFB has to offer before the final decision is made to close it.

Thanks for your attention.

Marilyn Belcher
Librarian
Clovis Carver Public Library
701 N. Main
Clovis, NM 88101



RECEIVED

06292005

Dear BRAC Commissioners:

I am very concerned about the Department of Defense's recommendation that Cannon Air Force Base should be closed.

I want to help make the Commission fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include unencroached airspace suitable for training at supersonic speed, many new and existing facilities suitable for joint training exercises, and a low-cost environment that promotes cost-efficient training. Cannon is a real asset to the country's armed forces.

Whether or not Cannon's military value has been recognized yet in Washington, out here we really appreciate the base. The local community has been uniquely supportive, donating time and land to promote the base's needs. We have also welcomed the personnel. The many veterans in the area make it clear that they feel at home here. We consider Cannon and its retirees a part of our family.

The closure of Cannon will also have a devastating impact on our economy. It has been estimated that the area will lose at least 20 percent of its workforce, a percentage out of line with the effect of base closings in other communities. Cannon is critical for us.

I invite you to come personally to the Cannon hearing in Clovis. I ask you to please reconsider Cannon's importance to the nation and to my community. Please, let us KEEP CANNON!

Sincerely,

P.S. On a more personal note here in NEW MEXICO our Military Men and Women and their families are very important to us not only economically but socially, emotionally and psychologically. We love them, we respect them all and support them and anything that would cause them distress or displacement is an attack upon nearly every citizen here. So don't close Cannon it's wrong for several reasons. Don't close it because it's the right thing to do economically, socially, and morally. Our Military personnel supports and sacrifices so much and they don't deserve this! Leave them where they are and allow them to be cradled in the arms of their most loving community....right here at Cannon in NEW MEXICO.



FELICIA A. TOLSON
8400 MENAUL BLVD NE #A206 ALBUQUERQUE NM 87112

Dear James T. Hill,

RECEIVED
06282005

This is my input concerning your decision to close Cannon AFB in Clovis, NM. Here are a couple of reasons we have to offer to keep Cannon open as well as the major impact it would have on the surrounding community.

All city services will be reduced: City police, Sheriff, Hospital, Paramedics, Fire Dept., etc., as well as, tax revenues.

The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides a year round training ability with the exception of a few windy days; this in turn is ideal for perfect flying weather.

Money will become very tight (Buying, selling, borrowing, etc.)

Cannon has the, facilities, and ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations, readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.

20-40% of stores will close.

Homes will decrease in value possibly 25-40%, property value will also drop.

WE strongly urge you to reconsider your decision and "Keep Cannon".

Sincerely,

Erin Holland

Erin Holland

**Operation
KEEP CANNON**

June 1, 2005

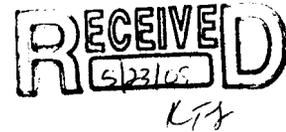
06072005

To the distinguished BRAC Committee:

We are writing this letter in an effort to convince the BRAC Committee to retain Cannon Air Force Base as a valuable asset to our military, to America, New Mexico, and Clovis. I have lived in Clovis for thirty-seven years and have owned our jewelry business for twenty-three years, and Cannon has been an invaluable part of our lives. We have created friendships with people from Cannon in all walks of life all over this country and around the world. For these reasons listed below, we believe the base to be very important for national defense.

- 1) We remember over twenty-five years of the F-111s based here and the aircrews received excellent training with the facilities, the airspace, and the bombing range. With the additional supersonic air space that we have, it would help train crews in the future with supersonic operation of the aircraft.
- 2) There is the lack of encroachment at the base and airspace.
- 3) Excellent year-round climate for flying
- 4) Our community relationship with Cannon, Portales and surrounding area is among the best

Sharon Davis
507 East Second
Portales, NM 88130
May 19, 2005



The Honorable Anthony J Principi
Dear Mr. Principi,

I am a business owner in Portales, NM and my message today is that our businesses cannot rebound from a BRAC closure of Cannon Air Force Base.

Last year I was invited to join Cannon Air Force Base in a civic leader's tour. The tour was wonderful and it enforced my belief that Cannon has much to offer in air space, lack of encroachment and quality, affordable housing for military personal. We were promised a fair BRAC, but this is not fair. We are not the vacation spot of the world. Four Star Generals do not want to play here, but working Air Force personnel and their families love it here. They are treated with respect and embraced by our community. They can afford housing and many remain in our communities enjoying the retirement benefits afforded by a Base Exchange and military care.

It has been widely reported that our community will be the hardest hit economically by the base closure. We will not rebound in my lifetime. Other Air Bases, like Nellis and Luke would barely feel a blip if they were closed and the communities encroaching on them would love to have their real estate for growth. On the other hand, my children and grand children will not be able to work in this community if Cannon is closed. No one wants to live where there is not a decent restaurant or clothing store.

OUR LIVES ARE IN YOUR HANDS AND WE DON'T LIKE THE FEELING.

Please consider what our faces look like and how serious your decisions are.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sharon Davis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sharon Davis

Sharon Davis
507 East Second
Portales, NM 88130
May 19, 2005

RECEIVED
5/23/05
KTS

Dear BRAC Commission,

I am a business owner in Portales, NM and my message today is that our businesses cannot rebound from a BRAC closure.

Last year I was invited to join Cannon Air Force Base in a civic leader's tour. The tour was wonderful and it enforced my belief that Cannon has much to offer in air space, lack of encroachment and quality, affordable housing for military personal. We were promised a fair BRAC, but this is not fair. We are not the vacation spot of the world. Four Star Generals do not want to play here, but working Air Force personnel and their families love it here. They are treated with respect and embraced by our community. They can afford housing and many remain in our communities enjoying the retirement benefits afforded by a base exchange and military care.

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OUR LIVES ARE IN YOUR HANDS AND WE DON'T LIKE THE FEELING.

Please consider what our faces look like and how serious your decisions are.

Sincerely,



Sharon Davis

Flanigen, 412 Merrill Drive, Clovis, New Mexico 88101

May 22, 2005

00102005

Dear B.R.A.C Commissioners:

Thank you so much for your up and coming visit to Clovis, New Mexico, home of Cannon Air Force Base this June 24, 2005. We understand that you are here to evaluate the facts that you considered that led you to place CAFB on the closure list. We felt the need to convince you of our existence. Let us be one of the many military family's of this area to tell you how much your visiting and evaluating Clovis means.

We are a military family of five who retired here in Clovis, New Mexico. We are from all over the United States. My husband grew up in the military, so retiring anywhere was a choice for him. I however, have family in California and could have chosen to move back there. We have had ample opportunity to leave this dry, desolate flat land, but for many reasons we chose to stay. The first and foremost reason to stay here is because of the people we have met, military and civilian, living in and around Clovis/Cannon AFB/Portales, New Mexico. Our community, yes we call it our's, is where we belong and where we call home.

When we first decided to purchase a home in Clovis for our final stay, we weighed a lot of the pros and cons, as do most people when choosing an area in which to live. The cons of staying are obvious; we would not be with our blood relatives. However, they will always be family and by driving two hours to Lubbock, Texas, we are just a hop, skip, and jump away.

The pros of staying are endless, if, and only if, Cannon Air Force Base remains. Financially, my husband works for a company who's contracted with CAFB; our long term certificates of deposit are in local small town banks; and our children will all be graduating from a New Mexico high school and taking advantage of the tuition assistance for college. Furthermore, if we chose to leave Clovis, the local dentists, doctors, and other local businesses that we visit will have five less people spending money in their establishment. Take away all the other active duty and retired military in this area and multiply their visits and you will have a community of 1/4 less than the 36,000 people we have now. Everyone counts. There are more growing churches in this small community now then there ever has been in the past years. Take away the active duty and retired military families from this area, and those churches, along with their families would also have to move to keep financially healthy.

Keep Cannon AFB, Clovis, New Mexico on the map. Keep our family together!

We urge you to reconsider any decision made regarding the B.R.A.C. list and Cannon Air Force Base in New Mexico. Take us OFF the list now!

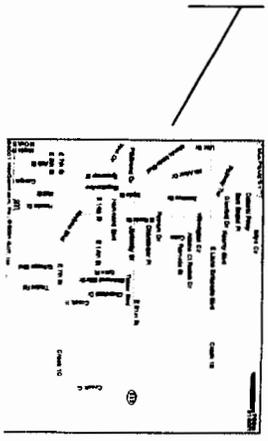
Thank you for listening. We trust God, and in the name of Jesus Christ, we are putting our trust in a fair and logical system. You are in our prayers regarding the decision to keep Cannon Air Force Base open, and you all are being lifted up throughout our community.

Patrick Flanigen, MSgt, (Ret)
Veronica Clark Flanigen
Michael
Amanda
Scott



OPERATION KEEP GAMMON

Keep Clovis on the Map



AFB



WOMEN'S MEDICAL CENTER, L.L.P.

Obstetrics - Gynecology - Gynecologic Surgery
2000 W. 21st - A-1 - Clovis, N.M. 88101
(505) 762-8055

June 16, 2005



RECEIVED

Brigadier General (Retired) Sue Ellen Turner
BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark St.
Arlington, VA 22202

06242005

Dear Brigadier General (Retired) Sue Ellen Turner:

We thank you for all of your hard work on the BRAC Committee. We all know how difficult it has been to consider rightsizing our military. Many cuts in budgets and shaping the forces have to be done to keep up with our growing demands. We would however, like to bring some things to your attention about Cannon Air Force Base that you might not have been aware of previously.

Women's Medical Center, located in Clovis, NM, has recently expanded its facility in order to better serve our base population. Major Glynda Dallas recently retired from the Air Force at Cannon and joined our practice. We now have 8 providers, 3 have been stationed at Cannon, another was also here as a reservist. Five out of our eight providers have been in the military at some time. We all have a strong interest in serving our military population. We service 5 counties with a radius of over 100 miles (about 300 square miles) and 80,000 people as the only women's health care clinic dedicated to women.

If Cannon Air Force Base closes, it will affect our practice very negatively. We have already expanded our facility to add another provider and added our own lab for our patients as a convenience. We also purchased two 4-D ultrasound machines to accommodate the increased patient volume. We were considering the need for hiring a Maternal Fetal Medicine physician to add to our team. We will not be able to continue some of our services nor bring in the specialist we need if Cannon closes.

Plains Regional Medical Center (the hospital in Clovis) was planning to expand their facility and expand and remodel the entire women's unit as well as add a Level II nursery so we would not have to ship out our sick babies. They will not be able to do this if Cannon closes.

The closure of Cannon will affect this community very negatively. We will no longer be able to update and keep state of the art care and equipment as well as staff to care for our population. Having been in the OB/GYN field yourself while in the military, we are sure you are fully aware of the crisis we face. We would very much appreciate any help you might be able to give us in helping us to keep Cannon open.

Sincerely,

Shirley M

Shirley M

Roberta Wilson, CNP

Deanna Bellas CNP

Alubua CNM

Josni D. Alubua, MD.

Cristy Brakelup

Rachel J. Layman

Clovis Municipal Schools



P.O. Box 19000
1009 Main Street
Clovis, New Mexico 88102-9000
(505) 769-4300 FAX (505) 769-4333
www.cms.k12.nm.us

Dr. Rhonda Seidenwurm, Superintendent
Ladona Clayton, Assistant Superintendent of Instruction
Jim McDaniel, Assistant Superintendent of Personnel
Michael L. Erwin, Assistant Superintendent of Finance

**Board
of
Education**

Terry Martin, President
Mark Lansford, Vice President
Lola Bryant, Secretary
Max Best, Member
Lora Harlan, Member

June 16, 2005



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

Dear Chairman Principi,

We realize that the decision regarding the closure of Cannon AFB will be based on criteria that may be different from what is most important to our public schools, but we do want the Commission to know that our school system values the base and its personnel on many different levels. Cannon AFB, obviously, gives us its children to educate. In addition, however, there is a very personal connection. When we think of Cannon AFB, we see the faces of the dozens of volunteers who give hundreds of hours of service to our schools as well as expertise in how to better educate children who may be spending their public school years in several different school systems.

We, in turn, serve Cannon AFB in what we believe to be an exemplary fashion. The high school curriculum is comprehensive, ranging in scope from the basic fundamentals of language arts, math, social studies, and science/health, to modern languages, music, art, technology, and vocational education. Advanced placement courses are offered in language arts, math, science, and social studies. Expanded opportunities are available through a partnership with Clovis Community College, which includes concurrent enrollment, tech prep programs, and the Technical Career Center.

Our activity program is also comprehensive, offering students opportunities to participate in athletics, band/choral, FFA, drama, Jr. ROTC, etc. We have been recognized in 2003 and 2005 as one of the "100 Best Communities in America for Music Education." In addition, our students have been very successful in activity participation as a 5-A high school. We had the honor band and honor choir for the state this year. Our girls' basketball team was undefeated (30-0) and won the state championship. Our boys' football team was runner up for the state football championship. Our military dependent students have always been significant contributors to our success. For example, our Clovis High School Honor Band this year was composed of 60% military dependent students.

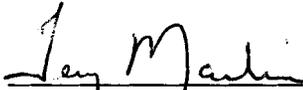
As of the last day of school this year our enrollment was 8,147 students. Cannon AFB students totaled 1,247, which is 15% of our total enrollment. The enrollment at Clovis High School is 1,473. The graduation rate is 83.45%. The average ACT Composite Score is 21.3. The pupil/teacher/ratio for the district is 1:20. The Clovis Municipal Schools provide a K-12 comprehensive educational program that meets all New Mexico Public Education Department Standards.

The mission of the Clovis Municipal Schools, an enthusiastic network of highly committed learners in a community of unique spiritual depth, is to equip each student for a productive life of creative thinking, continuous learning, and exemplary character through challenging and engaging learning experiences led by a dedicated team committed to a cause beyond themselves in vital partnership with family, church, and community.

Beyond these statistics, our school system has been committed for the last 50 plus years to serving the military community with the highest quality education possible within the limits of our resources. Many of the instructional staff are spouses of Cannon AFB personnel or military retirees. These staff members bring a rich, diverse, and well-traveled experience to our classrooms.

The closure of Cannon AFB would have a tremendous negative impact on our school system economically, staffing and quality student base. The location of Cannon AFB seven miles west of Clovis has been a mutually beneficial relationship for the base and the community. Your careful consideration of removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list would be most appreciated.

Sincerely,
Clovis Municipal Schools Board of Education



Terry Martin, Board President



Mark Lansford, Board Vice President



Lola Bryant, Board Secretary



Lora Harlan, Board Member



Max Best, Board Member

May 20, 2005

BRAC COMMISSION
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

BRAC Commission
Received
6/23/2005

Dear BRAC COMMISSIONERS:

As a concerned citizen of Clovis, New Mexico and for the keeping of Cannon Air Force Base, I want you to hear my personal reasons for taking Cannon off the base closure list.

I feel this was a judgment call made without knowing all the pertinent facts which make Cannon a special base. I want you to consider this plea along with those of our community and surrounding area.

First of all we have over 300 good flying days a year. We have bright sunny weather with very little rain or snow. It is excellent for daytime or night flying maneuvers. This makes for perfect training. When citizens hear the planes flying at night or zooming around in the day, I thank God for allowing them to protect us and our nation.

The additional air space that is currently being negotiated for purchase will allow for greater missions for many different planes which need supersonic airspace.

The Melrose bombing range is only seconds away for great training and blends into our farm land with no problems. It is vital to training missions for war time planes to practice maneuvers.

The air force personnel that come into Clovis are looking for families to take them under their wings and offer them a place to belong. We do this without reluctance. We can help them meet each need whether it be to find schools for their children, homes to rent or buy, suggestions of places to eat, or shop. We bring them into our churches and offer them closeness to God as a family. We comfort them when they have family members who must be deployed. We give them our hugs when they are ill or loose a loved one. These are some of the reasons why many who are stationed here make a personal reason to come back to Clovis to retire.

Our military retirees now are a great number of our area population and have a great voice in our local, state and national government. Many are getting up in years. They are very concerned over this disturbing news that a group of Government officials can actually change the course of their lives with a single stroke of a pen. Many veteran retirees serve on local civic government positions; have teaching positions, and other income which make their income taxes higher. Still they are able to maintain their independence and be productive citizens. Many returned to Clovis or elected to retire here because of our lower cost of living. Property taxes are very low and housing is very affordable.

There is a brand new Veteran's Clinic in our community and many military families use this facility as well as the state of the art Commissary on base. The local hospital hired 60 new doctors to help provide the medical needs for the military when the base hospital was closed. They are doing major renovations to the Emergency Room by adding a Cancer and Heart Wing. The hospital would not have considered making these costly improvements if they had had knowledge Cannon Air Force Base closing. This news is depleting so much of our local economy and will severely hurt our economic base for our surrounding businesses.

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

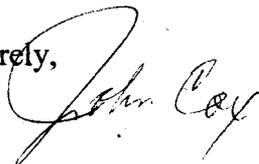
The two area colleges are also a great plus factor as all the military and their families can continue to work on furthering their education while they are stationed here in Clovis or Portales. They offer online classes as well to not hinder their busy schedules. They offer child care as well.

When they first arrive the wind may be blowing and we may be in a no rain time of year where the land is flat and the grass is brown, but soon there is more to be found in Clovis than rolling green hills and lots of trees. It is the friendliness and caring of the community. The veterans learn to love us as we love them.

I want to personally plead with you to consider and reconsider your previous decision and consider the impact on our local area communities and our economy.

In addition the air force personnel stationed here at Cannon do not want to leave Clovis. Countless families want to stay here, but will go if sent somewhere else, but if given the choice. Clovis is like no other home to them.

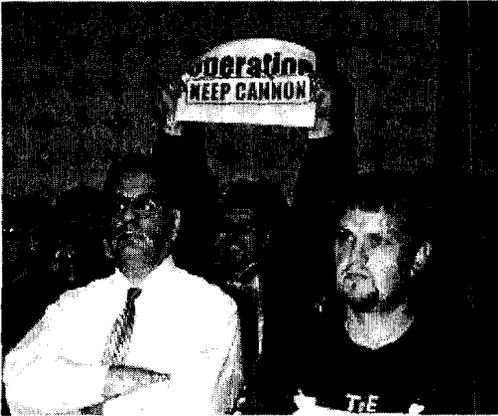
Sincerely,



41952B US70
Portales NM 88130

RECEIVED
06082005
3 June 2005

Dear Chairman Honorable Anthony J. Principi,



James Kratzer of Portales shows his support for Cannon Air Force Base on Monday at the town hall meeting at the Clovis-Carver Library. Kratzer, 49, has been the civilian meteorologist at Cannon for more than a year. (CNJ staff photo: John Eisel)

This is me (ABOVE) holding the sign at our first town hall meeting. I'm holding this sign because the decision to close Cannon AFB is wrong. I'm a retired Air Force Major, working as a meteorologist for nearly 30 years. Currently, I'm the lead Meteorologist at Cannon AFB.

I understood the primary BRAC criteria to focus on "military value defined in four broad categories:

- (1) mission capabilities,
- (2) availability of land, facilities and airspace;
- (3) ability to accommodate future force structure; and,
- (4) cost of operations

This excerpt is straight from the Cannon AFB BRAC report:

Economic Impact on Communities: *Assuming no economic recovery, this recommendation could result in a maximum potential reduction of 4,780 jobs (2,824 direct jobs and 1,956 indirect jobs) over the 2006-2011 period in the Clovis, NM, Metropolitan Statistical Area, which is 20.5 percent of economic area employment. *

This alone will put my wife's bookstore (The Book Nook, Portales NM) out of business. I also will lose my job on Cannon AFB.

Aside from the personal loss, I sense the loss to the National Defense.

- (1) Cannon **DOES** have room to expand. We've expanded our airspace to accommodate over-land supersonic training missions.
- (2) We do not suffer from encroachment from suburban growth.
- (3) Cannon **CAN** accommodate future AF missions, and expansion of current missions.
- (4) Cannon is located in one of the lowest-cost areas of the United States.
- (5) Cannon also has some of the **BEST** flying weather in the United States.

RECOMMENDATION: Remove CANNON AFB from the BRAC List because "it's the right thing to do.

Respectfully Submitted,

James A. Kratzer, Major (Retired)
United States Air Force

1 June 2005



Chairman Anthony Principi
Members of the BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark St
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Subject: Cannon AFB

Dear Chairman Principi and Members of the Commission,

I write this letter with clear understanding and appreciation of the very serious task you have ahead of you. I also understand the time and effort expended by the Air Staff in developing closure recommendations. However, I simply can not leave unchallenged a decision that I know is not based on sound, first hand knowledge of the present and future military value resident in Cannon AFB. This letter presents my views, as former Commander of the 27th Fighter Wing, on the DoD BRAC recommendation to close Cannon AFB. Having commanded two fighter/bomber wings, including the 27th at Cannon, I believe my perspective may differ from the assessment of the Air Staff regarding the components of "military value". I am especially concerned with the weighting assigned those components when assessing the training environment of Air Force installations. It is, after all, the primary mission of our CONUS fighter bases to conduct combat training, and to do it in the safest, most cost effective and efficient manner possible. In my view the overall combat training environment at Cannon AFB is not equaled.

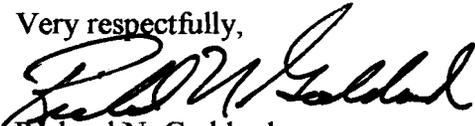
If the term "military value" is to have any credibility in its use as the final arbiter, it must have clear, unambiguous definition, and must not be influenced by "political value". It must also give appropriate weighted value to those components that contribute most significantly to the combat training mission. In the DoD recommendation, the Department stated that "all active duty F-16 Block 50 bases have higher military value than Cannon". For that to be true in any context of "military value", the following would have to be present at all active duty bases rated higher than Cannon.

1. Unencumbered airspace for 360 degrees around the base with no operating limitations
2. A 66,000 acre all weather tactical air to ground and electronic combat bombing range less than ten flying minutes from the base.
3. Multiple IFR/VFR low level training routes with wide variations in terrain, entry points within minutes of launch, and culminating at a fully instrumented bombing range.
4. Flying weather that yields over 320 good weather training days per year
5. No base encroachment from any direction and no operations limitations based on commercial/private development
6. Over \$200 million in new facility construction over the past ten years
7. First class operations, maintenance, services and family housing facilities
8. Lower overall flying hour costs than other installations in Air Combat Command

9. Based on the above, absolutely unlimited potential for future growth and adaptation to new and emerging missions
10. Unequaled community support – not just during BRAC, but every day in every way

All of the above exist at Cannon AFB today. If they are not the core components of “Military Value”, I would challenge the basis of any criteria that is substantially different. In my experience, Cannon AFB has all the inherent characteristics that in combination make it the best training environment in the world. In a head to head comparison of components of “military value”, I simply can not find justification for the comment that Cannon has less military value. For the above reasons, I urge the Commission to carefully weigh the factors that went into the DoD recommendation to close Cannon AFB.

Very respectfully,



Richard N. Goddard
Major General USAF (Ret)

06282005

Betty Berry
829 Altito RD. PO Box 486
Fort Sumner, NM 88119
(505) 355-7674



RECEIVED

June 21, 2005

BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark St., Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

The Honorable James H. Bilbray:

I am writing in response to the possible closure of Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico.

I was employed at Cannon for three months last summer, in a temporary position, and I must say it was a tremendous experience for me. Never have I worked in a place where people were so friendly and respectful. I was able to see first hand the importance of our Military.

Cannon is a first rate Military Installation, and the closing would have a very negative impact on Clovis, Portales, Fort Sumner, and other surrounding areas. Cannon provides many resources to our active and retired military persons that they would not otherwise have access to without driving a significant distance.

Cannon has plenty of space for expansion, and the training provided to our fighting pilots is first rate.

Closing Cannon would have a negative impact on our economy, it would eliminate many jobs that are badly needed.

It is my hope that the support for Cannon will help the BRAC Commission to reconsider and keep Cannon Air Force Base from closing.

Sincerely,

Betty Berry

Harold L. Thrasher



Once And Always

June 19, 2005
RE: Cannon Air Force Base

B.R.A.C. Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, Va. 22202

Dear BRAC Committee,

Ladies and Gentlemen, you are carrying a great burden on your shoulders and the decision that each of you must make concerning the alignment of military bases throughout the United States of America. I for one would not trade places with you. No matter what decisions are made to closures and realignment, there will be unhappy voters and civilians whose lives are greatly affected by your decisions.

At Clovis, New Mexico our beloved Cannon Air Force Base is on the list for closure as you are well aware of. I am sure by now your office is abounding with letters from concern citizens of Clovis and the surrounding areas that want Cannon Air Force Base taken off the list of closures. My letter and intention are no different from those that you have already received.

As a former member of the United States Marine Corps during the conflict in Vietnam I know, from first hand experience the importance of training and a strong military. Without the best training and the best military our goals of democracy and freedom here and abroad would be strongly compromised.

My dad who is 89 years of age now, having grown up during the dust bowl and depression days says it best "Son, don't put all your eggs in one basket." One could easily use this saying today for our military. By spreading out our bases throughout the United States and abroad, we could prevent an attack similar to that of Pearl Harbor where we nearly lost our entire Pacific Fleet to a surprise attack.

No one can ever forget the most recent attack on this country by terrorist whose intent was to bring nothing but harm to innocent lives, be it man, woman or child, who were simply at work or in the wrong place at the wrong time. All ours lives were affected this day wherever we were in New York city or Clovis, New Mexico.

Many of the letters that you have already received tell of the importance of taking Cannon

Air Force Base off the list for closure. Some of you will be visiting here in Clovis, New Mexico on the 24th of June. Then you can see for your self the importance of Cannon Air Force Base in the goal of democracy and freedom throughout the world including our own. You can see for yourself the love that the community and surrounding areas have for Cannon.

Cannon is dependent on Clovis and Clovis is dependent on Cannon. It is a return of our investment in taxes to our federal government that provides jobs for the community of Clovis and the surrounding area. These jobs created also provide for a tax revenue for the federal, state and local government. So in a way the federal government is getting a return of their investment in Cannon Air Force Base by the tax revenue that is created by the jobs created from the existence of Cannon Air Force Base.

If Cannon is to close, our school system from kindergarten to college will be affected. Our churches, hospital, jobs, housing, state, city and county tax revenue will be adversely affected . Our retired military personnel who has given so much for the democracy and freedom that live here will be greatly affected. Our community and the surrounding communities will be greatly affected through lost jobs and tax revenue.

One thing that I also want to mention is the appeal that Cannon has on our young men and women. Many of our youth look to the military for a career opportunity. Our military at Cannon Air Force Base is a great recruitment tool. Even our very young look up to the skies and say that is what they want to be when they grow up. When Cannon opens its doors to the public, one can only look at the amazement of the young ones eyes that are wide open at the sights and sounds of the Air Force.

I know that each of you will study the facts gathered on your travels. I know that each of you will make the right choice and decision when it comes down to the wire. I know that after studying the facts, visiting the bases that the decision of taking Cannon off the list of closures is the only rightful decision that you can make. I entrust you in that decision.

Sincerely,



Harold L. Thrasher

Marilyn Lozano
1105 Sandia Dr.
Clouis, N. Mex. 88101

Brac Commission
2521 S. Clark St. Suite 600
Arlington, Va. 22202

RECEIVED

06282005

Dear BRAC Commissioners;

I am very concerned about the Department of Defense's recommendation that Cannon Air Force Base should be closed.

I want to help make the Commission fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include unencroached airspace at supersonic speed, many new + existing facilities suitable for joint training exercises + a low-cost environment that promotes cost-efficient training. Cannon is a real asset to the country's armed forces.

Whether or not Cannon's Military Value has been recognized yet in Washington, out here we really appreciate the base. The local community has supported Cannon Air Force Base by donating time and land to promote the base's needs. We always welcome the personnel + we make the retirees part of our family.

I moved to Clouis 22 years ago with my two sons because my husband SSgt. Lozano was killed in an automobile crash + he left me as a single parent. I choose to move to Clouis, N.M. in order to use Cannon's Air Force facilities such as the medical + commissary privileges. For 22 years I have enjoyed the benefits that Cannon Air Force provides for me. If Cannon Air Force base closes, I would have to relocate in order

to use the same privileges. That does put a
bind in my financial status, because my
family home is now paid in full. I would have to
relocate, & buy another home. Another point I
would like to make^{is} that Community Of Clouis
is a very decent place for raising your children.
Clouis a very good educational system for the children.
That was another thing that inspired me to move
to Clouis, N. M.

So naturally, when I heard the news
on May 13, 2005, I felt crushed & like
if someone had just died in my family.
A special grief took over me & took me
several days to get it off. At that point
I realized how very important Cannon Air Force
Base was to me. Cannon is a critical asset
to Clouis, N. M. and to me personally.

I invite you to come personally to the Cannon
Hearing in Clouis. I ask you to please reconsider
Cannon's importance to the nation & to me personally.
Please let us Keep Cannon.

Sincerely,
Marylon Lozano
1105 Sandia Dr.
Clouis N. M. 88101



RECEIVED

06282005

BRAC COMMISSION
2521 S. Clark St.
Arlington, VA 22202

June 21, 2005

Dear Sir:

The Closure of Cannon AFB would be VERY VERY HARD on all that goes to the PHARMACEY. There are a lot of us from Ft. Sumner 60 miles from Clovis that NEEDS to get our medication there. PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE KEEP CAFB OPEN. We don't need another hardship getting our medication.

Sincerely,

Flossie L Pollard
P O Box 330
Fort Sumner, NM 88119



16 June 2005

06282005

**BRAC COMMISSION
2521 SOUTH CLARK STREET, SUIT 600
ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22202**

Sir:

KEEP CANNON OPEN:

Cannon troops and their families are a part of our community that you want to take away. You have stated that it is not political, but it is. I know that Cannon is one of the Cleanest and most efficient when it comes to handling Hazardous Waste. So that would make us the easiest to clean up. The government does not want to clean up a mess. So such Cannon down and hide you other mistakes.

Here is a thought. Why not KEEP CANNON open and have them teach these other bases that are so dirty HOW to clean themselves up?

Is this thought to radical for the government? Or is BRAC taking the easy road?

Cannon is so needed in this area. Not only to protect and defend our country, but to lead the way in environmental issue.

We have wide open space, lots of land for expansion. A dedicated community. Plains Regional Medical Center with new heart and Cancer Wings. I am a Cancer survivor and I know what it means to have the Medical Center and the support of Cannon Air Force Base. We have a new VA clinic to help our troops that are coming home.

Home! We have troops over in Iraq and this is called home. So you want to take their home away something that is stability in their lives.

BRAC: You need to reconsider your decision. Think before you keep Cannon on the list. On the 23rd and 24th of June when you are hear stop, look and listen to the people. Yes, I am sure you will find some that might want the base to close. But they are such a minority. This community has backed Cannon since after World War II. Please, back this community and KEEP CANNON open.

This community would be lost without their Cannon.

All of the small businesses in this area work with Cannon and Cannon has always worked with the small businesses in this area. Cannon is family. Our community is a close nit one that has always appreciated Cannon.

Please take a long look at what we have to offer our troops in this area.

Deepen

We are Committed to Cannon.

Look Deeper Please

241 East Plaza Drive
Clovis, New Mexico 88101
May 24, 2005

Mr. Anthony. J. Principi, Chairman
BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark St., Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

RECEIVED

Dear Mr. Principi:

I am writing to the proposed closing of Cannon Air Force Base, **06102005**
Clovis, New Mexico. It has been pointed out by several publications that
this round of base closing has more to do with politics than it does with the
security of the country or the efficiency of the Military. This makes me both
sad and angry, because I would like to think that the welfare of the people
comes before the welfare of the politicians. The politicians do not live on
the level of normal citizens. They are in the higher up class of society and I
tend to think that they do not realize the consequences of their actions, either
to the military personnel or to the communities involved.

I believe that it would be a great loss to the military and to the safety
and security of our country, if Cannon Air Force Base was to close.

Clovis is a small farming and ranching community, population of
about 31,000, and there is very little industry. Most of the businesses are
small locally owned businesses, with some franchise business, but they are
few. To lose the employment provided by Cannon AFB would be
devastating to this small community and surrounding areas. The closing
would send this community into a recession due to the income the base
generates into the community.

I cannot fathom what your thinking could cause this community upon
your decision of the closure of Cannon Air Force Base. The cost of closing
and relocating the base, plus all air force military personnel, in my opinion,
would be so much more then what it would be if you did not close Cannon
AFB.

Plus, if you close the base, what is to happen to the base facilities and
base housing that has been built in Clovis and the surrounding communities?
Will facilities just be allowed to sit unoccupied and fall into disrepair or will
the Air Force be responsible for the upkeep until the lease expires or is there

even a lease? Just on the base alone, there are acres and acres of housing and other facilities that have been built within the last 10 years, not counting the housing built within Clovis and surrounding communities. The possibility of all these facilities just sitting there unoccupied, is a major slum waiting to happen! Surely, there is an alternative to simply walking off, pretend that everything is okay and leaving everything to go to ruin.

What about the military people that are stationed at CAFB, that are fighting to protect our country in war torn countries, what are they supposed to think. Don't they already have enough on their minds, defending our country, without having to worry about whether the base where they and their family are stationed, will close, and their family will have to be moved while they are out protecting our country! Will they have to add to their worries of whether the military will have to construct additional facilities at another base to accommodate them and their families? Meanwhile Cannon falls down around us? How could this possibly be less expensive for the Government than using what is already available? Where military personnel are already established in the facilities provided to them at Cannon Air Force Base!

As a concerned citizen of Clovis, I ask that you and all the members of the BRAC Commission come to Clovis and the surrounding communities to see first hand what you are proposing. It is a great concern to this area that Cannon remain in operation. This part of New Mexico already has a high rate of unemployment, and I feel this should be one of the considerations before a final decision is made. It seems extreme that we should suffer the highest rate of personnel and job loss of any place in the entire United States.

Because of Cannon Air Force Base, our community has grown in leaps and bounds, not only in businesses, but also in community relations. Base personnel have become family, one of us. They have become members of our community, church families, and schools. Without them, part of our family unit will be missing.

Please reconsider your decision. May God bless you in your discerning process of making wise decisions for the well being of our community and our country.

Yours Truly,

Mrs. Magdalena Maes

241 East Plaza Drive
Clovis, New Mexico 88101 06102005
May 24, 2005

Air Force Brig. Gen. Sue Ellen Turner
BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark St., Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Ms. Turner:

I am writing to the proposed closing of Cannon Air Force Base, Clovis, New Mexico. It has been pointed out by several publications that this round of base closing has more to do with politics than it does with the security of the country or the efficiency of the Military. This makes me both sad and angry, because I would like to think that the welfare of the people comes before the welfare of the politicians. The politicians do not live on the level of normal citizens. They are in the higher up class of society and I tend to think that they do not realize the consequences of their actions, either to the military personnel or to the communities involved.

I believe that it would be a great loss to the military and to the safety and security of our country, if Cannon Air Force Base was to close.

Clovis is a small farming and ranching community, population of about 31,000, and there is very little industry. Most of the businesses are small locally owned businesses, with some franchise business, but they are few. To lose the employment provided by Cannon AFB would be devastating to this small community and surrounding areas. The closing would send this community into a recession due to the income the base generates into the community.

I cannot fathom what your thinking could cause this community upon your decision of the closure of Cannon Air Force Base. The cost of closing and relocating the base, plus all air force military personnel, in my opinion, would be so much more then what it would be if you did not close Cannon AFB.

Plus, if you close the base, what is to happen to the base facilities and base housing that has been built in Clovis and the surrounding communities? Will facilities just be allowed to sit unoccupied and fall into disrepair or will the Air Force be responsible for the upkeep until the lease expires or is there

even a lease? Just on the base alone, there are acres and acres of housing and other facilities that have been built within the last 10 years, not counting the housing built within Clovis and surrounding communities. The possibility of all these facilities just sitting there unoccupied, is a major slum waiting to happen! Surely, there is an alternative to simply walking off, pretend that everything is okay and leaving everything to go to ruin.

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Please reconsider your decision. May God bless you in your discerning process of making wise decisions for the well being of our community and our country.

Yours Truly,

Mrs. Magdalena Maes



A Proclamation

June 20, 2005

To:

*Clovis Chamber of Commerce
Cannon Air Force Base officials and staff
The City of Clovis, N.M. & its citizens
B.R.A.C. Commission officials*

Whereas we have been entrusted by the good people of Muleshoe to represent the business, individual and economic interests of our city, we, the following members of the Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture Board of Directors, hereby proclaim our support of Cannon Air Force Base, Clovis, N.M. and "Operation Keep Cannon."

Being an entity fully aware of the positive impact Cannon Air Force Base has upon Eastern New Mexico and West Texas, and existing solely in support of business and the economic growth of not only Muleshoe, but its surrounding sister cities, we wholeheartedly express our support of and appreciation to Cannon Air Force Base officials and staff for your positive impact on this area's economy. Your presence in our area is a positive, productive one, including providing a place for the numerous retired and active military personnel settled in this area to seek medical attention.

The Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture Board of Directors implore B.R.A.C. officials to consider Cannon's economic and social contributions to surrounding cities when making the final closure decision. We need and want Cannon Air Force Base!

The Muleshoe Chamber of Commerce loves this nation and its Armed Forces. In whatever capacity possible, we want to help keep Cannon open.

God bless America. God bless Muleshoe and God bless the men and women of Cannon Air Force Base and Clovis, N.M.

*Your neighbors and friends on the Muleshoe Co/C Board of Directors,
President Heather K. Foley, Vice President Robert Nichols,
Carolyn Johnson, Freddy Santos, Lynn Moore,
Leah Bell, Noelia "Shorty" Flores and Jadd Young*

May 17, 2005

BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Va. 22202

06102405

RECEIVED

Donald K. Reid
Tools & More
412 Commerce Way
Clovis NM 88101

Ref: Cannon Air Force Base

To Whom It May Concern:

I was very much shocked Friday the 13th of May when Cannon Air Force Base came out on the BRAC list for closure.

I was born and raised in Curry County and have lived here my entire life with the exception of the time I was drafted into the United States Army. I spent my full tour in The Republic of Vietnam and was very proud to serve my country. I was honorably discharged from the Army and chose to come home to Clovis to live the remainder of my life.

I have watched the Clovis area and Cannon Air Force Base grow and work together over the past 50 years. While I was stationed at Ft. Hood after my return from Vietnam, we were warned not to go to town unless absolutely necessary. The people of Killeen at that time seemed to be hostile to

soldiers. That was very strange to me since I was raised in a town where the service people were always welcomed. I don't really understand the decision to close CAFB. I believe one of the strongest points we have is the lack of encroachment in physical area as well as air space. This contributes to major safety for military and civilian personnel. Over the years, Clovis and the surrounding area have been **eager** to work with the Air Force in obtaining every thing they needed. We have the bombing range that is less than 5 minutes from the end of the runway at CAFB, allowing for maximum conservation of fuel. We have no large airport that would encroach the air space needed by the military.

Another of our strong points is our climate. On average CAFB has 320 days per year of almost perfect flying weather. We have no smog or pollution problem in the area and the dryness of our climate is certainly an asset against corrosion and rust likely to take place at some of the other facilities. When the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is implemented, we will be able to offer flight at super sonic speeds that will allow for training under actual combat missions.

We also have many military retirees in the area who depend upon the base as part of their retirement. It simply is not fair, nor feasible for them to be forced to move in order to continue receiving what they are entitled to.

The economic devastation that will affect Clovis and the surrounding area will be tremendous. Cannon is not the only industry we have, but a loss of over one hundred million dollar payroll in the area will have a very adverse effect in our community. Closing Cannon doesn't seem to

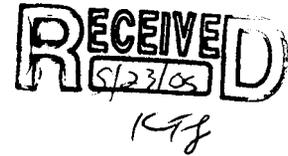
me to be much of a reward for the people of the area, when we all have been so willing to co-operate with the military in every aspect.

The most important asset to the military and our nation is simply the heart of the people in our area. Our people are very unique compared to most other parts of the country. I am asking that you remove Cannon Air Force from the BRAC list not only for the betterment of our community but also for the betterment of our national security.

Thank you for your consideration,

Donald K. Reid

May 17, 2005



BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Va. 22202

Donald K. Reid
Tools & More
412 Commerce Way
Clovis NM 88101

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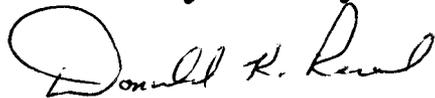
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Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donald K. Reid". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the typed name.

Donald K. Reid

RECEIVED
06212005

June 16, 2005

BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Va., 22202

Re: Proposed Closing of Cannon AFB New Mexico.

Dear Commission Members:

If Cannon AFB is on the Close list, why? !) Where the two runways given a major upgrade in the past two years. 2) New housing built for the troops. 3) Troop housing refurburshed in the past two years. That does not sound like good money management to me.

I am not going to preach to the chior, however, I would like to bring to mind a few advantages Cannon has. 1) Nearby bombing practice range, that is , the pilots get gear up and they are over the Melrose Bomb Range ready to train. 2) Cannon has some of the best flying weather. 3) The maintainence complex is fairly uptodate.

From Amarillo to Lubbock Texas via Portales and Clovis New Mexico there is a large population of military retirees. I belong to the groupe, I retired in 1978 from the Air Force.

In parting may I offer " Ones who do not pay attention to history are doomed to repeat it." Befor WW1 the Army was down sized, mad scrambel to rebuild . Armed Services down sized after WW1 then came December 7, 1940 , mad scrambel to rebuild, then Korea, Viet Nam, Desert Storm all came ofter down sizing.

Freedom is not cheap, but why do we have to keep repeating the past? Down size then a mad scrambel.

Respectfully

Ed McPeak
A. Yvonne McPeak

Ed and Yvonne McPeak

06212005

March 23, 2005

Kathi Holland
409 Chanticleer
Clovis, NM 88101

RECEIVED

James V. Hansen,

I am very concerned about the BRAC Commission's decision to close Cannon Air Force Base.

Cannon Air Force Base has a definite value to the security of the United States and the evidence is shown by Cannon's fighter planes in Iraq. Cannon also had fighters in Desert Storm. Cannon's support to the security of our nation is important.

Please consider the unique attributes that Cannon offers for the defense of our nation. Cannon has no encroachments, almost unlimited airspace, the adjacent Melrose bombing range, year-round flying days and nights and the airspace to fly supersonic speeds.

Cannon has been apart of the our local communities for over 50 years. Clovis and Portales have embraced Cannon's personal as if they all were born and raised in here. Both communities are extremely fortunate to have retired military that have chosen this area for retirement. Some have even retired at other bases but come back to this area for retirement.

The closer of Cannon Air Force Base will have a devastating impact on our community. I understand that about 20% of our workforce will be lost. Clovis, with a population of only 34,000, cannot withstand this impact. Our public schools will loose approximately 1,200 students which will equate to loss of jobs for teachers. Our higher education systems will also be greatly impacted. The impact of the loss of Cannon could be insurmountable for our local economy.

Please reconsider all the facts and attributes of Cannon Air Force Base before making your final decision. Our future is in your hands.

Respectfully Yours,

Kathi Holland



50081890

Curry County Federated Republican Women
111 East 6th Street, Suite A
Clovis, NM 88101

June 17, 2005

Commission Chairman
Hon. Anthony J. Principi
C/o BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi:

Cannon Air Force Base is home to the 27th Fighter Wing and is crucial to both the National Defense of our Country and the economy of Eastern New Mexico. We believe that the Pentagon's BRAC recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base is a mistake.

After reviewing available documentation we have come to believe that critical data that could have altered Cannon's overall BRAC score was either omitted completely, or incorrectly entered into the base closure formula. Several examples of this are the fact that Cannon Air Force Base has two runways rather than one, and the Melrose Bombing Range is twenty miles vice forty miles from the end of the runway. Additionally, the New Mexico Training Range Initiative that will implement supersonic flying space for Cannon and its associated bombing range may not have been considered at all.

These examples represent a few inconsistencies resulting from a cursory examination of data available on the internet. We believe that a detailed review of all data used to compile the BRAC score will result in a much different outcome for Cannon Air Force Base, and ask that you carefully consider the corroborating information that will be presented to you when you visit Clovis on June 24th.

Sincerely:


Carolyn Shipley
President

JUSTUS REALTY

C. H. JUSTUS, JR. G.R.I.
BROKER

06212005

Telephone (505) 356-8594
P.O. Box 784
219 W. 2nd St.
Portales, New Mexico 88130



RECEIVED

June 16, 2005

To the BRAC Commission,

I want to request that you vote to keep Cannon Air Force Base.

Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.

Once the NM Training Range Initiative is implemented, Cannon will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions.

The weather in eastern NM provides year-around training. Also, Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations. The air space and weather make Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training mission for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.

Our economy relies on Cannon more than any other area in the country. Cannon closing would have a great negative impact on the economy of Clovis, Portales, Melrose and West Texas towns.

Thank you for recommending keeping Cannon.

Sincerely,


C. H. Justus, Jr.

BRAC Commission

Ann L. Rowley

JUL 14 2005

Received 11, 2005

Dear Commission,

My husband & I have lived in Clovis for 30 years and been members of the Committee of 56 since 1982 and feel strongly that Cannon & its people are an integral part of our community.

Our business alone would be impacted over \$105,000.00/yr plus the "trickle down" effect. This would be devastating to us as we near retirement age.

Please keep Cannon open - for the good of our community, the Air Force and our national defense.

Sincerely,
Ann L.

JUL 14 2005

Ann L. Rowley
Received

June 11, 2005

Dear Commissioner,

My husband & I have lived in Clovis for 30 yrs and have members of the committee of '50 since 1982. We feel strongly that Cannon and its people are an integral part of our community.

Our business alone would be impacted over \$ 105,000. or 1yr. This would be devastating to us as we head toward our retirement years.

Please keep Cannon open - for our community, the Air Force and the good of our national defense.

Sincerely
Ann R

BRAC Commission

JUL 14 2005

Received

Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

July 7, 2005

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a citizen of Virginia Beach, Virginia and I live and work in close proximity to NAS, Oceana.

Although I am employed by the private sector, I have serious concerns about the affect of Oceana being placed on the Base Closure List. The affects of the closure would be far-reaching and potentially disastrous for the region. The economy would suffer as well as the quality of life for the remaining military personnel in the surrounding bases.

In recently published surveys it was revealed that less than 1/10 of 1 percent opposed Oceana operations. In addition, the majority of citizens feel that jet noise is a non-factor. On the contrary, it is difficult to travel far without seeing bumpers stickers proclaiming "I Love Jet Noise" in support of the flight operations at Oceana.

I strongly support controlled growth and Oceana's encroachment policies. I intend to stay involved with issues concerning the partnering success of Oceana and the City of Virginia Beach.

Please do not place Oceana on the Base Closure List.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter Jones". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial "P".

JULY 11, 2005

BRAC Commission

JUL 14 2005

Received

ANTHONY PRINCIPI
CHAIRMAN, the BRAC COMMISSION
THE POLK BUILDING, SUITE 600 + 625
2521 SOUTH CLARK STREET
ARLINGTON, VA 22202

DEAR CHAIRMAN PRINCIPI,

We are writing with concern about the proposed recommendation for realignment of the Portland Oregon Air National Guard Base.

Although we don't live in the immediate area, it is our understanding that this is the main air defense system for the entire Pacific Northwest and therefore would be vital to the Northern California coastal defense system as well.

In these times of global unrest, this particular coastal defense system is crucial to the entire population of this vast area. This base, home to the 142nd Fighter Wing with F15 Eagles on 24 hour alert is strategic for the security of our Pacific shores against attack from the west.

Therefore, we urge your most careful consideration for leaving this base and fighter wing intact.

Thank you for heeding the concern we express.

Sincerely

Mr. and Mrs. Armen and Leona Nonian
3513 Camby Rd.
Antioch, CA 94509



KENT CARRUTHERS
PRESIDENT

The Citizens Bank of Clovis

May 25, 2005

Mr. James V. Hansen
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

RECEIVED

06102005

RE: *Cannon Air Force Base*

Dear Mr. Hansen:

I am a twenty year resident of Clovis serving as the President of the Citizens Bank of Clovis. During that time, I have been involved in economic development issues along with membership in the Committee of Fifty. The Committee of Fifty's mission is to maintain good relationships between the community and the Air Force.

I find it amazing that the New Mexico Training Range Initiative, which allows for supersonic training was not considered by the Pentagon. Local officials along with the Air Force have been pursuing this expanded air space for approximately two years. It is my understanding that the process is at the stage of final approval. This initiative reflects the long history of local support for Cannon Air Force Base.

Clovis and Curry County have been staunch supporters of Cannon Air Force Base for 50 years. Curry County, in conjunction with the state of New Mexico, purchased air easements in the early 1990's to insure that no encroachment could be established that would affect air operation at Cannon Air Force Base. The local community also purchased land north of Cannon Air Force Base for additional housing and gave the property to the Air Force. In recent years, the community purchased land west of Cannon, giving it to the Air Force for installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway. These are further examples of the strong support that our community has given the Air Force over the years. Clovis is the epitome of how a community establishes and maintains relationships and support of the Air Force.

The lack of encroachment on Cannon and the fact that our community's primary growth is away from the base keeps Cannon in a very strong position for whatever missions might be established for them. The Singapore wing and a recent joint exercise with the U. S. Navy reflects favorably on Cannon and its flexibility. The awards that Cannon has won over the years should reflect the continued viability of this important installation.

I realize the economic factors and its impact on the local community are of a lesser issue in your overall consideration of base closures; however a 20% plus decrease in the employment base in this small community will be devastating. I would encourage your consideration of larger metropolitan areas that could more easily overcome a base closure and assisting communities like Clovis and Portales to retain and possibly add employment opportunities as a result of the Air Force being here.

I know you have been assigned a most difficult task in assessing the Pentagon recommendation. I am confident that upon the review of the facilities at Cannon Air Force Base that you will agree that Cannon should not only be retained but in fact expanded. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kent Carruthers
President

KC/dw

RESOLUTION № 0613-2005

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE “KEEP CANNON” INITIATIVE.

WHEREAS, the Clovis Army Air Base was activated during World War II and closed at the end of the war; and,

WHEREAS, the base was reactivated during the Korean conflict and has been continuously serving the national defense since that time; and,

WHEREAS, Cannon Air Force Base has a long history of both combat and peace time service to the safety and security of the country; and,

WHEREAS, the Clovis community has strongly supported Cannon Air Force Base, its mission and the United States Air Force personnel and their families; and,

WHEREAS, the Department of Defense, on May 13, 2005, announced its recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base as a part of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) program; and,

WHEREAS, Cannon Air Force Base meets all announced criteria governing the base closure evaluation; and,

WHEREAS, Cannon Air Force Base has favorable flying conditions, is in close proximity to the Melrose Bomb range, has recently refurbished both runways and other infrastructure, and has infrastructure capable of accommodating an expanded mission; and

WHEREAS, through foresight and planning by local and state officials, air right easements have been previously acquired to eliminate encroachment issues that have impacted other Air Force bases; and,

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Training Range Initiative should be finalized before the end of 2005, allowing supersonic training at Melrose Bomb Range and the associated military airspace; and,

WHEREAS, from the inception of the air expeditionary force (AEF) concept, Cannon Air Force Base has served as a lead wing; and,

WHEREAS, Cannon personnel and their families have contributed greatly to the local community, and the local community has provided a supportive home to those military families; and,

WHEREAS, the closure of Cannon Air Force Base would have a significant adverse impact on the community, both financially and culturally; and,

WHEREAS, the Clovis City Commission believes that the closure recommendation fails to follow the announced criteria; and,

WHEREAS, Governor Richardson has vowed to lead and support efforts to overcome the recommendation of the Defense Department; and,

WHEREAS, Congressional leaders have also pledged to lead efforts to overcome the recommendation; and,

WHEREAS, the citizens of Clovis, Portales, Elida, Curry County, Roosevelt County, eastern New Mexico and west Texas support Cannon Air Force Base and the efforts to resist closure; and,

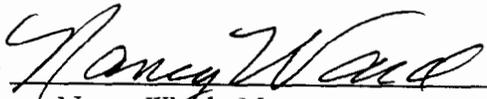
WHEREAS, City and community leaders have developed a strategy and initiative to collect and present data that will demonstrate that Cannon Air Force Base is a necessary component for the military and security needs of the country far into the future; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Elida seeks the involvement, support and assistance of all citizens to successfully persuade the BRAC Commission to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the closure list.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the Town of Elida, New Mexico, to exert whatever means and energy is necessary to obtain the removal of Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list, and encourages the citizens of Elida and eastern New Mexico to actively and aggressively support this effort by writing letters, emails and communications showing the support of the community for the continued existence of Cannon Air Force Base.

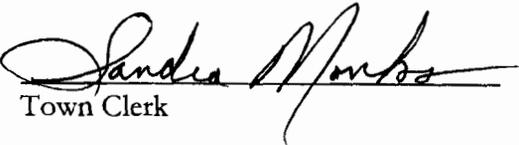
DONE this 13th day of June, 2005.

THE TOWN OF ELIDA, NEW MEXICO

By: 
Nancy Ward, Mayor

(SEAL)

ATTEST:


Town Clerk

May 30, 2005
201 N.M. 267
Portales, N.M.
88130

06022005

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

Dear Sir.

Keep Cannon A.F.B. Clovis!

The base is important to the cities of Portales, Clovis, Coontices of Roswell and Curry, and to thousands of individuals. It provides benefits to hundreds of retirees in the vicinity. The base has great positive impact on our local schools; it provides employment for hundreds of workers in this area of economic depression — mostly an agricultural area.

Please do not penalize us for being a "small" constituency with a "small" government installation! The impact of the base closing would be one of our nation's greatest!

Sincerely,

Mary Mullins Lynch