DCN: 4872

May 29, 2005
Pat Weekley
2105 Axtell St.
Clovis, NM 88101

To The Honorable Phillip Coyle

Dear Sir,

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We have good weather here. Seldom are our activities curtailed because of in climate conditions. That makes for good flying weather too. We have the huge bombing range that is due to be expanded and you can't find that advantage just anywhere. This is just a short distance from here. Not long ago new runways were put in place... cost...?? We were in Amarillo When that base closed and those runways were utilized by their airport so no loss there, but that would not be the case here. This is not a heavily

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To Brigadier General Sue E. Turner

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Admiral Harold W. Gehman, Jr. (USN, Ret)
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Dear Admiral Gehman:

What do I write? How can I put into words the consequences we face if 25% plus of our economy in Clovis and Portales, New Mexico is wiped out?

Buildings and houses will be empty. No jobs will be available. Friends will have to move to find work. The cultural diversity and ideas that Cannon Air Force Base (CAFB) personnel bring to the community will be gone. Our streets will be empty. Our schools will lose close to $5,000,000 with the loss of students from CAFB which will impact the education of the remaining civilian students.

For the first time, Clovis was booming with major chains building in Clovis and now it has come to a standstill. We do not have the ability that other larger towns have to offset the loss.

There is no doubt that Cannon Air Force Base has "military value". The Clovis/Portales town leaders and the many letters you have already received mention all the reasons Cannon AFB is important to military readiness and training. The idea of keeping the air space we have provided and shutting down Cannon at a tremendous expense to the civilian population is not a proud American move. We have the air space. We have the training facilities without encroachment problems. We have room to fly without commercial planes to interfere. Planes can be in the air in minutes. So, why is CAFB on the list?

My request is for you to consider the impact and keep Cannon Air Force Base open.

Sincerely,

Sharon Gardner

Sharon Gardner
501 Commerce Way, Suite 3
Clovis, NM 88101
505.769.0105

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Brigadier General Sue E. Turner (USAF, Ret)
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

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General Lloyd W. Newton (USAF, Ret)
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

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Dear General Newton:

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

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BRAC Commission
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Brigadier General Sue E Turner
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Dear Brigadier General Turner:

I was shocked to learn of the Department of Defense's recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base.

I read with great interest the selection criteria for Base Realignment and Closure and the reasons given by the Department of Defense (DOD) to support the closure of Cannon AFB. Not only do I believe that the reasons are flawed, I also believe that Cannon AFB does not fit the criteria for base closure and that the DOD failed to make the BRAC Commission fully aware of some important information to be considered.

The DOD gives priority consideration for BRAC to military value, therefore allow me to emphasize some important information that the BRAC commission may not have been made aware of, specifically regarding the New Mexico Training Range Initiative (NMTRI). Developed by Colonel Robert Yates, former Commander of the 27th Fighter Wing at Cannon AFB, the NMTRI is a proposal to provide more realistic training opportunities for the 27th Fighter Wing and the New Mexico Air National Guard in Cannon Air Force Base managed airspace. The NMTRI includes modifying existing airspace, creating new airspace, authorizing supersonic flight at medium altitudes, and expanding the use of defensive countermeasures into the new and modified airspace. The resulting airspace would allow pilots to train in the full range of missions and tactics they require to prepare for combat. The NMTRI is a collaboration between the New Mexico Economic Development Department's Office for Military Base Planning, the Federal Aviation Administration, and the Air Force. Years of work have been put into the NMTRI, by both the Air Force and the State of New Mexico. Implementation of the NMTRI is a key component of national defense. It is my belief that the pending approval of the NMTRI would have significant impact of the DOD's first criterion for Base Closure and Realignment, which is listed as: The current and future mission capabilities and the impact on operational readiness of the total force of the DOD, including the impact on joint warfighting, training and readiness.

The second criterion, "The availability and condition of land, facilities, and associated airspace (including training areas suitable for maneuver by ground, naval, or air forces throughout a diversity of climate and terrain areas and staging areas for the use of the Armed Forces in homeland defense missions) at both existing and potential receiving locations" should also have greater consideration. Cannon AFB has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. The communities surrounding Cannon AFB are in

part responsible for that. In the early 90's, Curry County and the state of New Mexico purchased air easements around Cannon AFB and gave them to the Air Force. The local community also purchased the land north of Cannon AFB and gave it to the Air Force for additional housing, now known as Chavez Manor. Our community also purchased land west of Cannon AFB and again gave it to the Air Force for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway. Not only is there availability of land and airspace, it is being given to the Air Force by the state and local communities.

One of the reasons and the seventh criterion given by the DOD dealt with the economic impact on the communities surrounding Cannon AFB. The DOD suggests there would be a maximum potential reduction of 4,780 jobs, both direct and indirect. A recent Economic Impact Study indicated that almost 7,000 jobs, both direct and indirect, result from Cannon AFB operations. As you can see there is a marked difference in the numbers.

I implore you to vote to overturn the recommendation and remove Cannon from the BRAC list.

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Rebecca L. Roach

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2005 Weeden Drive
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The DOD gives priority consideration for BRAC to military value, therefore allow me to emphasize some important information that the BRAC commission may not have been made aware of, specifically regarding the New Mexico Training Range Initiative (NMTRI). Developed by Colonel Robert Yates, former Commander of the 27th Fighter Wing at Cannon AFB, the NMTRI is a proposal to provide more realistic training opportunities for the 27th Fighter Wing and the New Mexico Air National Guard in Cannon Air Force Base managed airspace. The NMTRI includes modifying existing airspace, creating new airspace, authorizing supersonic flight at medium altitudes, and expanding the use of defensive countermeasures into the new and modified airspace. The resulting airspace would allow pilots to train in the full range of missions and tactics they require to prepare for combat. The NMTRI is a collaboration between the New Mexico Economic Development Department's Office for Military Base Planning, the Federal Aviation Administration, and the Air Force. Years of work have been put into the NMTRI, by both the Air Force and the State of New Mexico. Implementation of the NMTRI is a key component of national defense. It is my belief that the pending approval of the NMTRI would have significant impact of the DOD's first criterion for Base Closure and Realignment, which is listed as: The current and future mission capabilities and the impact on operational readiness of the total force of the DOD, including the impact on joint warfighting, training and readiness.

The second criterion, "The availability and condition of land, facilities, and associated airspace (including training areas suitable for maneuver by ground, naval, or air forces throughout a diversity of climate and terrain areas and staging areas for the use of the Armed Forces in homeland defense missions) at both existing and potential receiving locations" should also have greater consideration. Cannon AFB has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. The communities surrounding Cannon AFB are in

part responsible for that. In the early 90's, Curry County and the state of New Mexico purchased air easements around Cannon AFB and gave them to the Air Force. The local community also purchased the land north of Cannon AFB and gave it to the Air Force for additional housing, now known as Chavez Manor. Our community also purchased land west of Cannon AFB and again gave it to the Air Force for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway. Not only is there availability of land and airspace, it is being given to the Air Force by the state and local communities.

One of the reasons and the seventh criterion given by the DOD dealt with the economic impact on the communities surrounding Cannon AFB. The DOD suggests there would be a maximum potential reduction of 4,780 jobs, both direct and indirect. A recent Economic Impact Study indicated that almost 7,000 jobs, both direct and indirect, result from Cannon AFB operations. As you can see there is a marked difference in the numbers.

I implore you to vote to overturn the recommendation and remove Cannon from the BRAC list.

Sincerely,

Rebecca L. Roach

Rebecca L Roach
2005 Weeden Drive
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED

06022005

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

Dear Admiral Gehman, Jr.:

Please vote to overturn the Department of Defense's recommendation that Cannon Air Force Base be closed. Cannon Air Force Base should not be on the BRAC closure list. Here are a few of the many reasons why:

- **LOCATION** - New Mexico is the perfect location and has excellent weather for year-round flying. Training facilities, like the Melrose bombing range and all the ground space necessary, are available for joint war-fighting, training and readiness exercises.

- **AIR SPACE** – The base has an abundance of air space with no encroachment issues. Once the NM Training Range Initiative is implemented, Cannon will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions. Cannon is a perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter and any other military aircraft.

- **SUPPORT** – Cannon has the full support of not only Clovis, New Mexico, but every community within at least 100 miles. We have reached out and supported Cannon financially, morally, spiritually and consistently for the last 50 years and pledge to continue for at least another 50.

Cannon just does not fit the criteria for base closures.

I invite you to come to Clovis, inspect the base and tour our community. I ask you to reconsider Cannon's importance to the security of our nation and to my community. We need Cannon. You need Cannon. America needs Cannon! Please, let us KEEP CANNON AFB OPEN!

Respectfully,

Marla D. Gutierrez

Marla D. Gutierrez
1816 Avondale Blvd.
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED

06022005

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

Dear General Hill:

Please vote to overturn the Department of Defense's recommendation that Cannon Air Force Base be closed. Cannon Air Force Base should not be on the BRAC closure list. Here are a few of the many reasons why:

- **LOCATION** - New Mexico is the perfect location and has excellent weather for year-round flying. Training facilities, like the Melrose bombing range and all the ground space necessary, are available for joint war-fighting, training and readiness exercises.

- **AIR SPACE** – The base has an abundance of air space with no encroachment issues. Once the NM Training Range Initiative is implemented, Cannon will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions. Cannon is a perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter and any other military aircraft.

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Cannon just does not fit the criteria for base closures.

I invite you to come to Clovis, inspect the base and tour our community. I ask you to reconsider Cannon's importance to the security of our nation and to my community. We need Cannon. You need Cannon. America needs Cannon! Please, let us KEEP CANNON AFB OPEN!

Respectfully,

Marla D. Gutierrez
1816 Avondale Blvd.
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED
06022005

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

Dear General Hill:

I urge you to overturn the Department of Defense's BRAC recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base.

Cannon Air Force Base should not be on the BRAC closure list for many reasons. I've listed some of the key reasons below:

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.
- Cannon has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training opportunities.
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

In summary, the Clovis, Portales and surrounding communities have reached out and supported Cannon Air Force Base like no other community over the last 50 years. We've done so financially, morally, spiritually and above all consistently. The continued operation of Cannon Air Force Base is not only extremely important for this region, but for the Nation as a whole. Respectfully, I urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

Benjamin A. Kesler
1107 N. Norris #G
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

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06022005

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

Dear General Hill:

Because Cannon Air Force Base does not meet the criteria for closure, I respectfully request that you overturn the Department of Defense's BRAC recommendation to close it. Please consider the following when reviewing the recommendation:

- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
- Cannon has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, allowing for safer and more realistic pilot training.
- Cannon has ample space and ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico allows for year-round training.
- The close proximity of Cannon and the bombing range allow for immediate training.
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

In addition, Clovis, Portales and the surrounding communities have supported Cannon for over 50 years. The communities have purchased air easements and given them to the Air Force. They have purchased land and given it to the Air Force to allow for additional housing, encouraging growth. They also purchased land and gave it to the Air Force to allow for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway. Those are just documented examples of our support.

In short, our communities have always supported Cannon and what it brings to our community. Cannon certainly provides an economic impact on our communities; but more than that, these families are a part of our communities and our families now. Our large military retiree population, my in-laws included, is a direct result of our community embracing the military.

Keeping Cannon open is certainly important to our community, but it is also a vital part of the Nation's military operation. Again, I respectfully ask you to overturn the BRAC's recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base.

Sincerely,

Kimberly A. Johnson

Kimberly A. Johnson
605 Circle Drive
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

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06022005

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

Dear General Hill:

I urge you to overturn the Department of Defense's BRAC recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base.

Here are just a few of the many reasons Cannon Air Force Base should not be on the BRAC closure list:

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.
- Once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is implemented, we will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions. This is a very important point, as it allows the Air Force to better train for real-life situations.
- The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. This allows pilots to get airborne, and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range, rather than spending all of their fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, and then returning to the base.
- The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.
- Cannon has won countless awards, both on ACC level, Air Force and NAF levels, and national and STAT levels
- The relationship between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding towns; Clovis, Portales, West Texas, and others, is unlike any other installation in the country.
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

I want to help make the Commission fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. The continued operation of Cannon Air Force Base is not only extremely important for this region, but for the Nation as a whole. Respectfully, I urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

Gary Lethgo

Gary Lethgo
1708 Arcineiga Dr.
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4872

May 25, 2005

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06022005

General Lloyd Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Regarding: Removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list

Dear General Newton

I would appreciate a moment of your time to talk about the Department of Defense's recommendation that Cannon Air Force Base should be closed. I want to help make you aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.

- The base has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues.
- The New Mexico Training Range Initiative will offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic over land during training missions. This will offer real-life training that is virtually unavailable in other locations!
- Eastern New Mexico weather provides year round training ability.
- The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. This allows pilots to get airborne, and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range, rather than spending all of their fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, then returning to the base.
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.
- The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the PERFECT candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.

I truly do not believe that closing Cannon will save the military money. Although Clovis is my home town and Cannon is where I met my husband, we have spent the last 15 years at Seymour Johnson AFB where we are currently stationed. If comparable statistics exist between a base like Cannon and Seymour on the number of training flights cancelled due to weather, I urge you to consider this data. I ask this because we have the F-15 training squadron here, and it has long been viewed that this is not a good base because of the excessive flight hours trainees must log to complete their flights. For example, each pilot needs about 70 hours to complete training, however, some will complete over 100 hours largely due to weather interrupting the flight. Well how much does this cost? How much does it cost each time an F-15 takes off? If you have any data

to help support this fact that is observed here by many, please consider this as part of Cannon's military value as well. Maybe Cannon really could be a perfect location for pilot training. Let us really save some money and a community!

On a personal note, my husband and I are being transferred back to Cannon this summer, and we had hoped to retire in the Clovis community. Our house hunting trip scheduled for the first of June was cancelled upon the BRAC announcement because the base closure will be so devastating to our community that buying a home would be a costly mistake. In fact we fear that Clovis will be so devastated that retirement and a future there with our family may never become a reality. The closure of Cannon will be economic and cultural disaster to our community. It has been estimated that the area will lose at least 25 percent of its economic base, a percentage out of line with the effect of base closings in other communities. Cannon is critical for our community, it such a part of Clovis that we cannot imagine what will happen if the two are parted.

Clovis has long supported Cannon and its people, and if it closing it were truly in the best interest our national defense that would be one thing, but clearly it is not! Using a base like Cannon to reduce the costly practices of other less efficient locations would bring the military greater savings, and spare our community. Also, please remember the history of Clovis' support which includes the purchase of land, air-space, and a missile range which was given to the U.S. Air Force. I urge you to very carefully reconsider the recommendation to close Cannon AFB, our future depends on your fair judgment about the value of Cannon AFB, and the Eastern New Mexico region.

Sincerely,

Robin Fogerty

Robin Fogerty

311 Bolling Dr., Goldsboro, NC 27534

DCN: 4872

May 25, 2005

06022005

Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Regarding: Removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list

Dear Honorable Bilbray,

I would appreciate a moment of your time to talk about the Department of Defense's recommendation that Cannon Air Force Base should be closed. I want to help make you aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.

- The base has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues.
- The New Mexico Training Range Initiative will offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic over land during training missions. This will offer real-life training that is virtually unavailable in other locations!
- Eastern New Mexico weather provides year round training ability.
- The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. This allows pilots to get airborne, and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range, rather than spending all of their fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, then returning to the base.
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.
- The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the PERFECT candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.

I truly do not believe that closing Cannon will save the military money. Although Clovis is my home town and Cannon is where I met my husband, we have spent the last 15 years at Seymour Johnson AFB where we are currently stationed. If comparable statistics exist between a base like Cannon and Seymour on the number of training flights cancelled due to weather, I urge you to consider this data. I ask this because we have the F-15 training squadron here, and it has long been viewed that this is not a good base because of the excessive flight hours trainees must log to complete their flights. For example, each pilot needs about 70 hours to complete training, however, some will complete over 100 hours largely due to weather interrupting the flight. Well how much does this cost? How much does it cost each time an F-15 takes off? If you have any data

to help support this fact that is observed here by many, please consider this as part of Cannon's military value as well. Maybe Cannon really could be a perfect location for pilot training. Let us really save some money and a community!

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Clovis has long supported Cannon and its people, and if it closing it were truly in the best interest our national defense that would be one thing, but clearly it is not! Using a base like Cannon to reduce the costly practices of other less efficient locations would bring the military greater savings, and spare our community. Also, please remember the history of Clovis' support which includes the purchase of land, air-space, and a missile range which was given to the U.S. Air Force. I urge you to very carefully reconsider the recommendation to close Cannon AFB, our future depends on your fair judgment about the value of Cannon AFB, and the Eastern New Mexico region.

Sincerely,

Robin Fogerty

Robin Fogerty

311 Bolling Dr., Goldsboro, NC 27534

DCN: 4872

Keep Cannon A.F.B.!

20 May 05

Margaret Merrell
483 New Mexico 88
Portales, NM 88130

The Honorable James V. Hansen,

As a disabled veteran, retiree from Cannon Air Force Base, and a recent graduate of Eastern New Mexico University, I am devastated by your BRAC Commission decision to close Cannon AFB.

I understand the primary criteria for BRAC list selections are consideration of the military installation's military value "to implement opportunities for greater jointness"; such as, current and future mission capabilities, availability of land, facilities and airspace; as well as, ability to accommodate future force structure; and, cost of operations and the manpower implications.

I also understand that the economic impact on existing communities in the vicinity of the military installation; as well as, the ability of the infrastructure of the existing communities to support forces, missions, and personnel; and, the environmental impact including the impact of costs related to potential environmental restoration, waste management, and environmental compliance activities were also considerations for BRAC list selections.

So, objectively looking at the primary criteria and other considerations, I am perplexed as to how Cannon AFB made the BRAC list of selections since it does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.

First, I will address Cannon's military value. Cannon AFB has an abundance of unencroached air space (PRICELESS) and no encroachment issues (PRICELESS) at either the primary or the alternate runway or at the Melrose bombing range that is truly seconds away from Cannon. Think of the cost savings in fuel alone by our pilot's ability to get to their job sites faster and therefore cheaper. Time is money. The cost of jet fuel is also money. Has the cost of jet fuel gone down as the cost of vehicle fuel has gone up? The less travel time affords more bang for the buck for more realistic training scenarios while having safer take-offs and landings for everyone. The impending implementation of the New Mexico Training Range Initiative will further enhance our training abilities with supersonic flying during training missions. Cannon continues to be "THE Go-To Base".

Cannon AFB, while having weather that supports practically 365 days of flying and training, also has ample space and ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations. Flooding is not a problem. Hurricanes are not a problem. Tornados are not a problem. Fires are not a problem. Earthquakes are not a problem. Terrorists are not a problem. Anyone conspicuous approaching Cannon AFB can be identified and deterred long before reaching its critical assets due to Cannon's strategic location and recent upgraded gates of entry and perimeter fencing . Cannon has the space for expansion and facilities to accommodate joint warfare training and readiness. The Joint Red Flag 05 exercise conducted from March 19 through April 2 also included the Army's Roving Sands exercise conducted at White Sands

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Missile Range. NAVAIR ranges supported that venue with ARDS pods and support personnel at Cannon AFB, N.M. Cannon AFB has supported ROVING SANDS, the world's largest joint theater air and missile defense exercise, and Joint Red Flag.

The recent upgrade of the alternate runway and alternate runway lighting, the new air traffic control tower, new fire station, and the new police station are significant and remarkable improvements to Cannon AFB that contribute to make it "THE Go-To Base" for the latest and greatest facilities. Cannon AFB is the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.

Cannon AFB has won countless awards, both on ACC level, Air Force and NAF levels, and national and STAT levels. These mission related accomplishments at Cannon AFB are because the personnel at Cannon AFB have motivation to not only achieve, but to excel in all they do.

Cannon AFB is also an International Host Base to the Singapore Air Force. By contract, the Singapore Air Force invested millions of their own dollars to upgrade some of the Cannon AFB facilities for their use to fly their F-16 planes. If Cannon AFB is closed, the Singapore Air Force will have to be relocated at a substantial cost to the U.S. government. This international contract agreement should be of grave concern for a couple of reasons. First, I do not perceive this as a good business practice and proper international etiquette to break a 25-year contract, especially in its early years. Second, other international communities who might be considering renting base usage will think twice about making such an expensive investment.

Clovis and Portales both have 801 Housing contracts that are young as well. It is my understanding that the base closure will not terminate the costs these houses will continue incur to the Air Force; although, these assets will revert to the respective communities.

The relationship between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding cities, towns, and communities in eastern New Mexico and west Texas is unlike any other installation in the United States. The Committee of 50 has ensured world-class community support for Cannon AFB unrivaled for more than 50 years. Recently the leaders within our community spear-headed the effort to expand and convert the air space of Cannon AFB to supersonic capability through the New Mexico Training Range Initiative. Three times in the past, the people of this bases community purchased and then GAVE significant assets to the Air Force for the sake of Cannon. In the early 90s, Curry County, in conjunction with the state of New Mexico, purchased air easements around Cannon and GAVE them to the Air Force. This was done to protect the air space from encroachment. The local community purchased the land north of Cannon and gave it back to the Air Force for additional housing. Now it is known as Chavez Manor. Within the last few years, our community purchased land west of Cannon and GAVE it back to the Air Force for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway where the new construction is close to completion.

I feel the highways traveled to Cannon AFB are some of the safest in the nation. I also feel this should be relevant to consideration since bases are open 24 hours a day. Folks traveling the base roads are usually folks going to the base. People in this area are friendly, respectful, and

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courteous to other drivers. People in oncoming traffic, who you personally don't even know, take the time to wave as they pass.
Having an active duty military installation is a plus for any community not just for the economic factors, but also for the national, civic, and family values they have. Military people come from all walks of life. They have learned how to adapt to their environments and to achieve cooperation from reluctant participants. Children of military members are disciplined and add this much needed dimension to local public schools. Active duty military children have contributed to the much needed improvements to our public schools. There is strength in numbers. The more students there are to teach, the better the classrooms, teachers, and technology. This is also true for the active duty members and retirees as well.

Education is critical to the development of a strong and wealthy society. Since we have lived here in Portales for the past 13 years, we have seen a new Valencia Elementary School built, the Portales Junior High School undergo a massive renovation as well as the Portales High School renovation. Recently there was a bond passed to do some major improvements for our local university, Eastern New Mexico University. If we loose the military people, we loose the strength in numbers that supports the teachers, classrooms, and technology. Along with these losses we will loose our most important assets, educated people for the more difficult jobs of the future.

Within the past couple of years, this area was categorized as a Microplex. This made positive and significant economic and morale impacts on the base and local populations. There are several new franchises in the area. They offer the people better quality products through greater competition. In short, our quality of life has improved immensely. The active duty, civilians, and retirees from Cannon AFB were and are significant to the Microplex development.

As well, this entire area, including Amarillo (lost their base years ago) and Lubbock (lost its base with the last BRAC), is home to a large military retiree population. As a retiree, I rely on Cannon AFB for TriCare Prime healthcare and the commissary. The closest installation for me to use TriCare Prime healthcare and the commissary privileges is a 230 miles drive one way. This is not a practical alternative for a disabled veteran as me with extremely limited bus service to Albuquerque or to any of the alternative military bases. Portales has already lost its hospital once. The newly built hospital in Portales and the recently renovated Clovis hospitals are critical to the wellness of the people of these surrounding communities. Again, good doctors, specialty doctors, and support staffs come to places where there is greater population and greater income. Loss of the base will be detrimental not only economically but also physically in regard to the wellness of the communities.

Cannon AFB is to Clovis/Portales Microplex as the heart to the human body. While it supports an estimated 20.5 percent of economic area employment, it is a critical 20.5 percent. All the people employed at Cannon, military and civilian, have the best paying jobs in the vicinity. If the best paying jobs leave the community, the quality of life for those remaining will decline to a demoralizing low.

Our skies are alive with the F-16 jets streaking by and ripping the air with the "Sound of Freedom". The sound reminds us that we in this Microplex have several PRICELESS assets

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through Cannon AFB that do now and can continue to contribute to our nation's values and principles.

Can the human body live without a heart? Without Cannon AFB, this Microplex will blow away in the wind and ghost towns will be all that remain.

Please, reconsider ALL the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

Margaret Merrell
USAF Retired TSgt

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

Keep Cannon A.F.B.!

20 May 05

Margaret Merrell
483 New Mexico 88
Portales, NM 88130

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner,

As a disabled veteran, retiree from Cannon Air Force Base, and a recent graduate of Eastern New Mexico University, I am devastated by your BRAC Commission decision to close Cannon AFB.

I understand the primary criteria for BRAC list selections are consideration of the military installation's military value "to implement opportunities for greater jointness"; such as, current and future mission capabilities, availability of land, facilities and airspace; as well as, ability to accommodate future force structure; and, cost of operations and the manpower implications.

I also understand that the economic impact on existing communities in the vicinity of the military installation; as well as, the ability of the infrastructure of the existing communities to support forces, missions, and personnel; and, the environmental impact including the impact of costs related to potential environmental restoration, waste management, and environmental compliance activities were also considerations for BRAC list selections.

So, objectively looking at the primary criteria and other considerations, I am perplexed as to how Cannon AFB made the BRAC list of selections since it does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.

First, I will address Cannon's military value. Cannon AFB has an abundance of unencroached air space (PRICELESS) and no encroachment issues (PRICELESS) at either the primary or the alternate runway or at the Melrose bombing range that is truly seconds away from Cannon. Think of the cost savings in fuel alone by our pilot's ability to get to their job sites faster and therefore cheaper. Time is money. The cost of jet fuel is also money. Has the cost of jet fuel gone down as the cost of vehicle fuel has gone up? The less travel time affords more bang for the buck for more realistic training scenarios while having safer take-offs and landings for everyone. The impending implementation of the New Mexico Training Range Initiative will further enhance our training abilities with supersonic flying during training missions. Cannon continues to be "THE Go-To Base".

Cannon AFB, while having weather that supports practically 365 days of flying and training, also has ample space and ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations. Flooding is not a problem. Hurricanes are not a problem. Tornados are not a problem. Fires are not a problem. Earthquakes are not a problem. Terrorists are not a problem. Anyone conspicuous approaching Cannon AFB can be identified and deterred long before reaching its critical assets due to Cannon's strategic location and recent upgraded gates of entry and perimeter fencing . Cannon has the space for expansion and facilities to accommodate joint warfare training and readiness. The Joint Red Flag 05 exercise conducted from March 19 through April 2 also included the Army's Roving Sands exercise conducted at White Sands

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Missile Range. NAVAIR ranges supported that venue with ARDS pods and support personnel at Cannon AFB, N.M. Cannon AFB has supported ROVING SANDS, the world's largest joint theater air and missile defense exercise, and Joint Red Flag.

The recent upgrade of the alternate runway and alternate runway lighting, the new air traffic control tower, new fire station, and the new police station are significant and remarkable improvements to Cannon AFB that contribute to make it "THE Go-To Base" for the latest and greatest facilities. Cannon AFB is the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.

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Keep Cannon A.F.B.!

20 May 05

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483 New Mexico 88
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RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

Keep Cannon A.F.B.!

20 May 05

Margaret Merrell
483 New Mexico 88
Portales, NM 88130

Admiral Harold W. Gehman Jr.,

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DCN: 4872

Keep Cannon A.F.B.!

20 May 05

Margaret Merrell
483 New Mexico 88
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20 May 05

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Margaret Merrell
USAF Retired TSgt

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Keep Cannon A.F.B.!

20 May 05

Margaret Merrell
483 New Mexico 88
Portales, NM 88130

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Dr Sir

My name is Kathleen Chandler. I live in Farwell, Tx, but I work in Clovis, NM. The Company I work for ENMRSH, Inc. finds jobs in the community for the handicap. Cannon Air Force Base has supported the "handicap in the workplace effort" tremendously! Not only would Closing Cannon be an economic disaster but it would put at least 100 handicap people out of a job. The "healthy" Adults would get first pick at any jobs available elsewhere, where would that leave the handicap, and how are they going to be able to stay independent and support themselves

Please Save Cannon!!

Kathleen Chandler

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DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

Cathey A. Cline
ENMU 3271
1500 S Avenue K
Portales, NM 88130

The Honorable Philip Coyle:

I am very concerned about the BRAC Commission's decision to close Cannon Air Force Base. I do not believe the Commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, and ideal year-round flying weather, among many others.

In addition to the military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the last 50 years by the local communities like no other in the country. We consider Cannon 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, plus the ripple effect that we will have on our public and higher education systems.

Please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision. For your convenience, I have enclosed a copy of reasons that I believe Cannon AFB should remain active.

Respectfully Yours,

Cathey A. Cline

cc:

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi
The Honorable James H. Bilbray
Admiral Harold W. Gehman Jr.
The Honorable James V. Hansen
General James T. Hill
General Lloyd W. Newton
The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner
Brigadier General Sue E. Turner

RECEIVED 5/25/05

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3. The weather in eastern New Mexico provides year-around training.

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LEN J. SANTI
1124 Lexington Rd.
Clovis, NM 88101
505-762-6065
May 23, 2005

Mr. Philip Coyle
BRAC COMMISSIONER

SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT LEADER RULING ON BASE CLOSURES

Financial savings are not a factor these days in view of 9/11 and present enemies who want to kill Americans. It appears future wars are inevitable. In my opinion, PEACE WITH MILITARY STRENGTH needs continued improvement to protect Americans. We must maintain our present number one superiority world respect. Communism, Fascism, Moslem, Islamic threats to kill must be defended and stopped. These are not the days to close Cannon AFB or any other like qualified base. Cannon, Luke, Holloman and Nellis Air Force Bases are prime supersonic fighter aircraft training bases having the needed surrounding air space, bombing ranges and other valuable facility assets that are needed to provide the defense of this country.

The above are major factors to be considered rather than seeking cost savings for domestic needs for Americans. What good would domestic provisions provide should we reduce and weaken our PEACE WITH MILITARY STRENGTH of today and be overtaken by some ungodly nation? Furthermore, we know that whatever cost savings can be accomplished by consolidating base in--stalations our congress will not use these savings to reduce our national debt. Instead, they will create unnecessary waste spending for their constituents in their effort to be re-elected into office. This is another reason to retain these defense bases so that jobs can be provided for the American people throughout the United States. At the same time, we are strengthened by a much better defense position. This is a much better way to spend the taxes of the American people. We cherish our freedom. Our Liberty is a great asset. Our founding fathers and many wonderful American military families paid with their lives to give us 225 plus years of liberty and freedom. Let us not develop into a state of apathy and throw away this American lifestyle that our great God has given to us.

Our DOD Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld initiated the recommended closures as the way to go. Although I am very proud of his present and past accomplishments including the support he has provided our great President George Bush. This is not the time to reduce our military strength. Too many countries are envious of America's success wanting to kill Americans and bring us down from our # 1 world superiority. Our superiority has always been one of compassion giving away much of our wealth and power to help weaken nations and their people. But, unfortunately, there are some nations who exercise dominance by using brutal force striving to be # 1. The BRAC committee, the Congress and the president must carefully look at all of the present and future possibilities (positive and negative) which may finally provide disapproval of their own recommendation.

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In closing, my prayer is that with the help of God, our Creator, using many of our great leaders of this great country that we may reach the right decision that will benefit all Americans.

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

LEN J. SANTI
1124 Lexington Rd.
Clovis, NM 88101
505-762-6065
May 23, 2005

ADM. Harold W. Gehman Jr.
BRAC Commissioner

SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT LEADER RULING ON BASE CLOSURES

Financial savings are not a factor these days in view of 9/11 and present enemies who want to kill Americans. It appears future wars are inevitable. In my opinion, PEACE WITH MILITARY STRENGTH needs continued improvement to protect Americans. We must maintain our present number one superiority world respect. Communism, Fascism, Moslem, Islamic threats to kill must be defended and stopped. These are not the days to close Cannon AFB or any other like qualified base. Cannon, Luke, Holloman and Nellis Air Force Bases are prime supersonic fighter aircraft training bases having the needed surrounding air space, bombing ranges and other valuable facility assets that are needed to provide the defense of this country.

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DCN: 4872

LEN J. SANTI
1124 Lexington Rd.
Clovis, NM 88101
505-762-6065
May 23, 2005

Utah Rep. James V. Hansen
BRAC Commissioner

SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT LEADER RULING ON BASE CLOSURES

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LEN J. SANTI
1124 Lexington Rd.
Clovis, NM 88101
505-762-6065
May 23, 2005

Army Gen. James T. Hill
BRAC Commissioner

SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT LEADER RULING ON BASE CLOSURES

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LEN J. SANTI
1124 Lexington Rd.
Clovis, NM 88101
505-762-6065
May 23, 2005

A.F. Gen. Lloyd "FIG" Newton
BRAC Commissioner

SUBJECT: GOVERNMENT LEADER RULING ON BASE CLOSURES

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RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

Cathey A. Cline
ENMU 3271
1500 S Avenue K
Portales, NM 88130

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner:

I am very concerned about the BRAC Commission's decision to close Cannon Air Force Base. I do not believe the Commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, and ideal year-round flying weather, among many others.

In addition to the military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the last 50 years by the local communities like no other in the country. We consider Cannon 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, plus the ripple effect that we will have on our public and higher education systems.

Please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision. For your convenience, I have enclosed a copy of reasons that I believe Cannon AFB should remain active.

Respectfully Yours,

Cathey A. Cline

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cc:

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi
The Honorable James H. Bilbray
The Honorable Philip Coyle
Admiral Harold W. Gehman Jr.
The Honorable James V. Hansen
General James T. Hill
General Lloyd W. Newton
Brigadier General Sue E. Turner

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

1. Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure

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

3. The weather in eastern New Mexico provides year-around training.

4. The Melrose bombing range is seconds away from Cannon.

5. Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint warfare training and readiness.

6. Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.

7. The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.

8. The relationship between Cannon and the surrounding towns: Clovis, Portales, West Texas and others, is unlike any other installation in the country.

9. The entire area, including Amarillo and Lubbock, is home to a large military retiree population. These retirees rely on Cannon for healthcare, grocery shopping and more. There is not another installation close by to serve retired military.

10. In the early 90s, Curry County, in conjunction with the state of New Mexico, purchased air easements around Cannon and gave them to the Air Force. This was done to protect the air space from encroachment.

11. The local community purchased the land north of Cannon and gave it back to the Air Force for additional housing.

12. The local community purchased land west of Cannon and gave it back to the Air Force for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at the base.

13. The local community spearheaded the effort to expand and convert the airspace to supersonic capability through the New Mexico Training Range Initiative.

14. It has been estimated that the closing of Cannon will cost this area the loss of more jobs, percentage-wise, than any other area in the country.

15. The closing of Cannon will have a severe ripple effect on the economy of the entire state and West Texas.

16. The closing of Cannon will have a very negative impact on education throughout the area, including the public schools and Eastern New Mexico University and Clovis Community College.

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DCN: 4872

May 17, 2005

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

Mr. Skinner:

I work for ENMRSH, Inc., a non-profit organization in Clovis, New Mexico that provides a wide array of services to individuals with disabilities. This letter provides a brief, but important plea to reconsider the recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base (CAFB).

One of our primary service sites is CAFB. For nearly two decades ENMRSH, Inc. has formed a solid reciprocal relationship with CAFB by furnishing individuals with disabilities to complete contract work at the dining hall, commissary, and switchboard. Through our relationship we not only meet a distinct military need, but also provide individuals with disabilities rehabilitation, meaningful work, and opportunities for a life that would otherwise be unattainable. Our affiliation with the Air Force and individuals with disabilities is important to society at large.

Additionally, the community has embraced this military installation and formed a mutually beneficial association – removing CAFB from our area would cause financial and social hardships beyond belief. As shown in the Department of Defense (DoD) economic impact analysis, Clovis and CAFB have formed an exceptional, productive, and dependant economic connection over the years. The ripple effect of closing the base would continue for countless years to come. In general, the monetary impact of closing CAFB would be devastating to the town of Clovis; there is a strong chance that we would never recover.

I ask you to reconsider the recommendation to close CAFB based on three reasonable conclusions. First, closure would result in sweeping unemployment for the disadvantaged individuals served by ENMRSH. The individuals with disabilities will face vulnerability, poverty, and a reduced social status because unemployment will be inevitable. Additionally, the community of Clovis will be shattered. We have fostered innumerable connections with CAFB that are irreplaceable. Last, I believe CAFB currently holds unacknowledged military value and has the potential to become an even greater asset to our country in the

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future. For example, Clovis has over 320 days of ideal flying weather, lack of encroachment on the base or in the flying space, and the ability to expand and evolve without problems caused by being located in the center of a metropolitan area. Many of the beneficial aspects of CAFB were not considered in the DoD analysis.

Please understand that I understand the reasons for transforming our armed forces to meet modern threats. However, the transformation can be completed without belittling and desecrating the lives of American citizens. A suitable solution should combine measures that will strengthen our military capabilities while preserving the livelihood of citizens that have willingly and exuberantly provided decades of support to CAFB.

Respectfully,

Damian Houfek

RECEIVED 5/23/05

DCN: 4872

May 17, 2005

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

Mr. Newton:

I work for ENMRSH, Inc., a non-profit organization in Clovis, New Mexico that provides a wide array of services to individuals with disabilities. This letter provides a brief, but important plea to reconsider the recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base (CAFB).

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Respectfully,

Damian Houfek

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DCN: 4872

May 17, 2005

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

Mr. Bilbray:

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Damian Houfek

5/25/05

DCN: 4872

May 17, 2005

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

Ms. Turner:

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

Mr. Coyle:

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May 17, 2005

BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
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Damian Houfek

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May 20, 2005

Cathey A. Cline
ENMU 3271
1500 S Avenue K
Portales, NM 88130

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16. The closing of Cannon will have a very negative impact on education throughout the area, including the public schools and Eastern New Mexico University and Clovis Community College.

RECEIVED 8/25/05

DCN: 4872

May 17, 2005

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

Mr. Hansen:

I work for ENMRSH, Inc., a non-profit organization in Clovis, New Mexico that provides a wide array of services to individuals with disabilities. This letter provides a brief, but important plea to reconsider the recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base (CAFB).

One of our primary service sites is CAFB. For nearly two decades ENMRSH, Inc. has formed a solid reciprocal relationship with CAFB by furnishing individuals with disabilities to complete contract work at the dining hall, commissary, and switchboard. Through our relationship we not only meet a distinct military need, but also provide individuals with disabilities rehabilitation, meaningful work, and opportunities for a life that would otherwise be unattainable. Our affiliation with the Air Force and individuals with disabilities is important to society at large.

Additionally, the community has embraced this military installation and formed a mutually beneficial association – removing CAFB from our area would cause financial and social hardships beyond belief. As shown in the Department of Defense (DoD) economic impact analysis, Clovis and CAFB have formed an exceptional, productive, and dependant economic connection over the years. The ripple effect of closing the base would continue for countless years to come. In general, the monetary impact of closing CAFB would be devastating to the town of Clovis; there is a strong chance that we would never recover.

I ask you to reconsider the recommendation to close CAFB based on three reasonable conclusions. First, closure would result in sweeping unemployment for the disadvantaged individuals served by ENMRSH. The individuals with disabilities will face vulnerability, poverty, and a reduced social status because unemployment will be inevitable. Additionally, the community of Clovis will be shattered. We have fostered innumerable connections with CAFB that are irreplaceable. Last, I believe CAFB currently holds unacknowledged military value and has the potential to become an even greater asset to our country in the

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future. For example, Clovis has over 320 days of ideal flying weather, lack of encroachment on the base or in the flying space, and the ability to expand and evolve without problems caused by being located in the center of a metropolitan area. Many of the beneficial aspects of CAFB were not considered in the DoD analysis.

Please understand that I understand the reasons for transforming our armed forces to meet modern threats. However, the transformation can be completed without belittling and desecrating the lives of American citizens. A suitable solution should combine measures that will strengthen our military capabilities while preserving the livelihood of citizens that have willingly and exuberantly provided decades of support to CAFB.

Respectfully,

Damian Houfek

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

Cathey A. Cline
ENMU 3271
1500 S Avenue K
Portales, NM 88130

Dear General Lloyd W. Newton:

I am very concerned about the BRAC Commission's decision to close Cannon Air Force Base. I do not believe the Commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, and ideal year-round flying weather, among many others.

In addition to the military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the last 50 years by the local communities like no other in the country. We consider Cannon 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, plus the ripple effect that we will have on our public and higher education systems.

Please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision. For your convenience, I have enclosed a copy of reasons that I believe Cannon AFB should remain active.

Respectfully Yours,

Cathey A. Cline

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cc:

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi
The Honorable James H. Bilbray
The Honorable Philip Coyle
Admiral Harold W. Gehman Jr.
The Honorable James V. Hansen
General James T. Hill
The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner
Brigadier General Sue E. Turner

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Brigadier General Sue E. Turner

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DCN: 4872

May 23, 2005

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

Gentlepeople,

Just a note to encourage your consideration of not closing Cannon AFB. My son and his family have given 11 years to that community and are very involved with the Base.

We have personally visited the Base and think it has the capability of continuing to train personnel for the future in all types of aircraft.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Eleanor M. Mikols

Eleanor M. Mikols
James S. Ballantyne

James S. Ballantyne

RECEIVED 5/27/05

DCN: 4872

Rod B. McDermid
846 S Roosevelt Road U1/2
Portales, NM 88130

May 26, 2005

General Lloyd W. Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

General Lloyd W. Newton:

This letter is being written to ask your assistance in keeping Cannon Air Force Base active. Cannon Air Force Base is a tremendous asset to the entire nation and especially to our economically repressed region. Being a small business owner I know the pending closure of the base will have a severe negative impact for all business owners in the region.

My wife and I own and operate Rod McDermid Masonry, a large proportion of our work is performed on CAFB. We have worked closely with the contracting office and Corp of Engineers. We have made adjustments in work procedures to enable us to be competitive on the quality of work that is required for government projects. Losing CAFB will create a tremendous hardship on this business. The business may not survive the closure.

Pecan Wood Estates, rental property, is also owned and operated by my wife and I. It too will take a tremendous loss of revenue if the base closes. We built quality rentals in Portales, NM in order to provide much needed housing in the area. With out our military personnel this property will lose value immediately.

As demonstrated the closure of Cannon Air Force Base will be devastating to business owners. This area has always counted on Cannon to be part of our economic, social, and educational environment. Please consider the hardship that the closure will cause for the security of our nation and the individual impact on the citizens of our region.

Sincerely,

Rod B McDermid

Rod B. McDermid

RECEIVED 5/31/05

DCN: 4872

Rod B. McDermid
846 S Roosevelt Road U1/2
Portales, NM 88130

May 26, 2005

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

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DCN: 4872

Rod B. McDermid
846 S Roosevelt Road U1/2
Portales, NM 88130

May 26, 2005

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

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Rod B McDermid

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RECEIVED 5/31/05

DCN: 4872

Rod B. McDermid
846 S Roosevelt Road U1/2
Portales, NM 88130

May 26, 2005

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

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5/31/05

DCN: 4872

Rod B. McDermid
846 S Roosevelt Road U1/2
Portales, NM 88130

May 26, 2005

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

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DCN: 4872

Rod B. McDermid
846 S Roosevelt Road U1/2
Portales, NM 88130

May 26, 2005

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

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RECEIVED
5/31/05

DCN: 4872

Jim & Sharon Potter
181 Highlands
Portales NM 88130
505-356-1415

RECEIVED

05312005

5/23/05

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

Dear Admiral Gehman,

Needless to say, I am very concerned about the BRAC Commission's decision to close Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico.

I do not believe the Commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our National defense which includes:

1) an abundance of air space.
2) no encroachment issues (housing or air).
3) a bombing range that is a very short distance away.
4) the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds.
5) ideal year-round flying weather.
6) land around Cannon purchased by the community and given back for
   a) additional housing.
   b) the installation of instrumental lighting on the alternate runway.

Were these issues on the criteria provided for base closure?

If Cannon is closed, there will be a very negative impact on education throughout the area, including public schools

and universities/Colleges. It has been estimated that the closing will cost the area the greatest percentage loss of jobs than any other area in the Country. The entire area, including Amarillo and Lubbock, Texas, is home to a large military retiree population which relies on Cannon for healthcare and other necessities of life.

I feel it is very important that you reconsider all the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully,

Sharon Potter
181 Highlands
Portales, NM 88130
505-356-1415

DCN: 4872

Jim & Sharon Potter
181 Highlands
Portales NM 88130
505-356-1415

RECEIVED
05312005

5/23/05

The Honorable Philip Coyle
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street Ste 600
Arlington VA 22202

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Sharon Potter
181 Highlands
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505-356-1415

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5/23/05

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BRAC Commission
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5/25/05

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Dear General Hill,

Needless to say, I am very concerned about the BRAC Commission's decision to close Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico.

I do not believe the Commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense which includes:

1) an abundance of air space.
2) no encroachment issues (housing or air)
3) a bombing range a very short distance away.
4) the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds
5) ideal year-round flying weather
6) land around Cannon purchased by the community and given back for
   a) additional housing
   b) the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway.

Were these issues on the criteria provided for base closure?

If Cannon is closed, there will be a very negative impact on education throughout the area, including public schools and universities/colleges. It has been estimated

that the closing will cost the area the greatest percentage loss of jobs than any other area in the country. The entire area, including Amarillo and Lubbock, Texas, is home to a large military retiree population which relies on Cannon for healthcare and other necessities of life.

I feel that it is very important that you reconsider all the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully,

Sharon Potter
181 Highlands
Portales NM 88130
505-356-1415

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED

General James T. Hill (USA Ret)
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Dear Commissioner Hill:

I urge you to overturn the Department of Defense's BRAC recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base.

Cannon Air Force Base should not be on the BRAC closure list for many reasons. I've listed some of the key reasons below:

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.
- Cannon has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training opportunities.
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

In summary, the Clovis, Portales and surrounding communities have reached out and supported Cannon Air Force Base like no other community over the last 50 years. We've done so financially, morally, spiritually and above all consistently. The continued operation of Cannon Air Force Base is not only extremely important for this region, but for the Nation as a whole. Respectfully, I urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

Tom M. Phelps
1709 St. Andrews Dr.
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED

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

Dear General Hill:

Please be assured that we WANT Cannon to stay! I feel that Clovis and all of the surrounding areas have had a great relationship over the last 50 years and would like to continue it for another 50 years.

We've have fantastic flying conditions year round as well as tons of airspace and no encroachment issues. The bombing range is just a short jaunt from Cannon. It seems to me that Cannon doesn't even fit the criteria provided for base closure.

When some people get stationed here they hate it because they feel like it's out in the middle of nowhere, but somehow Clovis grows on them and a lot of them have ended up retiring here. So we have a lot of retired military that depend on Cannon for medical, groceries, & clothing. Our friends and neighbors also work at the base as civil service personnel

I hope that you will see your way to removing Cannon Air Force Base from the closure list so that we can continue our support of the troops and all other personnel.

Sincerely,

Janna Pemberton

Janna Pemberton

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

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

RECEIVED

Dear General Hill:

I am concerned about the BRAC decision to close Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico. Cannon has been part of our community for over 50 years. We believe the relationship between Cannon and the surrounding towns, Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, and West Texas (including Amarillo, and Lubbock) to be unlike any other installation in the country.

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure
- The base has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- Once the New Mexico Training Range initiative is implemented, we will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides for year round training ability.
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
- The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter,
  And any other military aircraft.

The closure of Cannon will have a devastating impact on our economy. It has been estimated that the area will lose at least 20 percent of its work force, 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 please to reconsider Cannon's importance to the nation and to my community. Please, let us KEEP CANNON!

Sincerely,

Michael Sandoval
109 W Plaza Dr.
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

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

RECEIVED

Dear General Hill:

I am concerned about the BRAC decision to close Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico. Cannon has been part of our community for over 50 years. We believe the relationship between Cannon and the surrounding towns, Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, and West Texas (including Amarillo, and Lubbock) to be unlike any other installation in the country.

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure
- The base has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- Once the New Mexico Training Range initiative is implemented, we will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides for year round training ability.
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
- The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, And any other military aircraft.

The closure of Cannon will have a devastating impact on our economy. It has been estimated that the area will lose at least 20 percent of its work force, a percentage out of line with the effect of base closings in other communities. Cannon is critical for us and our families. I have three children and most of their friends and friend's families are military. That is how I ended up in Clovis, NM from England was through my family being stationed here. Clovis has been good to me and so has Cannon Air Force Base. The two go hand in hand.

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

Sincerely,

David Varney

David Varney
1608 Axtell St.
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

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

Dear General Hill:

I am very concerned about **Cannon Air Force Base** being placed on the closure list. In my mind, I believe a computer malfunction has inadvertently placed Cannon on the list for closure. Its hard for me to imagine how our country would be without the defense that Cannon provides to this great nation and the other countries it protects to sustain our freedom. I'm not sure what the criteria is to close an Air Base, but this area is the perfect environment for defense functions.

- Unrestricted airspace
- Weather good year round
- Close proximity to the Melrose bombing range
- Encroachment not an issue
- Community that supports base families 100%
- Excellent base facilities

Please re-evaluate Cannon Air Force Base and remove them from the closure list.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Burns
1909 Fairway Terrace
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

General Lloyd W. Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear General Newton:

I urge you to overturn the Department of Defense's BRAC recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base.

Cannon Air Force Base should not be on the BRAC closure list for many reasons. I've listed some of the key reasons below:

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.
- Cannon has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training opportunities.
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

In summary, the Clovis, Portales and surrounding communities have reached out and supported Cannon Air Force Base like no other community over the last 50 years. We've done so financially, morally, spiritually and above all consistently. The continued operation of Cannon Air Force Base is not only extremely important for this region, but for the Nation as a whole. Respectfully, I urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

Benjamin A. Kesler
1107 N. Norris #G
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4872

May 25, 2005

General Lloyd W. "Fig" Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Regarding: Removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list

Dear **General Lloyd W. "Fig" Newton**

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 please to reconsider Cannon's importance to the nation and to my community. Please, let us KEEP CANNON!

Sincerely,
Katie Padilla
137 Herb
Clovis, NM 88101

Katie Padilla

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED

General Lloyd W. Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Dear General Newton:

Because Cannon Air Force Base does not meet the criteria for closure, I respectfully request that you overturn the Department of Defense's BRAC recommendation to close it. Please consider the following when reviewing the recommendation:

- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
- Cannon has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, allowing for safer and more realistic pilot training.
- Cannon has ample space and ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico allows for year-round training.
- The close proximity of Cannon and the bombing range allow for immediate training.
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

In addition, Clovis, Portales and the surrounding communities have supported Cannon for over 50 years. The communities have purchased air easements and given them to the Air Force. They have purchased land and given it to the Air Force to allow for additional housing, encouraging growth. They also purchased land and gave it to the Air Force to allow for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway. Those are just documented examples of our support.

In short, our communities have always supported Cannon and what it brings to our community. Cannon certainly provides an economic impact on our communities; but more than that, these families are a part of our communities and our families now. Our large military retiree population, my in-laws included, is a direct result of our community embracing the military.

Keeping Cannon open is certainly important to our community, but it is also a vital part of the Nation's military operation. Again, I respectfully ask you to overturn the BRAC's recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base.

Sincerely,

Kimberly A. Johnson

Kimberly A. Johnson
605 Circle Drive
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

General Lloyd W. Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear General Newton:

Please vote to overturn the Department of Defense's recommendation that Cannon Air Force Base be closed. Cannon Air Force Base should not be on the BRAC closure list. Here are a few of the many reasons why:

- **LOCATION** - New Mexico is the perfect location and has excellent weather for year-round flying. Training facilities, like the Melrose bombing range and all the ground space necessary, are available for joint war-fighting, training and readiness exercises.

- **AIR SPACE** – The base has an abundance of air space with no encroachment issues. Once the NM Training Range Initiative is implemented, Cannon will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions. Cannon is a perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter and any other military aircraft.

- **SUPPORT** – Cannon has the full support of not only Clovis, New Mexico, but every community within at least 100 miles. We have reached out and supported Cannon financially, morally, spiritually and consistently for the last 50 years and pledge to continue for at least another 50.

Cannon just does not fit the criteria for base closures.

I invite you to come to Clovis, inspect the base and tour our community. I ask you to reconsider Cannon's importance to the security of our nation and to my community. We need Cannon. You need Cannon. America needs Cannon! Please, let us KEEP CANNON AFB OPEN!

Respectfully,

Marla D. Gutierrez
1816 Avondale Blvd.
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED

General Lloyd W. Newton,
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear General Newton:

I urge you to overturn the Department of Defense's BRAC recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base. A few of the key reasons Cannon Air Force Base should not be on the BRAC closure list include:

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.
- Cannon has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues.
- Once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is implemented, Cannon will be able to offer pilots the ability to train at supersonic air speeds. This allows the Air Force to better train for real-life situations.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training opportunities.
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.
- The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.

In addition, the surrounding communities have demonstrated a strong commitment to Cannon Air Force Base in many ways, including:

- The local community purchased the land north of Cannon Air Force Base and gave it to the Air Force for additional housing.
- Within the last few years, our community purchased land west of Cannon and donated it to the Air Force for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at the base.
- Leaders within our community spear-headed the effort to expand and convert the airspace to supersonic capability through the New Mexico Training Range Initiative.

In summary, Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding communities have developed a mutually beneficial relationship over the last 50 years. The continued operation of Cannon Air Force Base is important for this region and the defense of this Nation. Respectfully, I urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

David J. Robinson
913 Rosewood
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

General Lloyd W. Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear General Newton:

I urge you to overturn the Department of Defense's BRAC recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base.

Here are just a few of the many reasons Cannon Air Force Base should not be on the BRAC closure list:

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.
- Once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is implemented, we will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions. This is a very important point, as it allows the Air Force to better train for real-life situations.
- The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. This allows pilots to get airborne, and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range, rather than spending all of their fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, and then returning to the base.
- The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.
- Cannon has won countless awards, both on ACC level, Air Force and NAF levels, and national and STAT levels
- The relationship between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding towns; Clovis, Portales, West Texas, and others, is unlike any other installation in the country.
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

I want to help make the Commission fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. The continued operation of Cannon Air Force Base is not only extremely important for this region, but for the Nation as a whole. Respectfully, I urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

Gary Lethgo

Gary Lethgo
1708 Arcineiga Dr.
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

General Lloyd W. Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear General Newton:

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 please to reconsider Cannon's importance to the nation and to my community. Please, let us KEEP CANNON!

Sincerely,

Paul R Heath

Paul R Heath
USAF Retiree
109 Tucker Ave
Clovis N.M. 88101

PS. On a personal note,
I am one of the retirees (USAF) in this community and I use the base very often for my wife and my own needs. My job, my wife's job, my daughters' jobs and my son-in-laws' jobs will be very much affected by the closing of Cannon. Some of the schools my grandkids attend will be last. We have many companies that want to come into our community but will not because of the closing. Please think hard on this issue. WE NEED CANNON! Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. All of us retirees rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military needs.
In summary, the Clovis, Portales and surrounding communities have reached out and supported Cannon Air Force Base like no other community over the last 50 years. We've done so financially, morally, spiritually and above all consistently.

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED

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

Dear General Hill:

I am asking you to please reconsider the closing of Cannon Air Force Base as recommended by BRAC Commission. Not only is Cannon a vital part of our community, it is also crucial to our Nation as a whole.

Cannon Air Force Base should not be on the BRAC closure list for many reasons. Below are some of the key reasons for leaving Cannon open:

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.
- The base has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- Once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is implemented, we will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic training missions allowing the Air Force to better train for real-life situations.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training ability. This along with the availability of air space makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.
- The relationship between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding towns of Clovis, Portales and others, is unlike any other installation in the country. In recent years the state of New Mexico and our local community have provided easements as well as donated land to accommodate Cannon's expansion.
- Eastern New Mexico and West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

I invite you to personally attend the regional hearing in Clovis on June 24, 2005 and I respectfully urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

Don David
1011 Fairway Terrace
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

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

RE: Closure of Cannon AFB

Dear General Hill:

I don't know what consideration was taken to select the bases on the Closure list, but I would like to challenge you to take another look at Cannon.

My Husband was stationed at Cannon in the 1960's, he went TDY several times while stationed at Cannon and was so happy to get back. He was a crew chief on the F100s, and feels that Cannon was the best training base and experience of his life in the Service. The jets' flying overhead is the sound of FREEDOM and is music to his ears. We went out to the Melrose Bombing Range, what an experience. The pilots only had a short time from takeoff to dropping their bombs and it was thrilling to be able to see them in action.

I can't even start to explain how devastating the closure of Cannon would be to Clovis and the surrounding communities. Below are a few things that these communities provide for Cannon.

1. Education – any level
2. Housing
3. Safe communities
4. Employment
5. Friendly people
6. Airspace for training
7. Land for expansion

WE WANT TO KEEP CANNON!

Please reconsider!!!

Sincerely,

Linda Klingensmith
2101 Weeden
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

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

Dear General Hill:

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

I want to make the Commission fully aware of the unique attributes Cannon offers to our national defense and local community.

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.
- Cannon has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training opportunities.
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military. The many veterans in the area, one of whom is my stepfather, make it clear that they feel at home here.
- The local community has welcomed the personnel and donated time and land to promote the base's needs. We consider Cannon and its retirees a part of our family

In summary, the Clovis, Portales and surrounding communities have reached out and supported Cannon Air Force Base like no other community over the last 50 years. We've done so financially, morally, spiritually and above all consistently. The continued operation of Cannon Air Force Base is not only extremely important for this region, but for the Nation as a whole. Respectfully, I urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

John Sain
P.O. Box 941
Farwell, Texas 79325

DCN: 4872

Donna Smith
1078 CR U
Clovis, NM 88101

May 27, 2005

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

Dear General Hill:

I urge you to overturn the Department of Defense's BRAC recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base.

As a former active-duty military spouse, and having been stationed at other bases in the US and overseas, I feel strongly that there are significant advantages to keeping, and expanding, Cannon AFB:

- The mild weather and open air space provides almost daily opportunities for training and qualification flights. I remember many days, when stationed at other bases, that my husband came home without making his flight for the day, due to weather or maintenance issues related to bad weather.
- Clovis and Portales are extremely hospitable to military members, and recognize the tremendous talent that the military brings to our churches, schools, and workplace. When we arrived at Cannon, I found that local employers appreciated the work experience that I had gained from previous jobs, despite the fact that my tenure at those other jobs may have only been a year or two. In other communities, other spouses and I were viewed as "transients", and not as potentially valuable employees. This community demonstrates gratitude for the diverse contributions that the military members and spouses make.
- In fact, instead of complaining about the noise and inconvenience of having a military base, Clovis would welcome an expansion of the base. Sitting at the west edge of town as it does, Cannon has room and community acceptance for expansion that many other bases do not.
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, and West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

In summary, there are many reasons why Cannon Air Force Base is, and should continue to be, the "GO TO" fighter wing. Respectfully, I urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

Donna Smith

Donna Smith

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

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

Dear General Hill:

Greetings form Eastern New Mexico. This letter is intended to help support the argument to Keep Cannon Air Force Base open.

I have lived in Clovis all my life and have raised my family here. If it weren't for Cannon I would not have been born. My Father was stationed at Clovis Army Air Base in WWII and met my mother here.

After leaving the Air Force they elected to stay in Clovis. He is like thousands of others in the area. Clovis has become their home as Cannon and the Air Force is part of our culture.

Clovis is an Air Force town and we're dang proud of it. By removing Cannon, you take away not only many of our neighbors and family, but our identity.

As far as the military value; where else can you find:

1) **Abundant air space without encroachment?**
2) **Supersonic airspace without complaints?**
3) **The weather and as many flying days as in Eastern New Mexico?**
4) **The relationship with the local community that you find at Cannon?**

As a member of the Clovis Committee of 50 for nine years, I have personally served as Chairman of the Cannon Appreciation Day celebration where we invite all Cannon personnel to join community volunteers in a great day of food and fun.

I invite you to ask anyone who has attended; what an honor it is to have been a part of this celebration.

My wife has worked two years with this event and as she handed Cannon's personnel their food they always thank her. It warms my heart when I here her say "No, thank you for what you do, every day".

Finally, Cannon Air Force Base has received countless Air Force and National level awards. **Unless the Air Force just gives awards for the sake of giving them, Cannon must have significant military value**. What are we going to do with those awards once Cannon is gone? Give them to the second best base? I hope we don't settle for second best. If Cannon is the best, **help us keep it open**.

Sincerely,

Jeff Moore
2317 Putnam
Clovis NM 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

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

Dear General Hill:

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. More reasons I believe make Cannon a valuable base.

- The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. This allows pilots to get airborne, and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range, rather than spending all of their fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, then returning to the base.
-
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
-
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.
-
- The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.

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. There are bases that are not welcome in their states, Cannon is not one of them.

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 please to reconsider Cannon's importance to the nation and to my community. Please, let us KEEP CANNON!

Sincerely,

Brad Belcher

Brad Belcher
909 W. Manana
Clovis N.M. 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED

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

Regarding: Removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list

Dear General Hill:

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

Cannon is an important and valued member of our community. Not only will the closure of this base will have a devastating impact on our economy, but it will also affect countless personal and professional relationships throughout the region.

Furthermore, Clovis and the surrounding areas offer an environment conducive to the training and readiness of our national defense forces. The nearby availability of supersonic and uninfringeable airspace combined with new and existing facilities suitable for joint training exercises make Cannon a genuine asset to our country's armed forces.

The citizens of Clovis and the surrounding area consider the personnel at Cannon part of our community's family. It would be a shame to see them go. Please come to the Cannon hearing in Clovis and see what I mean. Please let us KEEP CANNON

Sincerely,

Glenn Lester
3508A Adenmor Ct
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

Honorable James T. Hill
Chairman, BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark St, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Regarding: Removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list

Dear General Hill:

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 un-encroached 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 and to our surrounding area.

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 personnel that are stationed here are a part of our community and family. We have many veterans and retirees that have move to our area, because of the base and so many have made Clovis/Portales their home. The many veterans in the area make it clear that they feel at home here.

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. It has already started to impact our area, some companies have already started to lay some of their employees off.

I invite you to come personally to the Cannon hearing in Clovis. I ask you please to reconsider Cannon's importance to the nation and to my community. Please, let us KEEP CANNON HERE! As you will see upon your visit you will see a community that is united and you will also see what we see, our family, our community and our friends.

Sincerely,

Theresa Begley

Theresa Begley
3424 Sheridan
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED

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

Regarding: Removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list

Dear General Hill:

I am writing this letter with the deepest hopes that you will reconsider closing Cannon Air Force Base.

Cannon Air Force Base attributes so many things to our national defense. These include facilities suitable for joint training exercises, a low-cost environment that promotes cost efficient training and airspace suitable for training at supersonic speed.

The community has been supportive by donating time and land to promote Cannon's needs.

The closing of Cannon will have a devastating effect on our economy. It has been estimated the area will lose at least 20 percent of its' workforce. Cannon is critical for us.

I ask you to please consider Cannon's importance to the nation as well as our community. Please let us keep Cannon.

Sincerely,

Larissa Garza

Larissa J. Garza
Clovis, New Mexico

DCN: 4872

RECEIVED

May 27, 2005

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

Dear General Hill:

I urge you to overturn the Department of Defense's BRAC recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base.

Cannon Air Force Base should not be on the BRAC closure list for many reasons. I've listed some of the key reasons below:

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.
- Cannon has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training opportunities.
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

In summary, the Clovis, Portales and surrounding communities have reached out and supported Cannon Air Force Base like no other community over the last 50 years. We've done so financially, morally, spiritually and above all consistently. The continued operation of Cannon Air Force Base is not only extremely important for this region, but for the Nation as a whole. Respectfully, I urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

Adela M. Aguilar
PO Box 1722
Clovis NM 88102-1722

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED

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

Dear General Hill:

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

I want to have my voice herd by making the Commission fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. Which include unencroached airspace suitable for training at supersonic speed; there are many new and existing facilities suitable for joint training exercise, and a low-cost environment that promotes cost-efficient training. Cannon is truly a huge asset to the country's armed forces.

Clovis and Portales and surrounding communities of Cannon value and appreciate the base. As a community we have been very supportive in donating time and land to promote the base's needs. The personnel of Cannon are welcomed throughout the community, and we show our appreciation with discounts at local restaurants and stores. There are many veterans and retirees in the area that consider Cannon home and we feel they are part of our families.

The closure of Cannon will also have a devastating impact on our economy. It has been said that the area would loose at least 20% of its workforce, a percentage out of line with the effect of bas closing in other communities. Cannon is critical for us!

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

On a personal note; my parents are retired military and they would have to seek medical assistance else where which would result in a 3 hours drive one way to the nearest military facility.

Sincerely,

Monique Martinez

Monique Martinez
224 Conestoga Trail
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

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

Dear General Hill:

I am writing you to state my feelings about CAFB being on the closure list. I have lived in Clovis all my life, and Cannon has always been a big part of living in Clovis, and the surrounding towns and communities such as Portales, Melrose, all the way to the people in West Texas including Amarillo and Lubbock. I have felt safe and secure having Cannon here. I have meat many, many wonderful people that were stationed at the base.

If the base were to be closed they will close schools in Clovis. This would be a hard ship for lots of people, mostly the children. There would be jobs lost for many people in our area. That will heart everyone!!

Clovis has been growing so much with a wonderful future for everyone around here, thus is largely due to Cannon being here. We all like the security of having a military base here.

Our area is great as far as everything from the weather to the airspace that is here for the plains to do their training. We have a great bombing range here for all the practice they would need.

So in closing PLEASE, reconsider closing Cannon Air Force Base.

Sincerely,

Pam Jones

Pam Jones
404 W. Plains
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED

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

Dear General Hill:

I would like to strongly encourage you to overturn the Department of Defense's BRAC recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base.

Cannon Air Force Base should not be on the BRAC closure list for many reasons including:

- Cannon has won countless awards, both on the ACC level, Air Force and NAF levels, and national and STAT levels.
- The relationship between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding towns, Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas and others is unlike any other installation in the country.
- The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.
- The Melrose Bombing Range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. This allows pilots to get airborne, and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range rather than spending all of their fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, and then returning to the base.
- From an economic standpoint, closing Cannon Air Force Base would be devastating to our community. 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.

In closing, the Clovis, Portales and surrounding communities have reached out and supported Cannon Air Force Base like no other community over the last 50 years. Respectfully, I urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

Kandi Hall

Kandi Hall
2309 Quail Ct.
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED

General Lloyd W. Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear General Newton:

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

I want to make the Commission fully aware of the unique attributes Cannon offers to our national defense and local community.

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.
- Cannon has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training opportunities.
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military. The many veterans in the area, one of whom is my stepfather, make it clear that they feel at home here.
- The local community has welcomed the personnel and donated time and land to promote the base's needs. We consider Cannon and its retirees a part of our family

In summary, the Clovis, Portales and surrounding communities have reached out and supported Cannon Air Force Base like no other community over the last 50 years. We've done so financially, morally, spiritually and above all consistently. The continued operation of Cannon Air Force Base is not only extremely important for this region, but for the Nation as a whole. Respectfully, I urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

John Sain
P.O. Box 941
Farwell, Texas 79325

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED

General Lloyd W. Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Regarding: Removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list

Dear General Newton:

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

Cannon is an important and valued member of our community. Not only will the closure of this base will have a devastating impact on our economy, but it will also affect countless personal and professional relationships throughout the region.

Furthermore, Clovis and the surrounding areas offer an environment conducive to the training and readiness of our national defense forces. The nearby availability of supersonic and uninfringeable airspace combined with new and existing facilities suitable for joint training exercises make Cannon a genuine asset to our country's armed forces.

The citizens of Clovis and the surrounding area consider the personnel at Cannon part of our community's family. It would be a shame to see them go. Please come to the Cannon hearing in Clovis and see what I mean. Please let us KEEP CANNON

Sincerely,

Glenn Lester
3508A Adenmor Ct
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4872

Donna Smith
1078 CR U
Clovis, NM 88101

RECEIVED

May 27, 2005

General Lloyd W. Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear General Newton:

I urge you to overturn the Department of Defense's BRAC recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base.

As a former active-duty military spouse, and having been stationed at other bases in the US and overseas, I feel strongly that there are significant advantages to keeping, and expanding, Cannon AFB:

- The mild weather and open air space provides almost daily opportunities for training and qualification flights. I remember many days, when stationed at other bases, that my husband came home without making his flight for the day, due to weather or maintenance issues related to bad weather.
- Clovis and Portales are extremely hospitable to military members, and recognize the tremendous talent that the military brings to our churches, schools, and workplace. When we arrived at Cannon, I found that local employers appreciated the work experience that I had gained from previous jobs, despite the fact that my tenure at those other jobs may have only been a year or two. In other communities, other spouses and I were viewed as "transients", and not as potentially valuable employees. This community demonstrates gratitude for the diverse contributions that the military members and spouses make.
- In fact, instead of complaining about the noise and inconvenience of having a military base, Clovis would welcome an expansion of the base. Sitting at the west edge of town as it does, Cannon has room and community acceptance for expansion that many other bases do not.
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, and West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

In summary, there are many reasons why Cannon Air Force Base is, and should continue to be, the "GO TO" fighter wing. Respectfully, I urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

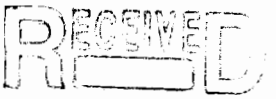
Sincerely,

Donna Smith

Donna Smith

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005



General Lloyd W. Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear General Newton:

Greetings form Eastern New Mexico. This letter is intended to help support the argument to Keep Cannon Air Force Base open.

I have lived in Clovis all my life and have raised my family here. If it weren't for Cannon I would not have been born. My Father was stationed at Clovis Army Air Base in WWII and met my mother here.

After leaving the Air Force they elected to stay in Clovis. He is like thousands of others in the area. Clovis has become their home as Cannon and the Air Force is part of our culture.

Clovis is an Air Force town and we're dang proud of it. By removing Cannon, you take away not only many of our neighbors and family, but our identity.

As far as the military value; where else can you find:

1) **Abundant air space without encroachment?**
2) **Supersonic airspace without complaints?**
3) **The weather and as many flying days as in Eastern New Mexico?**
4) **The relationship with the local community that you find at Cannon?**

As a member of the Clovis Committee of 50 for nine years, I have personally served as Chairman of the Cannon Appreciation Day celebration where we invite all Cannon personnel to join community volunteers in a great day of food and fun.

I invite you to ask anyone who has attended; what an honor it is to have been a part of this celebration.

My wife has worked two years with this event and as she handed Cannon's personnel their food they always thank her. It warms my heart when I here her say "No, thank you for what you do, every day".

Finally, Cannon Air Force Base has received countless Air Force and National level awards. **Unless the Air Force just gives awards for the sake of giving them, Cannon must have significant military value**. What are we going to do with those awards once Cannon is gone? Give them to the second best base? I hope we don't settle for second best. If Cannon is the best, **help us keep it open**.

Sincerely,

Jeff Moore
2317 Putnam
Clovis NM 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

General Lloyd W. Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear General Newton:

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. More reasons I believe make Cannon a valuable base.

- The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. This allows pilots to get airborne, and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range, rather than spending all of their fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, then returning to the base.
-
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
-
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.
-
- The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.

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. There are bases that are not welcome in their states, Cannon is not one of them.

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 please to reconsider Cannon's importance to the nation and to my community. Please, let us KEEP CANNON!

Sincerely,

Brad Belcher
909 W. Manana
Clovis N.M. 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED

General Lloyd W. Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear General Newton:

I am concerned about the BRAC decision to close Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico. Cannon has been part of our community for over 50 years. We believe the relationship between Cannon and the surrounding towns, Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, and West Texas (including Amarillo, and Lubbock) to be unlike any other installation in the country.

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure
- The base has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- Once the New Mexico Training Range initiative is implemented, we will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides for year round training ability.
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
- The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, And any other military aircraft.

The closure of Cannon will have a devastating impact on our economy. It has been estimated that the area will lose at least 20 percent of its work force, a percentage out of line with the effect of base closings in other communities. Cannon is critical for us and our families. I have three children and most of their friends and friend's families are military. That is how I ended up in Clovis, NM from England was through my family being stationed here. Clovis has been good to me and so has Cannon Air Force Base. The two go hand in hand.

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

Sincerely,

David Varney

David Varney
1608 Axtell St.
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED

General Lloyd W. Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear General Newton:

I am very concerned about **Cannon Air Force Base** being placed on the closure list. In my mind, I believe a computer malfunction has inadvertently placed Cannon on the list for closure. Its hard for me to imagine how our country would be without the defense that Cannon provides to this great nation and the other countries it protects to sustain our freedom. I'm not sure what the criteria is to close an Air Base, but this area is the perfect environment for defense functions.

- Unrestricted airspace
- Weather good year round
- Close proximity to the Melrose bombing range
- Encroachment not an issue
- Community that supports base families 100%
- Excellent base facilities

Please re-evaluate Cannon Air Force Base and remove them from the closure list.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Burns
1909 Fairway Terrace
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4872

RECEIVED

May 27, 2005

General Lloyd W. Newton (USAF Ret)
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Dear Commissioner Newton:

I urge you to overturn the Department of Defense's BRAC recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base.

Cannon Air Force Base should not be on the BRAC closure list for many reasons. I've listed some of the key reasons below:

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.
- Cannon has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training opportunities.
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

In summary, the Clovis, Portales and surrounding communities have reached out and supported Cannon Air Force Base like no other community over the last 50 years. We've done so financially, morally, spiritually and above all consistently. The continued operation of Cannon Air Force Base is not only extremely important for this region, but for the Nation as a whole. Respectfully, I urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

Tom M. Phelps
1709 St. Andrews Dr.
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

General Lloyd W. Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear General Newton:

Please be assured that we WANT Cannon to stay! I feel that Clovis and all of the surrounding areas have had a great relationship over the last 50 years and would like to continue it for another 50 years.

We've have fantastic flying conditions year round as well as tons of airspace and no encroachment issues. The bombing range is just a short jaunt from Cannon. It seems to me that Cannon doesn't even fit the criteria provided for base closure.

When some people get stationed here they hate it because they feel like it's out in the middle of nowhere, but somehow Clovis grows on them and a lot of them have ended up retiring here. So we have a lot of retired military that depend on Cannon for medical, groceries, & clothing. Our friends and neighbors also work at the base as civil service personnel

I hope that you will see your way to removing Cannon Air Force Base from the closure list so that we can continue our support of the troops and all other personnel.

Sincerely,

Janna Pemberton

Janna Pemberton

DCN: 4872

Donna Smith
1078 CR U
Clovis, NM 88101

May 27, 2005

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

I urge you to overturn the Department of Defense's BRAC recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base.

As a former active-duty military spouse, and having been stationed at other bases in the US and overseas, I feel strongly that there are significant advantages to keeping, and expanding, Cannon AFB:

- The mild weather and open air space provides almost daily opportunities for training and qualification flights. I remember many days, when stationed at other bases, that my husband came home without making his flight for the day, due to weather or maintenance issues related to bad weather.
- Clovis and Portales are extremely hospitable to military members, and recognize the tremendous talent that the military brings to our churches, schools, and workplace. When we arrived at Cannon, I found that local employers appreciated the work experience that I had gained from previous jobs, despite the fact that my tenure at those other jobs may have only been a year or two. In other communities, other spouses and I were viewed as "transients", and not as potentially valuable employees. This community demonstrates gratitude for the diverse contributions that the military members and spouses make.
- In fact, instead of complaining about the noise and inconvenience of having a military base, Clovis would welcome an expansion of the base. Sitting at the west edge of town as it does, Cannon has room and community acceptance for expansion that many other bases do not.
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, and West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

In summary, there are many reasons why Cannon Air Force Base is, and should continue to be, the "GO TO" fighter wing. Respectfully, I urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

Donna Smith

Donna Smith

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

RECEIVED

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

Greetings form Eastern New Mexico. This letter is intended to help support the argument to Keep Cannon Air Force Base open.

I have lived in Clovis all my life and have raised my family here. If it weren't for Cannon I would not have been born. My Father was stationed at Clovis Army Air Base in WWII and met my mother here.

After leaving the Air Force they elected to stay in Clovis. He is like thousands of others in the area. Clovis has become their home as Cannon and the Air Force is part of our culture.

Clovis is an Air Force town and we're dang proud of it. By removing Cannon, you take away not only many of our neighbors and family, but our identity.

As far as the military value; where else can you find:

1) **Abundant air space without encroachment?**
2) **Supersonic airspace without complaints?**
3) **The weather and as many flying days as in Eastern New Mexico?**
4) **The relationship with the local community that you find at Cannon?**

As a member of the Clovis Committee of 50 for nine years, I have personally served as Chairman of the Cannon Appreciation Day celebration where we invite all Cannon personnel to join community volunteers in a great day of food and fun.

I invite you to ask anyone who has attended; what an honor it is to have been a part of this celebration.

My wife has worked two years with this event and as she handed Cannon's personnel their food they always thank her. It warms my heart when I here her say "No, thank you for what you do, every day".

Finally, Cannon Air Force Base has received countless Air Force and National level awards. **Unless the Air Force just gives awards for the sake of giving them, Cannon must have significant military value**. What are we going to do with those awards once Cannon is gone? Give them to the second best base? I hope we don't settle for second best. If Cannon is the best, **help us keep it open**.

Sincerely,

Jeff Moore
2317 Putnam
Clovis NM 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

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. More reasons I believe make Cannon a valuable base.

- The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. This allows pilots to get airborne, and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range, rather than spending all of their fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, then returning to the base.
-
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
-
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.
-
- The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.

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. There are bases that are not welcome in their states, Cannon is not one of them.

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 please to reconsider Cannon's importance to the nation and to my community. Please, let us KEEP CANNON!

Sincerely,

Brad Belcher
909 W. Manana
Clovis N.M. 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Regarding: Removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

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

Cannon is an important and valued member of our community. Not only will the closure of this base will have a devastating impact on our economy, but it will also affect countless personal and professional relationships throughout the region.

Furthermore, Clovis and the surrounding areas offer an environment conducive to the training and readiness of our national defense forces. The nearby availability of supersonic and uninfringeable airspace combined with new and existing facilities suitable for joint training exercises make Cannon a genuine asset to our country's armed forces.

The citizens of Clovis and the surrounding area consider the personnel at Cannon part of our community's family. It would be a shame to see them go. Please come to the Cannon hearing in Clovis and see what I mean. Please let us KEEP CANNON

Sincerely,

Glenn Lester
3508A Adenmor Ct
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

Honorable James H. Bilbray
Chairman, BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark St, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Regarding: Removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list

Dear Mr. Bilbray:

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 un-encroached 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 and to our surrounding area.

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 personnel that are stationed here are a part of our community and family. We have many veterans and retirees that have move to our area, because of the base and so many have made Clovis/Portales their home. The many veterans in the area make it clear that they feel at home here.

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. It has already started to impact our area, some companies have already started to lay some of their employees off.

I invite you to come personally to the Cannon hearing in Clovis. I ask you please to reconsider Cannon's importance to the nation and to my community. Please, let us KEEP CANNON HERE! As you will see upon your visit you will see a community that is united and you will also see what we see, our family, our community and our friends.

Sincerely,

Theresa Begley

Theresa Begley
3424 Sheridan
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Regarding: Removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

I am writing this letter with the deepest hopes that you will reconsider closing Cannon Air Force Base.

Cannon Air Force Base attributes so many things to our national defense. These include facilities suitable for joint training exercises, a low-cost environment that promotes cost efficient training and airspace suitable for training at supersonic speed.

The community has been supportive by donating time and land to promote Cannon's needs.

The closing of Cannon will have a devastating effect on our economy. It has been estimated the area will lose at least 20 percent of its' workforce. Cannon is critical for us.

I ask you to please consider Cannon's importance to the nation as well as our community. Please let us keep Cannon.

Sincerely,

Larissa J. Garza
Clovis, New Mexico

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

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

I want to have my voice herd by making the Commission fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. Which include unencroached airspace suitable for training at supersonic speed; there are many new and existing facilities suitable for joint training exercise, and a low-cost environment that promotes cost-efficient training. Cannon is truly a huge asset to the country's armed forces.

Clovis and Portales and surrounding communities of Cannon value and appreciate the base. As a community we have been very supportive in donating time and land to promote the base's needs. The personnel of Cannon are welcomed throughout the community, and we show our appreciation with discounts at local restaurants and stores. There are many veterans and retirees in the area that consider Cannon home and we feel they are part of our families.

The closure of Cannon will also have a devastating impact on our economy. It has been said that the area would loose at least 20% of its workforce, a percentage out of line with the effect of bas closing in other communities. Cannon is critical for us!

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

On a personal note; my parents are retired military and they would have to seek medical assistance else where which would result in a 3 hours drive one way to the nearest military facility.

Sincerely,

Monique Martinez

Monique Martinez
224 Conestoga Trail
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commision
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

I urge you to overturn the Department of Defense's BRAC recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base.

Cannon Air Force Base should not be on the BRAC closure list for many reasons. I've listed some of the key reasons below:

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.
- Cannon has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training opportunities.
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

In summary, the Clovis, Portales and surrounding communities have reached out and supported Cannon Air Force Base like no other community over the last 50 years. We've done so financially, morally, spiritually and above all consistently. The continued operation of Cannon Air Force Base is not only extremely important for this region, but for the Nation as a whole. Respectfully, I urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

Adela M. Aguilar
PO Box 1722
Clovis NM 88102-1722

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

I am writing you to state my feelings about CAFB being on the closure list. I have lived in Clovis all my life, and Cannon has always been a big part of living in Clovis, and the surrounding towns and communities such as Portales, Melrose, all the way to the people in West Texas including Amarillo and Lubbock. I have felt safe and secure having Cannon here. I have meat many, many wonderful people that were stationed at the base.

If the base were to be closed they will close schools in Clovis. This would be a hard ship for lots of people, mostly the children. There would be jobs lost for many people in our area. That will heart everyone!!

Clovis has been growing so much with a wonderful future for everyone around here, thus is largely due to Cannon being here. We all like the security of having a military base here.

Our area is great as far as everything from the weather to the airspace that is here for the plains to do their training. We have a great bombing range here for all the practice they would need.

So in closing PLEASE, reconsider closing Cannon Air Force Base.

Sincerely,

Pam Jones

Pam Jones
404 W. Plains
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

I would like to strongly encourage you to overturn the Department of Defense's BRAC recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base.

Cannon Air Force Base should not be on the BRAC closure list for many reasons including:

- Cannon has won countless awards, both on the ACC level, Air Force and NAF levels, and national and STAT levels.
- The relationship between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding towns, Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas and others is unlike any other installation in the country.
- The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.
- The Melrose Bombing Range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. This allows pilots to get airborne, and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range rather than spending all of their fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, and then returning to the base.
- From an economic standpoint, closing Cannon Air Force Base would be devastating to our community. 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.

In closing, the Clovis, Portales and surrounding communities have reached out and supported Cannon Air Force Base like no other community over the last 50 years. Respectfully, I urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

Kandi Hall

Kandi Hall
2309 Quail Ct.
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

I am concerned about the BRAC decision to close Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico. Cannon has been part of our community for over 50 years. We believe the relationship between Cannon and the surrounding towns, Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, and West Texas (including Amarillo, and Lubbock) to be unlike any other installation in the country.

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure
- The base has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- Once the New Mexico Training Range initiative is implemented, we will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides for year round training ability.
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
- The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter,
  And any other military aircraft.

The closure of Cannon will have a devastating impact on our economy. It has been estimated that the area will lose at least 20 percent of its work force, 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 please to reconsider Cannon's importance to the nation and to my community. Please, let us KEEP CANNON!

Sincerely,

Michael Sandoval
109 W Plaza Dr.
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

I am concerned about the BRAC decision to close Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico. Cannon has been part of our community for over 50 years. We believe the relationship between Cannon and the surrounding towns, Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, and West Texas (including Amarillo, and Lubbock) to be unlike any other installation in the country.

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure
- The base has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- Once the New Mexico Training Range initiative is implemented, we will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides for year round training ability.
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
- The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, And any other military aircraft.

The closure of Cannon will have a devastating impact on our economy. It has been estimated that the area will lose at least 20 percent of its work force, a percentage out of line with the effect of base closings in other communities. Cannon is critical for us and our families. I have three children and most of their friends and friend's families are military. That is how I ended up in Clovis, NM from England was through my family being stationed here. Clovis has been good to me and so has Cannon Air Force Base. The two go hand in hand.

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

Sincerely,

David Varney

David Varney
1608 Axtell St.
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

I am very concerned about **Cannon Air Force Base** being placed on the closure list. In my mind, I believe a computer malfunction has inadvertently placed Cannon on the list for closure. Its hard for me to imagine how our country would be without the defense that Cannon provides to this great nation and the other countries it protects to sustain our freedom. I'm not sure what the criteria is to close an Air Base, but this area is the perfect environment for defense functions.

- Unrestricted airspace
- Weather good year round
- Close proximity to the Melrose bombing range
- Encroachment not an issue
- Community that supports base families 100%
- Excellent base facilities

Please re-evaluate Cannon Air Force Base and remove them from the closure list.

Sincerely,

Gregory L. Burns
1909 Fairway Terrace
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

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

I want to make the Commission fully aware of the unique attributes Cannon offers to our national defense and local community.

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.
- Cannon has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training opportunities.
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military. The many veterans in the area, one of whom is my stepfather, make it clear that they feel at home here.
- The local community has welcomed the personnel and donated time and land to promote the base's needs. We consider Cannon and its retirees a part of our family

In summary, the Clovis, Portales and surrounding communities have reached out and supported Cannon Air Force Base like no other community over the last 50 years. We've done so financially, morally, spiritually and above all consistently. The continued operation of Cannon Air Force Base is not only extremely important for this region, but for the Nation as a whole. Respectfully, I urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

John Sain
P.O. Box 941
Farwell, Texas 79325

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

RE: Closure of Cannon AFB

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

I don't know what consideration was taken to select the bases on the Closure list, but I would like to challenge you to take another look at Cannon.

My Husband was stationed at Cannon in the 1960's, he went TDY several times while stationed at Cannon and was so happy to get back. He was a crew chief on the F100s, and feels that Cannon was the best training base and experience of his life in the Service. The jets' flying overhead is the sound of FREEDOM and is music to his ears. We went out to the Melrose Bombing Range, what an experience. The pilots only had a short time from takeoff to dropping their bombs and it was thrilling to be able to see them in action.

I can't even start to explain how devastating the closure of Cannon would be to Clovis and the surrounding communities. Below are a few things that these communities provide for Cannon.

1. Education – any level
2. Housing
3. Safe communities
4. Employment
5. Friendly people
6. Airspace for training
7. Land for expansion

WE WANT TO KEEP CANNON!

Please reconsider!!!

Sincerely,

Linda Klingensmith
2101 Weeden
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

RECEIVED

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

I am asking you to please reconsider the closing of Cannon Air Force Base as recommended by BRAC Commission. Not only is Cannon a vital part of our community, it is also crucial to our Nation as a whole.

Cannon Air Force Base should not be on the BRAC closure list for many reasons. Below are some of the key reasons for leaving Cannon open:

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.
- The base has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- Once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is implemented, we will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic training missions allowing the Air Force to better train for real-life situations.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training ability. This along with the availability of air space makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.
- The relationship between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding towns of Clovis, Portales and others, is unlike any other installation in the country. In recent years the state of New Mexico and our local community have provided easements as well as donated land to accommodate Cannon's expansion.
- Eastern New Mexico and West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

I invite you to personally attend the regional hearing in Clovis on June 24, 2005 and I respectfully urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

Don David
1011 Fairway Terrace
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4872

William J. Bishop
2017-1/2 Sheldon St.
Clovis, NM 88101-4836

(505) 791-1520 rsvpvolunteer@scdial.com

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

Dear sirs and madams:

It has been my understanding that, in every historical conflict which ultimately involved the United States in war and the widespread and grievous suffering thereof, we Americans have been caught, quite frankly, with our "pants down." It is also my understanding that in times of peace which have occurred between those surprises, there have been many voices in our land that cry for a lowering of our defenses, purportedly for the sake of a more efficient government but in reality for priortizing other pockets to be filled. That America has been caught unaware and unprepared in the complacency of peacetime has occurred in the War of 1812, in the massacre of Texans at the Alamo, in the harbor of Charleston in 1861, and on through the decades leading to Pearl Harbor and the World Trade Center buildings destroyed by the fanatic hatreds of men who understand nothing short of physical force. It is because such men and their evil purposes exist, even within our own shores, that a powerful deterrent of our military forces needs to be maintained.

Cannon Air Force Base was opened as a wartime exigency and served its intended role well, but later it was closed down as an economy measure, again by those who thought we didn't need its unique location and potential capabilities. Well, those voices were proven wrong in time when Cannon reopened and built up a powerful force of deployable aircraft and their crews. The local economy at nearby Clovis, NM, received a big shot in the arm by military families who live and trade in the community. Up to 53% of military families' children learn in, and contribute to the educational excellence of our schools. Clovis citizens have long been grateful for Cannon and vice versa. But now it is the opinion of those who are inadvertently pressing to place America back into the "unprepared" mode again by closing down bases which provide the U.S. with a strong deterrent to terrorism and war, that Cannon Air Force Base, among others, should be abandoned. Never mind that important industries, some of them crucial to the nation's interests, are relying on the protection of the armed forces, and lie within 100 miles of Cannon, an easy reach for the jets stationed there.

As a U.S. citizen and veteran of a quarter-century of military service to my country, I now send you my plea to do everything within your power to counter the trend to cut back the military bases wisely placed in strategic locations to give our country the umbrella of protection it needs, given the fanatical determination of our enemies. My fellow citizens and I hope and pray that it may not become necessary to let our "pants down" in this area. Please keep Cannon open!

Respectfully yours,

William J. Bishop, LCDR, USN (Retired)

DCN: 4872

OPERATION KEEP CANNON

To the distinguished BRAC committee,

We are the communities of Curry and Roosevelt County that have had the honor of having Cannon Air Force Base a part of our community for more than 50 years. There are many reasons that Cannon should NOT be on the BRAC list.

Some of the things are the abundance of air space, void of any encroachment issues. The future use of super sonic fly space, the fabulous weather that permits a year round training ability, In addition, the Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon, which allows pilots to get airborne and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range, rather than spending all of their fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, then returning to the base.

Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy. Cannon has won countless awards, both on the ACC level, Air Force and NAF levels, and national and STAT levels.

In the early 90's, Curry County, in conjunction with the state of New Mexico purchased air easements around Cannon Air Force Base and GAVE them to the Air Force. This was done to protect that air space from encroachments and was an important issue for the Air Force as it is today. The local community purchased land North of Cannon Air Force Base and GAVE it back to the Air Force for additional housing, now known as Chavez Manor. Within the last few years, our community purchased land west of Cannon and GAVE it back to the Air Force for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at the base.

As hopefully you will personally witness, the relationship between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding towns: Clovis, Portales, Lubbock, Amarillo and many others is UNLIKE ANY OTHER INSTALLATION IN THE COUNTRY. These towns are home to large military retiree populations which rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping and more.

Our community has reached out and supported the base like no other community over the past 50 years. We've done so financially, morally, spiritually and above all, consistently. We are proud, honored and blessed to have Cannon Air Force Base and will stand behind it and everything it stands for every step of the way.

Sincerely, Lyn Cleveland

DCN: 4872

OPERATION KEEP CANNON

RECEIVED

To the distinguished BRAC committee,

We are the communities of Curry and Roosevelt County that have had the honor of having Cannon Air Force Base a part of our community for more than 50 years. There are many reasons that Cannon should NOT be on the BRAC list.

Some of the things are the abundance of air space, void of any encroachment issues. The future use of super sonic fly space, the fabulous weather that permits a year round training ability, In addition, the Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon, which allows pilots to get airborne and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range, rather than spending all of their fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, then returning to the base.

Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy. Cannon has won countless awards, both on the ACC level, Air Force and NAF levels, and national and STAT levels.

In the early 90's, Curry County, in conjunction with the state of New Mexico purchased air easements around Cannon Air Force Base and GAVE them to the Air Force. This was done to protect that air space from encroachments and was an important issue for the Air Force as it is today. The local community purchased land North of Cannon Air Force Base and GAVE it back to the Air Force for additional housing, now known as Chavez Manor. Within the last few years, our community purchased land west of Cannon and GAVE it back to the Air Force for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at the base.

As hopefully you will personally witness, the relationship between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding towns: Clovis, Portales, Lubbock, Amarillo and many others is UNLIKE ANY OTHER INSTALLATION IN THE COUNTRY. These towns are home to large military retiree populations which rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping and more.

Our community has reached out and supported the base like no other community over the past 50 years. We've done so financially, morally, spiritually and above all, consistently. We are proud, honored and blessed to have Cannon Air Force Base and will stand behind it and everything it stands for every step of the way.

Sincerely, Lynn Cleveland

DCN: 4872

OPERATION KEEP CANNON

To the distinguished BRAC committee,

We are the communities of Curry and Roosevelt County that have had the honor of having Cannon Air Force Base a part of our community for more than 50 years. There are many reasons that Cannon should NOT be on the BRAC list.

Some of the things are the abundance of air space, void of any encroachment issues. The future use of super sonic fly space, the fabulous weather that permits a year round training ability, In addition, the Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon, which allows pilots to get airborne and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range, rather than spending all of their fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, then returning to the base.

Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy. Cannon has won countless awards, both on the ACC level, Air Force and NAF levels, and national and STAT levels.

In the early 90's, Curry County, in conjunction with the state of New Mexico purchased air easements around Cannon Air Force Base and GAVE them to the Air Force. This was done to protect that air space from encroachments and was an important issue for the Air Force as it is today. The local community purchased land North of Cannon Air Force Base and GAVE it back to the Air Force for additional housing, now known as Chavez Manor. Within the last few years, our community purchased land west of Cannon and GAVE it back to the Air Force for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at the base.

As hopefully you will personally witness, the relationship between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding towns: Clovis, Portales, Lubbock, Amarillo and many others is UNLIKE ANY OTHER INSTALLATION IN THE COUNTRY. These towns are home to large military retiree populations which rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping and more.

Our community has reached out and supported the base like no other community over the past 50 years. We've done so financially, morally, spiritually and above all, consistently. We are proud, honored and blessed to have Cannon Air Force Base and will stand behind it and everything it stands for every step of the way.

Sincerely,

Lynn Cleveland

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

I am very concerned about the Department of Defense's recommendation that Cannon Air Force Base should be closed and I urge you to overturn that decision.

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 please to reconsider Cannon's importance to the nation and to my community. Please, let us KEEP CANNON!

Sincerely,

Tammy Lethgo
1708 Arcineiga
Clovis, NM 88101

PS. On a personal note,
I came to Clovis as a military dependant 23 years ago. My father later retired in Clovis. Shortly after that I graduated from high school and had every opportunity to leave Clovis. I decided to stay because after living in numerous places, Clovis was the only place I could imagine making my "home". I eventually married someone who was born and raised in Clovis and started a family. We both have great jobs and plan on raising our children here because it is such a close knit, loving community. The threat that the closure of Cannon poses to our community is definitely a major concern for me, but it has also reminded me why I choose to live here – this community has pulled together like only family can to support and KEEP CANNON!

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED

The Honorable Philip Coyle
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Coyle:

I am very concerned about the Department of Defense's recommendation that Cannon Air Force Base should be closed and I urge you to overturn that decision.

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 please to reconsider Cannon's importance to the nation and to my community. Please, let us KEEP CANNON!

Sincerely,

Tammy Lethgo
1708 Arcineiga
Clovis, NM 88101

PS. On a personal note,
I came to Clovis as a military dependant 23 years ago. My father later retired in Clovis. Shortly after that I graduated from high school and had every opportunity to leave Clovis. I decided to stay because after living in numerous places, Clovis was the only place I could imagine making my "home". I eventually married someone who was born and raised in Clovis and started a family. We both have great jobs and plan on raising our children here because it is such a close knit, loving community. The threat that the closure of Cannon poses to our community is definitely a major concern for me, but it has also reminded me why I choose to live here – this community has pulled together like only family can to support and KEEP CANNON!

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED

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

Dear Admiral Gehman, Jr.:

I am very concerned about the Department of Defense's recommendation that Cannon Air Force Base should be closed and I urge you to overturn that decision.

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.

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DCN: 4872

RECEIVED

May 27, 2005

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

Dear Commissioner Hansen:

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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.

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DCN: 4872

RECEIVED

May 27, 2005

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

I urge you to overturn the Department of Defense's BRAC recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base.

Cannon Air Force Base should not be on the BRAC closure list for many reasons. I've listed some of the key reasons below:

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.
- Cannon has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training opportunities.
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

In summary, the Clovis, Portales and surrounding communities have reached out and supported Cannon Air Force Base like no other community over the last 50 years. We've done so financially, morally, spiritually and above all consistently. The continued operation of Cannon Air Force Base is not only extremely important for this region, but for the Nation as a whole. Respectfully, I urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

Tom M. Phelps

Tom M. Phelps
1709 St. Andrews Dr.
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4872

May 25, 2005

The Honorable **James H. Bilbray**
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Regarding: Removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list

Dear **Honorable James H. Bilbray**

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 please to reconsider Cannon's importance to the nation and to my community. Please, let us KEEP CANNON!

Sincerely,
Katie Padilla
137 Herb
Clovis, NM 88101

Katie Padilla

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

Please be assured that we WANT Cannon to stay! I feel that Clovis and all of the surrounding areas have had a great relationship over the last 50 years and would like to continue it for another 50 years.

We've have fantastic flying conditions year round as well as tons of airspace and no encroachment issues. The bombing range is just a short jaunt from Cannon. It seems to me that Cannon doesn't even fit the criteria provided for base closure.

When some people get stationed here they hate it because they feel like it's out in the middle of nowhere, but somehow Clovis grows on them and a lot of them have ended up retiring here. So we have a lot of retired military that depend on Cannon for medical, groceries, & clothing. Our friends and neighbors also work at the base as civil service personnel

I hope that you will see your way to removing Cannon Air Force Base from the closure list so that we can continue our support of the troops and all other personnel.

Sincerely,

Janna Pemberton

Janna Pemberton

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED

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

Dear General Hill:

I am very concerned about the Department of Defense's recommendation that Cannon Air Force Base should be closed and I urge you to overturn that decision.

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.

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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 please to reconsider Cannon's importance to the nation and to my community. Please, let us KEEP CANNON!

Sincerely,

Tammy Lethgo
1708 Arcineiga
Clovis, NM 88101

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DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED

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

RE: Closure of Cannon AFB

Dear Commissioner Hansen:

I don't know what consideration was taken to select the bases on the Closure list, but I would like to challenge you to take another look at Cannon.

My Husband was stationed at Cannon in the 1960's, he went TDY several times while stationed at Cannon and was so happy to get back. He was a crew chief on the F100s, and feels that Cannon was the best training base and experience of his life in the Service. The jets' flying overhead is the sound of FREEDOM and is music to his ears. We went out to the Melrose Bombing Range, what an experience. The pilots only had a short time from takeoff to dropping their bombs and it was thrilling to be able to see them in action.

I can't even start to explain how devastating the closure of Cannon would be to Clovis and the surrounding communities. Below are a few things that these communities provide for Cannon.

1. Education – any level
2. Housing
3. Safe communities
4. Employment
5. Friendly people
6. Airspace for training
7. Land for expansion

WE WANT TO KEEP CANNON!

Please reconsider!!!

Sincerely,

Linda Klingensmith
2101 Weeden
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

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

RECEIVED

Dear Commissioner Hansen:

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

I want to make the Commission fully aware of the unique attributes Cannon offers to our national defense and local community.

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.
- Cannon has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training opportunities.
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military. The many veterans in the area, one of whom is my stepfather, make it clear that they feel at home here.
- The local community has welcomed the personnel and donated time and land to promote the base's needs. We consider Cannon and its retirees a part of our family

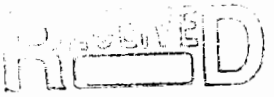
In summary, the Clovis, Portales and surrounding communities have reached out and supported Cannon Air Force Base like no other community over the last 50 years. We've done so financially, morally, spiritually and above all consistently. The continued operation of Cannon Air Force Base is not only extremely important for this region, but for the Nation as a whole. Respectfully, I urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

John Sain
P.O. Box 941
Farwell, Texas 79325

DCN: 4872

May 25, 2005



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

Regarding: Removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list

Dear **General James T. Hill**

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 please to reconsider Cannon's importance to the nation and to my community. Please, let us KEEP CANNON!

Sincerely,
Katie Padilla
137 Herb
Clovis, NM 88101

Katie Padilla

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

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

Dear Commissioner Hansen:

I am asking you to please reconsider the closing of Cannon Air Force Base as recommended by BRAC Commission. Not only is Cannon a vital part of our community, it is also crucial to our Nation as a whole.

Cannon Air Force Base should not be on the BRAC closure list for many reasons. Below are some of the key reasons for leaving Cannon open:

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.
- The base has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- Once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is implemented, we will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic training missions allowing the Air Force to better train for real-life situations.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training ability. This along with the availability of air space makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.
- The relationship between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding towns of Clovis, Portales and others, is unlike any other installation in the country. In recent years the state of New Mexico and our local community have provided easements as well as donated land to accommodate Cannon's expansion.
- Eastern New Mexico and West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

I invite you to personally attend the regional hearing in Clovis on June 24, 2005 and I respectfully urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

Don David
1011 Fairway Terrace
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4872

May 31, 2005

BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, STE 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Marc Johnson
1125 CR 7
Clovis, NM 88101

Ref: Cannon Air Force Base

To Whom It May Concern:

As a resident of Clovis, I am very much concerned about the closure of Cannon Air Force Base. Do to the economic impact of the community I think it would be a very detrimental move to our community. Clovis has always supported Cannon and our military. We love our country and care about the security of it. I do not believe that Cannon should close due to the following reasons:

Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.

- The base has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- Once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is implemented, we will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions. This is a very important point, as it allows the Air Force to better train for real-life situations.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training ability.
- The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. This allows pilots to get airborne, and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range, rather than spending all of their fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, and then returning to the base.
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.
- The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.
- Cannon has won countless awards, both on ACC level, Air Force and NAF levels, and national and STAT levels.
- The relationship between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding towns; Clovis, Portales, West Texas, and others, is unlike any other installation in the country.
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

In addition Clovis and the surrounding areas have expanded to accommodate and serve our community as well as military personal.

- There has been a $60 million expansion expanding Plains Regional Medical Center with new Heart, Cancer & Rehab center.
- Clovis Community College and Eastern NM University have expanded and offer classes on base.
- A new VA Clinic will be opening this year.
- Many new housing units are being built.
- Many new restaurants, building suppliers and retail businesses have been established.

Clovis loves our military personal. Our local businesses give military discounts, we have the best schools and teaching staff in New Mexico and our community is a caring and friendly Christian based community. I respectfully ask you to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC Closure list. Please utilize all that Clovis offers to make our great nation safer and to grow our community.

Thank you for your consideration!

Marc Johnson

DCN: 4872

23 May 2005

RECEIVED

BRAC Commission
Arlington, VA

Commissioners,

I am shocked and dismayed to see Cannon AFB, New Mexico on the list of bases recommended to be closed ! The base facilities are certainly more than adequate to support continued, long term use. In addition, the nearby gunnery and bombing range is an asset that is practically irreplaceable anywhere in the country and the airspace available for most all types of training is unusually clear of other air traffic.

But beyond all of the above, in my 36 years of Air Force service, never did I witness community support as strong and sincere as that which exists from the proud , deeply patriotic citizens of Clovis, NM and Curry County. I am aware that significant local funds have been expended over many years to expand the gunnery range acreage and to expand family housing available to base personnel. A better relationship between a city and an airbase cannot be found–it is a family affair !My assignment there resulted in deep friendships with Clovis citizens that continue long after my retirement.

I urge you to go there and experience the base , its people, and the Clovis citizen support before making a decision.

Very respectfully,

James A. Knight,Jr
Lt Gen, USAF (Ret)

DCN: 4872

Donna Smith
1078 CR U
Clovis, NM 88101

May 27, 2005

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

Dear Commissioner Hansen:

I urge you to overturn the Department of Defense's BRAC recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base.

As a former active-duty military spouse, and having been stationed at other bases in the US and overseas, I feel strongly that there are significant advantages to keeping, and expanding, Cannon AFB:

- The mild weather and open air space provides almost daily opportunities for training and qualification flights. I remember many days, when stationed at other bases, that my husband came home without making his flight for the day, due to weather or maintenance issues related to bad weather.
- Clovis and Portales are extremely hospitable to military members, and recognize the tremendous talent that the military brings to our churches, schools, and workplace. When we arrived at Cannon, I found that local employers appreciated the work experience that I had gained from previous jobs, despite the fact that my tenure at those other jobs may have only been a year or two. In other communities, other spouses and I were viewed as "transients", and not as potentially valuable employees. This community demonstrates gratitude for the diverse contributions that the military members and spouses make.
- In fact, instead of complaining about the noise and inconvenience of having a military base, Clovis would welcome an expansion of the base. Sitting at the west edge of town as it does, Cannon has room and community acceptance for expansion that many other bases do not.
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, and West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

In summary, there are many reasons why Cannon Air Force Base is, and should continue to be, the "GO TO" fighter wing. Respectfully, I urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

Donna Smith

Donna Smith

5/23/05
DCN: 4872

Dear Brac Commission,

RECEIVED

Hello my Name is Beverly Taylor and I am the Manager of the Clovis High School Cafeteria. I would like to Express to you how Sad myself & my family would be if Cannon Air Force Base Were too Close. My Husband and I rolled in to Clovis on Oct 6th 1984 & We felt So lost, We Went for a Walk downtown to check out the town, Just as We thought "No Way Jose!" Could We Live her, a retired Air Force Gentleman asked us where we were from & We Explained Cleveland Ohio a City that Never Sleeps. & he Said yes but Can you do this? & We Said do What? He Said Hear the Birds Singing, and we Were left Kinda Speechless. His Parting words were Give Her a chance & She'll Grow on you & She Has A lot. My Children Have made a lot of Good friends who are Cannon Kids. Not to mention all the Wonderful ones I have had the Pleasure to meet at the High School. I Just Can not

DCN: 4872

imagine Clovis without Cannon Air Force Base!

Thank you for your time!

Beverly Taylor

Clovis + Cannon = Awesome!

DCN: 4872

KIM TARANGO

809 A N.M.
Portales N.M.
88130
Phone (505)276-8648
Kimtarango315@yahoo.com

May 23, 2005

RECEIVED

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter of concern to the BRAC Commissioners, to send my concern about Cannon being on the BRAC list. That must have been a mistake Cannon is one of the best air bases in New Mexico. Not to mention home to hundreds of military personnel with whom happen to be fighting in a high risk war zone. Don't these troops that are fighting for our country deserve our support in keeping their home!!!!! When our country went under attack our troops did not think twice about fighting for us, therefore it is our duty as civilians to look after our Cannon troops. Keep Cannon< we simply can not let our troops down after all they are fighting for our country!!! Please help get Cannon off the BRAC list so we can still call Cannon, HOME OF OUR FIGHTING TROOPS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Sincerely,

Kim Tarango

Kim Tarango

DCN: 4872

Belinda Furrow
3100 Las Palomas
Clovis, NM 881

May 28, 2005

BRAC COMMISSIONERS

Having lived in Clovis, NM a surrounding area for 50 plus years I have taken comfort in the phrase CLOVIS HOME OF CANNON AIR FORCE BASE. The security of our country depends on our military personal receiving the valuable training needed to protect and serve this great country. Cannon AFB offers some of the best training Not available at other instillations. We have great weather, wide-open air space and most important the bombing range. I sincerely feel that closing CAFB or any other military instillation at the present time would compromise the security of our country. We live in a great country with a tremendous amount of freedom and security that could be compromised by closing CAFB. Please reconsider and take CAFB off your closure list.

Sincerely,

Belinda Furrow

DCN: 4872

Belinda Furrow
3100 Las Palomas
Clovis, NM 881

May 28, 2005

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Belinda Furrow

DCN: 4872

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3100 Las Palomas
Clovis, NM 881

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Clovis, NM 881

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Sincerely,

Belinda Furrow

DCN: 4872

May 29, 2005

Regina Abdill
1906 E. 6th St
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

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

To Whom It May Concern:

I was born and raised in Clovis and have worked with the wives and husbands from the base and have never encountered any problems with the members of the air force. The people of Clovis have given more than friendship to Cannon Air Force Base: The local community purchased the land north of Cannon and gave it back to the air force for additional housing, within the last few years, our community purchased land west of Cannon and gave it back to the air force for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at the base. Clovis has supported the base since it was opened around 50 years ago. Also, the weather here is perfect for year round maneuvers. Please don't take the base away, we will miss it desperately, not only the jobs, but the friendship the community enjoys with the base. Clovis is not the only community that will suffer from the closing of the base; there is Portales, Melrose and the West Texas communities.

Sincerely,

Regina Abdill

Regina Abdill

DCN: 4872

Isaac W. (Bill) Bowman
1015 Chama St.
Clovis, NM 88101

May 26, 2005

RECEIVED

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

RE: Cannon Air Force Base scheduled closure

Dear Mr. Principi:

I am writing to you to ask that Cannon Air Force Base be removed from the closure list. I have recently moved to Clovis from Tucumcari, NM. Many relatives and friends regularly go to Cannon for groceries, medical needs, etc. My son is in the Air Force and wants to transfer to Cannon to finish his 20 years.

The weather in our area provides year round training ability. There is an abundance of air space for the base and no encroachment issues. Cannon is a good candidate to support future training missions.

I just recently found out that Curry County and our community have purchased land around Cannon Air Force Base and gave it back to the Air Force for housing and instrument lighting on the alternate runway. Our community leaders spearheaded an effort to expand and covert the air space to supersonic capability through the New Mexico Training Range Initiative.

This community has reached out and supported the base over the last 50 years. We've done so financially, morally, spiritually and above all, consistently. Please help us keep Cannon Air Force Base open and removed from the closure list.

Sincerely,

Isaac W. (Bill) Bowman

Isaac W. (Bill) Bowman

Lois A. Bowman
1015 Chama St.
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4872

RECEIVED

May 26, 2005

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

RE: Cannon Air Force Base scheduled closure

Dear Mr. Principi:

I am writing as a concerned citizen of Clovis, New Mexico. As far back as I can remember (50+ yrs) Cannon Air Force Base has been in Clovis. I grew up in Tucumcari, NM and many friends are retired military who go to Cannon frequently. I recently transferred to Clovis with Wells Fargo Bank. I see first hand the impact that Cannon has on this and surrounding communities. My youngest son is in the Air Force and is in the process of cross-training. His desire is to transfer to Cannon and complete his 20 years of service here. He wants to buy a home and retire in Clovis.

I could cite many reasons that Cannon should not be on the closure list, but I want to appeal to you as a citizen and a mother. Many people I work with, go to church with, friends and family would be greatly impacted by this closure. Without the base, many military retirees would have to travel over 200 miles to access base facilities. Please help us to keep Cannon Air Force Base open.

Sincerely,

Lois Bowman

Lois Bowman

DCN: 4872

Isaac W. (Bill) Bowman
1015 Chama St.
Clovis, NM 88101

May 26, 2005

Lloyd Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark St., Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

RE: Cannon Air Force Base scheduled closure

Dear Mr. Newton:

I am writing to you to ask that Cannon Air Force Base be removed from the closure list. I have recently moved to Clovis from Tucumcari, NM. Many relatives and friends regularly go to Cannon for groceries, medical needs, etc. My son is in the Air Force and wants to transfer to Cannon to finish his 20 years.

The weather in our area provides year round training ability. There is an abundance of air space for the base and no encroachment issues. Cannon is a good candidate to support future training missions.

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DCN: 4872

Lois A. Bowman
1015 Chama St.
Clovis, NM 88101

May 26, 2005

James T. Hill
BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark St., Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

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Lois Bowman

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DCN: 4872

Isaac W. (Bill) Bowman
1015 Chama St.
Clovis, NM 88101

May 26, 2005

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

RE: Cannon Air Force Base scheduled closure

Dear Ms. Turner:

I am writing to you to ask that Cannon Air Force Base be removed from the closure list. I have recently moved to Clovis from Tucumcari, NM. Many relatives and friends regularly go to Cannon for groceries, medical needs, etc. My son is in the Air Force and wants to transfer to Cannon to finish his 20 years.

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1015 Chama St.
Clovis, NM 88101

RECEIVED

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Arlington, VA 22202

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This community has reached out and supported the base over the last 50 years. We've done so financially, morally, spiritually and above all, consistently. Please help us keep Cannon Air Force Base open and removed from the closure list.

Sincerely,

Isaac W. (Bill) Bowman

Isaac W. (Bill) Bowman

DCN: 4872

As lifetime residents of Clovis, we assure you that Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure. Reasons for are included as:

1. The base has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.

2. Once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is implemented, we will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions. This is a very important point, as it allows the Air Force to better train for real-life situations.

3. The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training ability.

4. The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. This allows pilots to get airborne, and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range, rather than spending all of their fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, then returning to the base.

5. Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.

6. Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.

7. The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.

8. Cannon has won countless awards, both on ACC level, Air Force and NAF levels, and national and STAT levels

The relationship between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding towns; Clovis, Portales, West Texas, and others, is unlike any other installation in the country.

Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

We have to, through our letters, convey the importance of our strong, 50-year relationship with the base. Some things you can reference in that regard are:

In the early 90s, Curry County, in conjunction with the state of New Mexico, purchased air easements around Cannon Air Force base and GAVE them to the Air Force. This one done to protect that air space from encroachment and was an important issue for the Air Force.

The local community purchased the land north of Cannon Air Force Base and GAVE it back to the Air Force for additional housing, now known as Chavez Manor.

Within the last few years, our community purchased land west of Cannon and GAVE it back to the Air Force for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at the base.

Leaders within our community spear-headed the effort to expand and convert the air space to supersonic capability through the New Mexico Training Range Initiative.

In summary, the community has reached out and supported the base like no other community over the last 50 years. We've

done so financially, morally, spiritually and above all, consistently.

Rezpectively, Antonio and Sarita Valdez

DCN: 4872

Dear General James Hill.,

Please help us save cannon Air Force Base, a base that does not fit the criteria provided for base closure. The closing of Cannon will have a negative impact on education throughout the area. As President of the Graduate Student Association at Eastern New Mexico University I can assure you that many fine graduate students come from Cannon Air force base. It has also been estimated that the closing of Cannon will cost this area the loss of more jobs, percentage-wise, than any other area in the country. Our community needs Cannon Air force Base please allow yourself to see all the reasons not to close Cannon.

Sincerely,

Matthew Gordillo

DCN: 4872

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Dear James Hansen.,

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DCN: 4872

Dear Brigadier General Sue Turner,

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Dear Admiral Harold Gehman Jr.,

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DCN: 4872

Dear James H. Bilbray,

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Dear Philip Coyle,

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DCN: 4872

Dear Samuel Skinner,

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DCN: 4872

May. 19, 2005

BRAC commission
2521 South Clark St. su 600
Arlington, VA 22202
BRAC Commission recommendations

I am asking you to review the reasons I feel Cannon Air Force base should NOT be on the list of base closures

- Cannon has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer training for the pilots
- The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. This allows pilots to get airborne, and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range, rather than spending all of their fuel to get to the range.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year-round training ability.
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- Cannon has ample space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.
- The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, joint strike fighter, and other military aircraft.
- The relationship between Cannon and the surrounding towns: Clovis, Portales, West Texas and others are unlike any other installation in the country.
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air force base for healthcare, shopping and more. There is not another installation nearby to serve our retired military.

DCN: 4872

The communities of Clovis and Portales have reached out and supported the base like no others. We've done so financially, morally, spiritually and consistently. We ask that you please reconsider your recommendation of closing Cannon Air Force base-we would truly be losing a good friend and a part of our family.

Warmest regards,

Phyllis Morgan

Phyllis Morgan

DCN: 4872

VistaCare®
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2708 N. Prince Street, Clovis, NM 88101
Phone (505) 762-7067 • Fax (505) 762-2563
www.VistaCare.com

May. 19, 2005

BRAC commission
2521 South Clark St. su 600
Arlington, VA 22202
BRAC Commission recommendations

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Warmest regards,

Eric Banagay, LBSW

DCN: 4872

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Arlington, VA 22202
BRAC Commission recommendations

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DCN: 4872

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Warmest regards,

Denise Gates, RN

Denise Gates, RN

DCN: 4872

May 23, 2005

BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, STE 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Jason Johnson
3912 Ben Hogan Dr.
Clovis, NM 88101

Ref: Cannon Air Force Base

To Whom It May Concern:

Please consider keeping Cannon Air Force Base open. Cannon does not qualify for closure due to the following reasons.

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.
- The base has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- Once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is implemented, we will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions. This is a very important point, as it allows the Air Force to better train for real-life situations.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training ability.
- The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. This allows pilots to get airborne, and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range, rather than spending all of their fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, then returning to the base.
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Thank you for your consideration!

Jason Johnson

DCN: 4872

As member of the Clovis community I was shock to here that Cannon was on the closure list. Mostly because the local community had done everything right in order to keep the base. This was based on previous base closings.

First of all Cannon has no local community encroachment like most of the previously closed bases that I have been stationed at like March AFB, Williams AFB, McClellan AFB, Mather AFB I always thought that this was a major consideration is the selection process for the obvious safety reasons.

Second the local community is extremely supportive as a retired member of the military I always found this as a wonder thing here in Clovis, which is one of the reasons I chose to retire here.

Third the cost of living here in Clovis is very low compared to other areas that bases were not slated to close such as Luke AFB or Nellis AFB. These are much high cost area's to live in as well as the fact that the bases are surrounded by the city's they are in.

Forth the flying weather as well as the air space here as fantastic.

I still haven't figure out what criteria the DOD used to select Cannon to close? Could you please enlighten me on how the decision was made? Thank You

Sincerely,

John M. Mead II
235 Olive Drive
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4872

OPERATION KEEP CANNON

Ms Sue Ellen Turner

To the distinguished BRAC committee,

We are the communities of Curry and Roosevelt County that have had the honor of having Cannon Air Force Base a part of our community for more than 50 years. There are many reasons that Cannon should NOT be on the BRAC list.

Some of the things are the abundance of air space, void of any encroachment issues. The future use of super sonic fly space, the fabulous weather that permits a year round training ability, In addition, the Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon, which allows pilots to get airborne and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range, rather than spending all of their fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, then returning to the base.

Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy. Cannon has won countless awards, both on the ACC level, Air Force and NAF levels, and national and STAT levels.

In the early 90's, Curry County, in conjunction with the state of New Mexico purchased air easements around Cannon Air Force Base and GAVE them to the Air Force. This was done to protect that air space from encroachments and was an important issue for the Air Force as it is today. The local community purchased land North of Cannon Air Force Base and GAVE it back to the Air Force for additional housing, now known as Chavez Manor. Within the last few years, our community purchased land west of Cannon and GAVE it back to the Air Force for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at the base.

As hopefully you will personally witness, the relationship between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding towns: Clovis, Portales, Lubbock, Amarillo and many others is UNLIKE ANY OTHER INSTALLATION IN THE COUNTRY. These towns are home to large military retiree populations which rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping and more.

Our community has reached out and supported the base like no other community over the past 50 years. We've done so financially, morally, spiritually and above all, consistently. We are proud, honored and blessed to have Cannon Air Force Base and will stand behind it and everything it stands for every step of the way.

Sincerely,

Royce D Newman
221 Sunland Dr.
Clovis, NM 88101
Phone 505 763 6560

DCN: 4872

OPERATION KEEP CANNON

Mr Samuel Knox Skinner

To the distinguished BRAC committee,

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221 Sunland Dr.
Clovis, NM 88101
Phone 505 763-6560

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OPERATION KEEP CANNON

Mr Floyd "Fig" Newton

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As hopefully you will personally witness, the relationship between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding towns: Clovis, Portales, Lubbock, Amarillo and many others is UNLIKE ANY OTHER INSTALLATION IN THE COUNTRY. These towns are home to large military retiree populations which rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping and more.

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Sincerely,

Roger D Newman
221 Sunland Dr.
Clovis, N M 88101
Phone 505 763-6560

DCN: 4872

OPERATION KEEP CANNON

5-26-05

Mr James H Bilbray

To the distinguished BRAC committee,

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Sincerely,

Royce D Newman
221 Sunland Dr.
Clovis, NM 88101
Phone 505 763-6560

DCN: 4872

OPERATION KEEP CANNON

5-26-05

Mr Philip Coyle

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Royce D Newman
221 Sunland Dr.
Clovis, NM 88101
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DCN: 4872

OPERATION KEEP CANNON

Mr Harold W Gehman Jr

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Sincerely,

Jackie Griego

DCN: 4872

OPERATION KEEP CANNON

5-26-05

Mr Anthony J Principi
Chairman, Brac Commission

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Sincerely,

Royce D Newman
221 Sunland Dr.
Clovis, N M 88101
Phone 505 763-6560

DCN: 4872

May 23, 2004

I am writing on behalf of the Clovis / Portales and surrounding communities regarding the closure of Cannon AFB.

Cannon AFB is a significant part of our community. You won't find anywhere else where the community is so supportive & welcoming of a military base.

Cannon AFB does not fit the criteria for base closure. The amount of air space surrounding CAFB is abundant, whereas in the big cities such as Las Vegas and Phoenix they have encroachment issues — not here. Cannon also has the space and facilities to accomodate joint war fighting, as well as excellent flying weather!

Not only will the closure of CAFB effect this area economically, but the retirees in the area who want to be near a military base for the benefits.

Please consider the facts regarding Cannon AFB and all it has to offer the US military.

Thank you

Diane Antill

DCN: 4872

Mrs. Turner,

I am writing you this letter as a concerned citizen. I have lived in Clovis New Mexico all of my life. I think you folks are making a terrible mistake in your decision to close Cannon Air Force Base. My family and I have worked harder than you could ever imagine getting where we are today. In many ways the welfare of my family and future are dependant on the existence of Cannon Air Force Base.

Let me explain.

I work for an organization called ENMRSH Inc. At ENMRSH we serve individuals with disabilities. We help them with virtually all aspects of there lives from residential to vocational. Approximately seventy-five of the individual that we serve work on federal contract at Cannon. They work in the commissary as the stockers and as the custodial crew. The also run the switchboard at Cannon. These individuals also work at the mess hall as dishwashers and mess attendants. I cannot even imagine the impact that the closure would have on their lives. I am also worried about the effect that this would have on my career and my family.

I also work a second job which is on Cannon Air Force Base. I work for DOD/NAF as an Operations Assistant for the Air Force Club Systems. I do not do this for the money. I do it for two other very important reasons. The first reason is because of health insurance. I have been married for almost ten years and during this time it has been next to impossible for me to get health insurance for my wife. Cannon has finally made that a reality. I have no clue what I would do if I didn't have this job and my wife was to become ill. The second reason is because of the base itself and the people out there. I work there because its fun. I enjoy the airmen, the officers and their dependants. If it wasn't for these reasons I'd be fishing with my five year old son on Saturdays instead of working.

There are many other non-personal reasons that I believe it is a mistake to close Cannon. First is the economy of Clovis and all the surrounding communities. I believe that this would have a grave impact on all aspects of life in the area surrounding Cannon.

Did you know that there are about 320 days of ideal flying weather in the Cannon and Clovis area? There is very little encroachment on flying space and Cannon itself. I am sure that the proposed expanded airspace for the New Mexico Air Training Initiative has been overlooked as well. This means that jets could fly lower and at supersonic speeds right here within just miles of the base. This in itself is a major perk for the Air Force.

These are just a few of the reasons that I think it would be in the best interest to keep Cannon Air Force Base alive and well in Eastern New Mexico.

Thank you for your time

Ricky J. Sain

DCN: 4872

Douglas A. and Patricia Lynn Houk
304 W Kathie Dr.
Clovis, NM 88101

To: BRAC Commission

I am writing this letter on a more personal note to convey our dismay that Cannon Air Force Base is on the list to be closed. I can recall my parents talking about when they opened their home up to personnel from the air base during World War II as they trained to be shipped out to Europe or the Pacific. At that time, there was a shortage of housing facilities for the men and women stationed at the base and the military asked the community of Clovis for help to house military personnel. This was no small inconvenience to my family, since we lived in a small 2 bedroom, 1 bath house but they answered the call to help and contribute to the war effort in any way they could. They housed many military men and their wives during the course of the War. They established many close relationships and friendships with the men and couples that stayed with them and I recall the letters and Christmas cards my folks received from these men and women over many years after the war was over. They became close friends and like family not only to my parents, but also to the Clovis community overall.

As I grew up, whenever the jets were flying, I was taught that was "the sound of freedom flying by" by my parents and the community. The point was that it was a privilege to hear the jets and not an imposition. Over the years since then and to this present day, Clovis has supported and welcomed Cannon Air Force Base as an integral part of our community, family, and friends. In today's world while many communities try to restrict air traffic or expansion of air fields, the Clovis and surrounding areas welcome it and try to promote it. I believe this is a very important fact and consideration that the commission needs to take into account. The Clovis and surrounding areas have a long history of supporting and promoting our national defense needs.

I am sure you will be getting letters outlining other important facts about Cannon Air Force Base such as unencumbered air space, availability of supersonic air space, weather that provides year round training capability; extremely close proximity to a bombing range and the resultant cost savings in fuel, maintenance, and increased training time. I'll leave that to the experts to further define. I don't believe that the Department of Defense could ask for better support for our national security needs than the Clovis community, surrounding areas, and the State of New Mexico have to offer.

Respectfully,

Douglas A. Houk

DCN: 4872

May. 19, 2005

BRAC commission
2521 South Clark St. su 600
Arlington, VA 22202
BRAC Commission recommendations

I am asking you to review the reasons I feel Cannon Air Force base should NOT be on the list of base closures

- Cannon has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer training for the pilots
- The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. This allows pilots to get airborne, and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range, rather than spending all of their fuel to get to the range.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year-round training ability.
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war fighting, training and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between cannon and the US Navy.
- Cannon has ample space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.
- The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, joint strike fighter, and other military aircraft.
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- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air force base for healthcare, shopping and more. There is not another installation nearby to serve our retired military.

DCN: 4872

The communities of Clovis and Portales have reached out and supported the base like no others. We've done so financially, morally, spiritually and consistently. We ask that you please reconsider your recommendation of closing Cannon Air Force base-we would truly be losing a good friend and a part of our family.

Warmest regards,

Leslie McCloud

Leslie McCloud

DCN: 4872

1404 Fairway Terrace
Clovis, N.M. 88101
May 23, 2005

Dear BRAC Commissioner:

Thank you for your willingness to read our letters, hear our concerns, and re-consider your very difficult decisions regarding military closures. I am writing on behalf of all of the citizens of New Mexico, as well as the hundreds of military personnel now in other locations who have been expressing their dismay at the announcement that Cannon Air Force Base is scheduled for closure.

We sincerely do not believe that all of the facts have been considered which confirm that Cannon AFB is now one of the military's most valued facilities and will become even more valuable in the future. When our troops return from foreign locales and when we continue to streamline and develop our training and flying missions, Cannon will be key due to the following assets which Cannon AFB possesses:

We have the most abundant air space in the country which has no encroachments and will have none in the future. This will provided space for training missions which will be implemented by the weather in our area which lends itself to year-round flying capabilities. Additionally, the N.M. Training Range Initiative which will be approved and in place this year will allow supersonic flying which will be invaluable to future training missions.

Cannon AFB has new runways and ample space for surge force requirements. Cannon is the ideal facility to support joint training missions, and the Melrose bombing range, one of Cannon's greatest assets for training, is seconds away from the base.

In addition to the great military value which Cannon will provide in the future of our national defense, the base is supported by the communities of Clovis, Portales, and the surrounding areas like no other facility anywhere in the country.

Please consider all of the facts with which you will be presented in the coming weeks and re-consider closing one of the Air Force's most valuable assets.

Thank you for your consideration,

Debra Harrell

Debra Harrell

DCN: 4872

1404 Fairway Terrace
Clovis, N.M. 88101
May 23, 2005

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Thank you for your consideration,

Debra Harrell

Debra Harrell

DCN: 4872

Dear BRAC Commission, 5-23-05

I am a resident of Clovis, NewMexico and retired from the United States Air Force, with over 21 years. On behalf of my family and many folks just like me in the community I can honestly say, by closing Cannon Air Force Base that would be a big mistake. Let me share with you a few reasons why: my first assignment with the Air Force was Cannon Air Force Base in May 1980, picture a young man coming from the big city of Phoenix, Arizona. Upon arrival I would have to admit a bit of culture shock, but the town was here with open arms and boy did they make you feel at home. After spending several years my career took me all over the world some places less than desirable. After spending many years and moving to different locations with my family, we decided to come back to Cannon AFB in 1993 and finish out my career and we new this is where we wanted to raise our family. The town and the base had such awesome relations that the transition back to civilian life would be fairly easy. In fact upon retirement I was offered a job with one of the local dealerships Hamilton Big Country Ford. Shortly, after my new career started as the Customer Relations Manager I new getting out and taking care of customers was for me. I soon was back out at Cannon attending their luncheons to recognize their "top performers" from the wing for their great accomplishments, but even more importantly to give back as I was treated for so many years. This community and Cannon AFB have a very special bond and relationship. Secondly, the many new facilities that were added during the F-111 build is tremendous, hangars with state of the art accommodations, new Air Traffic Control Tower, new Fire Department, Security Forces building, just recent ground breaking Aerospace Ground Equipment Facility (of which was my specialty) of which for so many years was RACC coded and schedule for tear down, the flight line, along with all it's back shops and refueling capabilities, in fact recognized as the "best in the Air Force" several times, but I guess this doesn't really matter. Finally, we our a community of farming and ranching, along with other major industries building up, but what's important is that the local ranchers that make up a huge portion of our state and have thousands of acres across this state are very supportive, which permits and allows the expansion of air space and year round training and flying. I know your committee will gather all the facts and upon doing so will find that Cannon Air Force Base has too many assets to be considered for closure.

Sincerely,

William Guhrke, Retired USAF
Customer Relations Manger

DCN: 4872

LOUISA MAESTAS

412 Heaslet
Clovis,NewmMexico 88101

May 21, 2005

COMMITTEE OF BRAC

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am a concerned citizen of the Home of the brave, CANNON AIR FORCE BASE the 27th Lethal War fighters of America. I have lived here in Clovis, New Mexico all my life of 56 Years AND PROUD OF IT.

We feel so secure with our base here in Clovis and just the thought of our base personal being relocated and the effect it would have on our town and our citizens is shocking. We want the security of our lives and in fact I strongly feel more bases are needed with this wars starting everywhere throughout our nation. Our lives and the security we feel with our armed forces is more important then trying to cut finances. Find a way to cut financial problems in some other way without these drastic measures.

Please. I implore you to reconsider the closure decision of the CANNON AIR FORCE BASE CLOSURE. Thank You,

Louisa Maestas

Louisa Maestas.

DCN: 4872

Keep Cannon [illegible] because
We need [illegible] with [illegible]
[illegible] closure [illegible]
like [illegible]
and [illegible] close down
[illegible]
So please [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

Thank you

Tony Pillemann

DCN: 4872

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www.VistaCare.com

May. 19, 2005

BRAC commission
2521 South Clark St. su 600
Arlington, VA 22202
BRAC Commission recommendations

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DCN: 4872

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Warmest regards,

Karla Lee
Executive Director

DCN: 4872

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Warmest regards,

Jackie Lara
Director of Public Relations

DCN: 4872

1404 Fairway Terrace
Clovis, N.M. 88101
May 23, 2005

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In addition to the great military value which Cannon will provide in the future of our national defense, the base is supported by the communities of Clovis, Portales, and the surrounding areas like no other facility anywhere in the country.

Please consider all of the facts with which you will be presented in the coming weeks and re-consider closing one of the Air Force's most valuable assets.

Thank you for your consideration,

Debra Harrell

Debra Harrell

DCN: 4872

JOHN C. URBAN

May 23, 2005

Hon. Philip Coyle
The BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark St Ste 600
Arlington VA 22202

Dear Mr. Coyle:

On May 18, I had the pleasure of writing to you expressing concern over the proposed closure of Cannon Air Force Base near Clovis, New Mexico. Now, we have learned of your scheduled visit to conduct a regional hearing June 24 in Clovis. We want you to know we welcome this visit with open arms. You are faced with a very difficult task and we hope you as well the other commissioners will be able to be with us.

The content of my letter raised the fear that some of the vital facts concerning Cannon's military value may have been erroneously omitted resulting in negative evaluation. If you come to Clovis next month, you should be able to see first-hand the importance of Cannon's presence locally and militarily. Further, once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is implemented, we will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions. This is very important as it allows the Air Force to better

2111 GIDDING ST.
P.O. BOX 2020
CLOVIS NM 88102-2020

PHONE: (505) 763-3127
FAX: (505) 763-3938
EMAIL: JURBAN3@COX.NET

train for real life situations.

The relationships between Cannon and the surrounding communities of Clovis and Portales, as well as with communities in West Texas, are unlike any other installation in the country. These communities are home to a large contingent of military retirees. They rely on Cannon for healthcare, grocery shopping and more. They will be hard-pressed to find another installation close by to serve their needs.

In summary, the community has reached out and supported Cannon like no other community over the past 50 years. We have done this financially, morally, spiritually and, above all, consistently.

Thank you again for this additional opportunity to correspond with you concerning this vital matter.

Sincerely,

John C. Urban

DCN: 4872

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Arlington VA 22202

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John C. Urban

DCN: 4872

1404 Fairway Terrace
Clovis, N.M. 88101
May 23, 2005

Dear BRAC Commissioner:

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We sincerely do not believe that all of the facts have been considered which confirm that Cannon AFB is now one of the military's most valued facilities and will become even more valuable in the future. When our troops return from foreign locales and when we continue to streamline and develop our training and flying missions, Cannon will be key due to the following assets which Cannon AFB possesses:

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Please consider all of the facts with which you will be presented in the coming weeks and re-consider closing one of the Air Force's most valuable assets.

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Thank you for your consideration,

Debra Harrell

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DCN: 4872

May 23, 2005

Re: Closure of Cannon Air Force Base, Clovis, N.M.

Dear BRAC Commission;

I have lived in Clovis off and on for almost 36 years. Born in Friona Texas and moved here months after, the majority of my family still live here in Clovis. We have all moved away and almost all of us have returned there. For me the reasons I moved back here from Colorado in 1999 after my divorce are these: my family and the feeling of safety and security in our community with everything going on in the world in these days and times.

Please dont get me wrong, Clovis has its problems with Crimes, drugs and violence just like everyone one else does, but because of Cannon AFB we can all sleep a little Easier, and enjoy time spent outside with our Children and loved ones knowing that our Air space will not be invaded by some Crazy person from only god knows where, crashing a plane into our homes or schools.

So, Please I beg of you to reconsider the Closure of Our Base, As the mother of 2 boys, raising them alone is scary enough, let me have the piece of mind that we are safe

DCN: 4872

And we will continue to be safe because we live in Clovis, N.M. the home of Cannon Air Force Base.

My sons and my self include Cannon and all of the family, our friends, co-workers, and neighbors in our prayers every night, so that they may be allowed to stay here with us in all of our homes Clovis, N.M.

Please removed Cannon AFB from the list, so we can all have the piece of mind of knowing where we will be this time next year!

Sincerely,

Anna Marie Hunt
Clovis/Cannon N.M.

DCN: 4872

May 23, 2005

To: The Honorable Philip Coyle, BRAC Commissioner

RE: Proposed Closing of Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Commissioner Coyle,

I am writing this letter in support to keep Cannon Air Force Base open and active. I am a member of the Committee of Fifty and I was totally shocked to learn that Cannon was on the BRAC list to close. Cannon has won countless awards from ACC for outstanding performance in a large variety of categories (2003 to present) including the Installation Excellence Award. Cannon has fought in every war since Korea and continues to serve in Iraq today. I have carefully studied the criteria stated by the DoD for the BRAC commission's consideration. It's obvious they missed something.

According to General Gary W. Heckman, who was involved in making the Pentagon's list, criteria for base comparisons included quality and number of training ranges, a population base to support National Guard and reserve units and the economic impact on the surrounding area.

-Cannon has a large bombing range (Melrose Bombing Range) just seconds from the end of the runways and the proposed and soon to be

approved New Mexico Training Range Initiative (NMTRI) supersonic training range adjacent to Melrose Bombing Range.

-Once a Year, Cannon participates in joint service training in operation "Roving Sands"

-Cannon has the excess space and facilities needed to support an additional mission.

-Cannon also has surge capabilities in case of an emergency.

-Cannon has all of these amenities with no encroachments.

The City of Clovis is 6 miles east and growing to the east instead of west toward the base facility and ranges.

-Over $53 million has been appropriated and spent on infrastructure including runways, a new control tower, a new fire station, a new security police facility, and many other projects since 2000.

-Our community has purchased land north of the base and given it to the Air Force for hundreds of base housing units (which were built). Our community has also purchased land at the ends of the runways and given it to the Air Force in order to never allow encroachments.

As for economic impact on the surrounding area, According to the figures, under this closing, our community would lose between 20 and 26% of the jobs in our area. This would devastate our economy which has just started to turn the

corner, after decades of little or no growth. Percentage wise, this would be the largest negative impact of any community on the 2005 BRAC list. The next closest negative impact is about half of this.

To summarize, Cannon has very high military value according to the Pentagon's own criteria and the economic impact on our community is almost twice as high as any other closure in the BRAC list. What went wrong?

When the announcement was made that Cannon was on the list, the real estate market in Clovis stopped dead in it's tracks.

I am sincerely asking you to please vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the recommended closure list.

Thanks so much for your consideration,

John Bourne

John Bourne

Keep Cannon Open we need
Cannon to live like we need
the heart to live. Cannon is
like our heart every time some
thing bad happens your heart starts
to hort and If they shot Cannon
AFB It Just like dieing but
It is very Sad [illegible]

Keep Cannon Air Force Base
Open

Thank you
Anthony Perez

DCN: 4872

DCN: 4872

Keep on Cannon open some people
are getting sick and tired of
getting [illegible]

[illegible] All over the
USA their our bases to
support their countries. I know
we are in war but some
people are dying and dying
how! each [illegible]
[illegible]
here! I love cannon so
Please keep it open

Thank you

Miranda Robles

DCN: 4872

Please keep [illegible] open because
Clovis will be [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
and [illegible] Cannon AFB
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
be open [illegible] Clovis. [illegible]
Cannon [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

DCN: 4872

Keep Cannon [illegible]
Cannon to [illegible] like [illegible]
[illegible] some people [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] close [illegible] down [illegible]
[illegible] are going [illegible]
[illegible]
the streets [illegible]
of [illegible]
[illegible] Cannon [illegible]

Thank you
Patty Salsbury

DCN: 4872

JOHN C. URBAN

May 23, 2005

Hon. James H. Bilbray
The BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark St Ste 600
Arlington VA 22202

Dear Mr. Bilbray:

On May 18, I had the pleasure of writing to you expressing concern over the proposed closure of Cannon Air Force Base near Clovis, New Mexico. Now, we have learned of your scheduled visit to conduct a regional hearing June 24 in Clovis. We want you to know we welcome this visit with open arms. You are faced with a very difficult task and we hope you as well the other commissioners will be able to be with us.

The content of my letter raised the fear that some of the vital facts concerning Cannon's military value may have been erroneously omitted resulting in negative evaluation. If you come to Clovis next month, you should be able to see first-hand the importance of Cannon's presence locally and militarily. Further, once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is implemented, we will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions. This is very important as it allows the Air Force to better

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The relationships between Cannon and the surrounding communities of Clovis and Portales, as well as with communities in West Texas, are unlike any other installation in the country. These communities are home to a large contingent of military retirees. They rely on Cannon for healthcare, grocery shopping and more. They will be hard-pressed to find another installation close by to serve their needs.

In summary, the community has reached out and supported Cannon like no other community over the past 50 years. We have done this financially, morally, spiritually and, above all, consistently.

Thank you again for this additional opportunity to correspond with you concerning this vital matter.

Sincerely,

John C. Urban

DCN: 4872

5-20-2005

Candace Baros
1420 S Globe
Portales, NM 88130

General James T. Hill

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

I do not believe the Commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, and ideal year-round flying weather, among many others.

In addition to the military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the last 50 years by the local communities like no other in the country. We consider Cannon 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, plus the ripple effect that we will have on our public and higher education systems.

Please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

CBaros

DCN: 4872

May 29, 2005

Ardyth Elms
716 Dawn Loop
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

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

To Whom It May Concern;

I was born in Clovis, New Mexico and as long as I can remember, Cannon Air Force Base has been a part of our community. I can't imagine not seeing the members of the air force at the mall or in church. We, As a Community, have supported Cannon since it was implemented 50 years ago. This area has so much to offer the air force like the weather in eastern New Mexico which provides year round training ability. The Melrose bombing range is only a second from Cannon and once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is implemented, we will be able to offer the pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions. Cannon has won countless awards, both on ACC levels, Air Force and NAF levels, and national and STAT levels. We are proud of our relationship between Cannon and the surrounding towns; Clovis, Portales, West Texas and other smaller communities. Please save Cannon and our community.

Sincerely,

Ardyth Elms

Ardyth Elms

May 20, 2005

Dear BRAC Commission

I am not a member of the military nor is anyone in my immediate family, but we have numerous relatives and even more friends who are. We believe that the Pentagon has made a terrible mistake by adding CAFB to the list for closure.

Friends whom are enlisted members are ready to do whatever our government says they must do, but their hearts and livelihood belong here in Clovis. I have one friend in particular whose son is ill. She has tried to keep up with school, homework, housework, being a wife, and the best mother her children deserve. With our base being put on the list for closing, it has put her and her family through a period of not knowing how to handle their son's problem. He will need to have surgery no matter where they live; I'd just really like to be there for them when the time comes. When they first came to Clovis, it took time for them to get comfortable here; but know they call it home. I do realize that if we do stay on the list it will be awhile before the base actually closes, but to me it's like waiting for someone with cancer to pass away. Please don't take my friends away!!

Besides my own selfish needs for my friends, there are real reasons why CAFB should of not been placed on the list such as: we do not fit the criteria provided for closure, we have an abundance of air space to provide more realistic training, supersonic airspace allows training for real-life situations, the bombing range is seconds away from the runway, and the weather here provides year round training ability.

I know you will get numerous letters like this. I pray that they all mention the outstanding relationship the base has with the surrounding towns. Please also keep in mind that Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a very large number of military retirees. All of these people who have fought for our country are now fighting to keep to CAFB for a place to get adequate healthcare, a place to shop, get groceries and much more.

Please BRAC, fight for our community. We are doing everything we can, but we need and beg for your help in our effort to be removed from the closure list.

Sincerely

Brian Page
Concerned Clovis Citizen

DCN: 4872

CIPRIANO ENCINIAS, JR.
621 W. 18TH STREET
CLOVIS, NM 88101

May 27, 2005

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

RE: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Commissioner Skinner:

I am writing this letter in an attempt to change your mind and remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC list. I have lived here in Clovis all of my life, being 40 years. I have an excellent job with a cellular company which provides benefits for me and three children. Closing the base would impact our population, thus affect the number of customers our company serves. I'm not certain where else I could work in Clovis and still afford to pay benefits for three minor children.

Please pray about your decision before casting your vote. I urge you to allow us to **keep Cannon Air Force Base!**

Sincerely,

Cipriano Encinias, Jr.

DCN: 4872

We need Cannon to stay open

We need Cannon because Cannon

was one only hope for military

People to have a home to fight

for since not [illegible]

Countries like Arizona, or California

Cannon AFB was [illegible]

People volunteer to help close

They wanted to be in the

Military so [illegible]

the Nation [illegible]

Thank you

Annette Robles

DCN: 4872

DATE: May 21, 2005

TO: BRAC

FROM: Lila Lucero

Dear Ladies and Gentleman

I am writing this letter in regards to the closing of Cannon Air Force Base and how it would be a very big mistake to close the base at this time in the world of terrorist and how it would affect the whole nation. It sure would be a very drastic decision in this terrible time of war and misunderstanding of our country situations that are on going.

I am only a fraction of one of the very concerned citizen of Clovis New Mexico as I have lived here all my life. And It makes me very sad and optimistic about all our leaders that seem to not care about the nations ongoing terrorist and war situations. It is very scary to know that our leaders of this nation are putting the whole world in a bind and not taking all the percussions that need to be made.

Instead they are trying to save **money**! At our expense, and I believe that all our lives are more important then **money** at any situation no matter what it is, and at this moment and time, we need all our bases, including Cannon and all the others that are on the list of base closures.

Sincerely:

Lila Lucero

Lila Lucero

DCN: 4872

JOHN C. URBAN

May 23, 2005

Hon. Anthony J. Principi, Chair
The BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark St Ste 600
Arlington VA 22202

Dear Mr. Principi:

On May 18, I had the pleasure of writing to you expressing concern over the proposed closure of Cannon Air Force Base near Clovis, New Mexico. Now, we have learned of your scheduled visit to conduct a regional hearing June 24 in Clovis. We want you to know we welcome this visit with open arms. You are faced with a very difficult task and we hope you as well the other commissioners will be able to be with us.

The content of my letter raised the fear that some of the vital facts concerning Cannon's military value may have been erroneously omitted resulting in negative evaluation. If you come to Clovis next month, you should be able to see first-hand the importance of Cannon's presence locally and militarily. Further, once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is implemented, we will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions. This is very important as it allows the Air Force to better

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Thank you again for this additional opportunity to correspond with you concerning this vital matter.

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John C. Urban

DCN: 4872

JOHN C. URBAN

May 23, 2005

General Lloyd W. Newton (USAF Ret)
The BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark St Ste 600
Arlington VA 22202

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DCN: 4872

JOHN C. URBAN

May 23, 2005

Hon. James V. Hansen
The BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark St Ste 600
Arlington VA 22202

Dear Mr. Hansen:

On May 18, I had the pleasure of writing to you expressing concern over the proposed closure of Cannon Air Force Base near Clovis, New Mexico. Now, we have learned of your scheduled visit to conduct a regional hearing June 24 in Clovis. We want you to know we welcome this visit with open arms. You are faced with a very difficult task and we hope you as well the other commissioners will be able to be with us.

The content of my letter raised the fear that some of the vital facts concerning Cannon's military value may have been erroneously omitted resulting in negative evaluation. If you come to Clovis next month, you should be able to see first-hand the importance of Cannon's presence locally and militarily. Further, once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is implemented, we will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions. This is very important as it allows the Air Force to better

211 GIDDING ST.
P.O. BOX 2020
CLOVIS NM 88102-2020

PHONE: (505) 763-3127
FAX: (505) 763-3938
EMAIL: JURBAN3@COX.NET

train for real life situations.

The relationships between Cannon and the surrounding communities of Clovis and Portales, as well as with communities in West Texas, are unlike any other installation in the country. These communities are home to a large contingent of military retirees. They rely on Cannon for healthcare, grocery shopping and more. They will be hard-pressed to find another installation close by to serve their needs.

In summary, the community has reached out and supported Cannon like no other community over the past 50 years. We have done this financially, morally, spiritually and, above all, consistently.

Thank you again for this additional opportunity to correspond with you concerning this vital matter.

Sincerely,

John C. Urban

DCN: 4872

JOHN C. URBAN

May 23, 2005

General James T. Hill (USA, Ret)
The BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark St Ste 600
Arlington VA 22202

Dear General Hill:

On May 18, I had the pleasure of writing to you expressing concern over the proposed closure of Cannon Air Force Base near Clovis, New Mexico. Now, we have learned of your scheduled visit to conduct a regional hearing June 24 in Clovis. We want you to know we welcome this visit with open arms. You are faced with a very difficult task and we hope you as well the other commissioners will be able to be with us.

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Brigadier General Sue E. Turner (USAF Ret)
The BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark St Ste 600
Arlington VA 22202

Dear General Turner:

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John C. Urban

DCN: 4872

JOHN C. URBAN

May 23, 2005

Admiral Harold W. Gehman Jr., (Ret)
The BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark St Ste 600
Arlington VA 22202

Dear Admiral Gehman:

On May 18, I had the pleasure of writing to you expressing concern over the proposed closure of Cannon Air Force Base near Clovis, New Mexico. Now, we have learned of your scheduled visit to conduct a regional hearing June 24 in Clovis. We want you to know we welcome this visit with open arms. You are faced with a very difficult task and we hope you as well the other commissioners will be able to be with us.

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Sincerely,

John C. Urban

DCN: 4872

DEAR SIRS I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING ARE MILITARY BASE TO STAY OPEN WITH SOME REALIGNMENT——NEXT TIME THE BASE REALIGNMENT & CLOSURE COMES BACK

I WOULD LOVE TO SEE AT NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE GET A MIX OF A B1 AND B52 BOMBER SQUADRON. WING HALF B1 BOMBERS AND HALF B52 BOMBERS

NEXT TIME YOU GET TO GETHER CAN YOU PLEASE DO THIS OK

WRIGHT BACK SOON

OK

THANK YOU

I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW THAT YOU GOT MY LETTER.

DCN: 4872

To Whom it may concern:

Concerning B.R.A.C

- Cannon has unlimited flying space.
- Cannon has one of the largest USA bombing ranges.
- Cannon is a supersonic base.
- The community is willing to meet the needs of Cannon
- Cannon has always adapted to new aircraft & their changing defense roles.
- Many bases have been closed in the surrounding area of Cannon over the years.
- Cannon has a large impact on Eastern NM and West Texas, including Lubbock and Amarillo.
- Closure of Walker AFB in Roswell, NM (a city larger than Clovis, NM) had a detrimental effect on Roswell, which lasted for many years.
- The closure of Cannon AFB would cause a loss of 21% of the area work force, which would also be devastating for Clovis, NM and surrounding communities.
- Cannon AFB impacts everyone at First Christian Church & the surrounding community.
- Cannon AFB does not fit the criteria for base closure

Sincerely,
G J Canada
Zola Canada

DCN: 4872

CIPRIANO ENCINIAS, JR.
621 W. 18TH STREET
CLOVIS, NM 88101

May 27, 2005

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

RE: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

I am writing this letter in an attempt to change your mind and remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC list. I have lived here in Clovis all of my life, being 40 years. I have an excellent job with a cellular company which provides benefits for me and three children. Closing the base would impact our population, thus affect the number of customers our company serves. I'm not certain where else I could work in Clovis and still afford to pay benefits for three minor children.

Please pray about your decision before casting your vote. I urge you to allow us to **keep Cannon Air Force Base!**

Sincerely,

Cipriano Encinias, Jr.

DCN: 4872

5-20-2005

Candace Baros
1420 S Globe
Portales, NM 88130

The Honorable James V. Hansen

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

I do not believe the Commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, and ideal year-round flying weather, among many others.

In addition to the military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the last 50 years by the local communities like no other in the country. We consider Cannon 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, plus the ripple effect that we will have on our public and higher education systems.

Please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

DCN: 4872

GINA GUTIERREZ
2700 HAMMOND BLVD.
CLOVIS, NM 88101
505-799-1881

May 27, 2005

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

RE: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Brigadier General Turner:

I've given this letter much thought. I originally thought I'd list all of the pros for keeping Cannon Air Force Base open and getting it off of the BRAC list and the cons for closing it, but I'm certain you've received several of those types of letters already.

I was born and raised here in good 'ol Clovis, New Mexico and I had every intention of raising my son here and sticking around to see my grandchildren raised here because it's a safe, comfortable place to be. But if the base is closed, then where will our family go? What will happen to our community? Will stores and business slowly close down? What about my son's elementary school and our church? Will we have enough people left behind to keep them open?

I don't have an economics degree or a crystal ball. What I do know is that God is in control and that myself, and several other people are praying for one thing...GOD'S WILL! God has a plan for Clovis and I trust that His will shall be done. I am praying for each of you as well, that you be still and know that He is still God!

Bottom line intention of this letter is to ask one thing of each of you. *Please pray about your decision as regards Cannon Air Force Base!* Please clear your minds of personal issues, agendas and politics. Before you cast your vote, please pray about your decision. If you don't have peace about it, then know you are making the wrong decision. If you have peace, regardless of what your decision is, so long as you have peace know that you did the right thing!

Know that I am praying for each one of you by name, that you be blessed for doing God's will as you ***pray about your decision regarding Cannon Air Force Base.***

Sincerely,

Gina Gutierrez

Gina Gutierrez

DCN: 4872

5-20-2005

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1420 S Globe
Portales, NM 88130

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner

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

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In addition to the military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the last 50 years by the local communities like no other in the country. We consider Cannon 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, plus the ripple effect that we will have on our public and higher education systems.

Please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

C Baros

DCN: 4872

Dear Sirs,

I am writing your commission this letter in hopes that you will re-consider your decision on closing Cannon Air Force Base. Clovis, New Mexico, and several of the surrounding communities including Farwell, Texas where I live would suffer a tremendous loss if you decide to close Cannon. Not only would my husband, aunt, uncle, and several of my close friends lose their jobs, but the United States of America would lose an awesome ~~[illegible]~~ war power machine! It is my understanding that some of our Pilots and F16s were the first to drop some of the bombs when we started the war in Iraq. The people here in our community are willing to do everything we can to keep Cannon ~~[illegible]~~ here in our home town. There is nothing like the ~~[illegible]~~ sound and the sight of seeing F16s flying over your home knowing that that is the sound and sight of our freedom! Please don't let us lose that! Thank you!

"JET NOISE - THE SOUND of FREEDOM" Aimee Hermes

DCN: 4872

May 23, 2005

James W. Jones
3220 Duckworth Ave.
Clovis, NM 88101

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi

I'm very concerned about the BRAC Commission's decision to close Cannon Air Base in New Mexico.

I do not believe the Commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away , the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds and ideal year-round flying weather just to name a few reasons to keep Cannon open.

In addition to the other military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the past 50 years by the local communities like no other in the country. With Portales close by. We consider Cannon 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 it's workforce, plus the ripple down effect that we will have on our public and higher education systems. The schools will lose state funding due to the lack of students in our classes, reason being military students being moved away.

Please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

James W Jones

May 31, 2005

DCN: 4872

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

Gentlemen,

Please reconsider and take Cannon AFB off the closure list.
No doubt, it will hurt everyone, one way or another.
We have an airspace with no encroachments. We have great year-round weather for flying conditions. Melrose Bombing Range is only seconds away. We have new runways on the base. There is ample space and ramp space for surge force requirements. Support of training missions for F-22, joint strike fighter, etc. Award-winning base on ACC, Air Force and NAF levels. We have a great relationship with the communities of Clovis, Portales and surrounding areas.
Community facts:
Large military retiree population within a 150 mile radius.
$60 million expansion to Plains Regional Medical Center with New Heart and Cancer wings, 10,000 sq. ft. rehab Center.
Expansion to Clovis Community College and Eastern NM University - Classes offered on Base.
Ample housing needs.
If the Base closes, we will be a ghost town. It will cause the value of our hard earned homes to decrease.
It will be devastating to our wonderful churches! and our schools!
Please, Please, reconsider!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Peggy Cates
2201 Rucksworth
Clovis, N.M. 88101

DCN: 4872

May 27, 2005

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

Dear Sirs,

I know you have already received thousands of letters asking you to reconsider your recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base. We in Clovis know the effects on our community will be devastating. Already we are feeling the crunch. Just a few short weeks ago my home could have sold for $105,000.00. Today, it would sell for $75,000, maybe. That's a personal loss of $30,000 and at this time it's only a suggestion that Cannon will close. Our community struggled through when the base downsized a few years ago and just recently began to boom with new business coming in and new homes being built. It felt really good here for a couple months but all new home starts have been suspended.

Our community has always supported Cannon. Several times Clovis has purchased land to donate to Cannon. Cannon has plenty of space to expand and our community has always been supportive in their efforts. Leaders in our community spear-headed the effort to expand and convert the air space to supersonic capability through the New Mexico Training Range Initiative. Many businesses give discounts to service personnel. We love Cannon and Cannon loves Clovis.

In this day of gas shortages and rising costs, the fact that Cannon is seconds from the Melrose bombing range certainly must be considered as very important. Pilots get airborne and begin training operations over the bombing range immediately. The location of other bases makes it necessary for the plane to use half it's fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, then it must return to the base.

I appreciate the time it took for you to read this letter and the many more you have received. Please keep us in mind as individuals. Our future is in your hands.

Sincerely,

Linda Burbey
3117 Duckworth Ave
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4872

To Whom it may concern:

Concerning B.R.A.C

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- Cannon AFB impacts everyone at First Christian Church & the surrounding community.
- Cannon AFB does not fit the criteria for base closure

Sincerely,
G J Canada
Zala Canada

DCN: 4872

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Sincerely,
G J Canada
Zola Canada

DCN: 4872

31 May 2005

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

Dear BRAC Commissioners

I am a United States Air Force Civil Service employee at Cannon AFB NM and am also the spouse of a United States Air Force retiree. My husband and I wish to address the impact that closing Cannon AFB would have on the Portales and Clovis NM communities.

We clearly understand the need to reduce government spending; but at what cost? The impact on the local communities would be disastrous. Somewhat rural and without interstate access, both communities rely primarily on Cannon AFB for employment and economic growth.

The Portales and Clovis NM communities have always stepped forward offering total support to Cannon AFB personnel. My husband and I have been stationed all over the world, and were stationed twice at Cannon AFB. Never have we found other communities that made us feel as proud to be members of the Armed Forces the way that Clovis and Portales communities do. We elected to retire here because of the people; we admire their patriotic values and wiliness to support our deployed.

The geographic location of Cannon AFB is one of the most ideal for fulfilling flying mission requirements. An unrestricted airspace and temperate climate ensure Cannon's planes are in the air and ready to defend our most important assets--people. Planes can fly 24/7; adjacent land will allow for base expansion.

Please consider removal of Cannon AFB NM from the BRAC closure list.

Phillip and MaryLou Johnston
2201 Putnam Drive
Clovis, NM 88101

OPERATION KEEP CANNON

To the distinguished BRAC committee,

We are the communities of Curry and Roosevelt County that have had the honor of having Cannon Air Force Base a part of our community for more than 50 years. There are many reasons that Cannon should NOT be on the BRAC list.

Some of the things are the abundance of air space, void of any encroachment issues. The future use of super sonic fly space, the fabulous weather that permits a year round training ability, In addition, the Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon, which allows pilots to get airborne and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range, rather than spending all of their fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, then returning to the base.

Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy. Cannon has won countless awards, both on the ACC level, Air Force and NAF levels, and national and STAT levels.

In the early 90's, Curry County, in conjunction with the state of New Mexico purchased air easements around Cannon Air Force Base and GAVE them to the Air Force. This was done to protect that air space from encroachments and was an important issue for the Air Force as it is today. The local community purchased land North of Cannon Air Force Base and GAVE it back to the Air Force for additional housing, now known as Chavez Manor. Within the last few years, our community purchased land west of Cannon and GAVE it back to the Air Force for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at the base.

As hopefully you will personally witness, the relationship between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding towns: Clovis, Portales, Lubbock, Amarillo and many others is UNLIKE ANY OTHER INSTALLATION IN THE COUNTRY. These towns are home to large military retiree populations which rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping and more.

Our community has reached out and supported the base like no other community over the past 50 years. We've done so financially, morally, spiritually and above all, consistently. We are proud, honored and blessed to have Cannon Air Force Base and will stand behind it and everything it stands for every step of the way.

Sincerely,

Lynn Cleveland

DCN: 4872

GINA GUTIERREZ
2700 HAMMOND BLVD.
CLOVIS, NM 88101
505-799-1881

May 27, 2005

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

RE: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Commissioner Skinner:

I've given this letter much thought. I originally thought I'd list all of the pros for keeping Cannon Air Force Base open and getting it off of the BRAC list and the cons for closing it, but I'm certain you've received several of those types of letters already.

I was born and raised here in good 'ol Clovis, New Mexico and I had every intention of raising my son here and sticking around to see my grandchildren raised here because it's a safe, comfortable place to be. But if the base is closed, then where will our family go? What will happen to our community? Will stores and business slowly close down? What about my son's elementary school and our church? Will we have enough people left behind to keep them open?

I don't have an economics degree or a crystal ball. What I do know is that God is in control and that myself, and several other people are praying for one thing...GOD'S WILL! God has a plan for Clovis and I trust that His will shall be done. I am praying for each of you as well, that you be still and know that He is still God!

Bottom line intention of this letter is to ask one thing of each of you. *Please pray about your decision as regards Cannon Air Force Base!* Please clear your minds of personal issues, agendas and politics. Before you cast your vote, please pray about your decision. If you don't have peace about it, then know you are making the wrong decision. If you have peace, regardless of what your decision is, so long as you have peace know that you did the right thing!

Know that I am praying for each one of you by name, that you be blessed for doing God's will as you ***pray about your decision regarding Cannon Air Force Base.***

Sincerely,

Gina Gutierrez

DCN: 4872

GINA GUTIERREZ
2700 HAMMOND BLVD.
CLOVIS, NM 88101
505-799-1881

May 27, 2005

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

RE: Cannon Air Force Base

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Sincerely,

Gina Gutierrez

Gina Gutierrez

DCN: 4872

5-20-2005

Candace Baros
1420 S Globe
Portales, NM 88130

The Honorable Phillip Coyle

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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, plus the ripple effect that we will have on our public and higher education systems.

Please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

C Baros

DCN: 4872

GINA GUTIERREZ
2700 HAMMOND BLVD.
CLOVIS, NM 88101
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2521 South Clark Street
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Dear Chairman Principi:

I've given this letter much thought. I originally thought I'd list all of the pros for keeping Cannon Air Force Base open and getting it off of the BRAC list and the cons for closing it, but I'm certain you've received several of those types of letters already.

I was born and raised here in good 'ol Clovis, New Mexico and I had every intention of raising my son here and sticking around to see my grandchildren raised here because it's a safe, comfortable place to be. But if the base is closed, then where will our family go? What will happen to our community? Will stores and business slowly close down? What about my son's elementary school and our church? Will we have enough people left behind to keep them open?

I don't have an economics degree or a crystal ball. What I do know is that God is in control and that myself, and several other people are praying for one thing...GOD'S WILL! God has a plan for Clovis and I trust that His will shall be done. I am praying for each of you as well, that you be still and know that He is still God!

Bottom line intention of this letter is to ask one thing of each of you. *Please pray about your decision as regards Cannon Air Force Base!* Please clear your minds of personal issues, agendas and politics. Before you cast your vote, please pray about your decision. If you don't have peace about it, then know you are making the wrong decision. If you have peace, regardless of what your decision is, so long as you have peace know that you did the right thing!

Know that I am praying for each one of you by name, that you be blessed for doing God's will as you ***pray about your decision regarding Cannon Air Force Base.***

Sincerely,

Gina Gutierrez

DCN: 4872

May 19, 2005

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

Dear Honorable Hansen,

I am writing this letter to communicate my concerns about the possible closing of Cannon Air Force Base. Please understand that Cannon, Portales, and Clovis are one community. To dismantle the community would be devastating to the entire eastern side of New Mexico.

My husband and I moved to this area 4 years ago because of our relationship to the University and the relationship to the air base. The quality of life is enhanced on this side of the state because of the diversity of the personnel at the base. Quality of life cannot be replaced by any government economic disaster program.

Next week, I will have the honor of attending the National Security Forum. This is an educational experience that I will share with my family and friends in several areas of the country. This would not have been possible if we did not have Cannon down the road.

I know other communities have reasons to keep their installation, but I believe if you study the facts, you will readily see why it is imperative Cannon remains open.

Military value should encompass more than the BRAC group considered. It should include opportunity for future expansion. Luke cannot provide the opportunity for expansion. Our weather is great, our air space is available, our citizens want the base and our future deserves it.

I appreciate your listening to our plea. We look forward to seeing you when you come to our area.

Sincerely yours,

Ronnie Birdsong

Ronnie M. Birdsong

DCN: 4872

5-20-05

H. Charles Reader
1724 Imperial Ct.
Clovis, NM 88101

General Lloyd W. Newton,

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

I do not believe the Commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly supersonic speeds, and ideal year-round flying weather, among many others.

In addition to the military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the last 50 years by the local communities like no other in the country. The local community purchased the land north of Cannon and gave it back to the Air Force for additional housing.

The local community purchased land west of Cannon and gave it back to the Air Force for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at the base.

The entire area, including Amarillo and Lubbock, is home to a large military retiree population. These retirees rely on Cannon for healthcare, grocery shopping and more. There is not another installation close by to serve retired military.

Please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

H. Charles Reader

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

May 19, 2005

Don Chang
PO Box 544
Portales NM 88130

RECEIVED 5/25/05

General James T. Hill.

I write to you with great concern regarding the closure of Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico.

I am a resident of Portales, New Mexico, which is a small rural town located near Cannon. I realize the BRAC Commission's decision to close the base may seem necessary but it will greatly affect the economy of Clovis, Portales and the surrounding communities. The many service men, women and their families greatly ~~in the aid of~~ aid in our economy. In my opinion this translates to more unemployment for Americans

DCN: 4872

May 18, 2005

Don Chase
Po Box 544
Portales NM 88130

General Lloyd W. Newton

RECEIVED 5/23/05

I write to you with great concern regarding the closure of Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico.

I am a resident of Portales, New Mexico, a small rural town located near Cannon Air Force Base. I realize that the BRAC Commission's decision to close Cannon may seem necessary but it will greatly affect the economy of Clovis, Portales, and the surrounding areas. The many service men, women & their families greatly aid in the economy of our town of $14,000. Closing of the base will translate, in my opinion to more unemployed Americans and world force

May 19, 2005

DCN: 4872

David Chaya
Po Box 544
Portales NM 88130

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner

I write to you with great concern regarding the closure of Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis New Mexico.

I am a resident of Portales ~~Air~~ New Mexico, a small rural community ~~on~~ near Cannon. I realize that the BRAC Commission's decision to close Cannon may seem necessary but it will have a great negative affect on our community, and the surrounding communities. The many service men ~~and~~ women and their families greatly aid in the economy of our town of 14,000 residents. Closure of Cannon would also mean closure of many home ~~ow~~ owned businesses. In my opinion this translates to more unemployed Americans and would force us to seek employment in other communities.

RECEIVED 5/25/05

May 19, 2005

DCN: 4872

~~The~~ Don Chaney
PO Box 544
Portales NM 88130

RECEIVED 5/23/05

The Honorable James H. Bilbray

I write to you today with great concerns regarding the closure of Cannon Air Force Base.

I am a resident of Portales New Mexico, which is a small rural town near Cannon. I realize that the BRAC Commission's decision to close Cannon may seem necessary, but it will greatly affect the economy of Clovis, Portales and the surrounding areas. The many service men, women and their families greatly aid in the existing economy & closure will squash that economy. Closure of Cannon, in my opinion, translates

DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

Nikie Bonner
20 NM Hwy 467
Portales, NM 88130

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner,

This letter comes to you with my concern about the BRAC Commission's decision to close Cannon Air Force Base.

With all due respect for our military and the leaders who make these decisions, I wish to express my concern for the need of our community as well as the need of our Nation to have Cannon remain an Active Air Base. We have a climate that does allow for year-round flying and the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, as well as a bombing range that is within flying seconds from the air base. Cannon has the space and facilities to provide training for warfare readiness. We have been the home to many diverse aircraft and also will be capable of facilities and training to any new aircraft that could come.

Cannon does not fit the base closure criteria. Technology and implementation of training as well as the climate and airspace make Cannon a unique asset to our military and it would be a tragic mistake to close the base before taking all the benefits into account of keeping Cannon Air Force Base open.

The location of Cannon Air Force Base provides its own unique set of positive attributes. Our nation is not protected nearly enough Inland as it is on the Coastal regions. Those great leaders who have designed and planned the location of Cannon Air Force Base were intelligent in their decision to protect the central part of the United States with the Air Base located in Clovis New Mexico.

Your thoughts and influence are extremely important to this decision, and I will personally be praying for you and your ability to make a difference.

Respectfully Yours,

Nikie Bonner

Nikie Bonner

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

Judy Privett
ENMU Station 9
Portales, NM 88130

The Honorable James H. Bilbray,

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

I do not believe the Commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, and ideal year-around flying weather.

In addition to the military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the last 50 years by the local communities like no other in the country. Clovis, Portales, and surrounding communities consider Cannon 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, plus the ripple effect that we will have on our public and higher education systems.

Please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision.

Sincerely,

Judy Privett

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

Mary Watson
355 South Roosevelt Road Z
Portales, NM 88130

The Honorable James V. Hansen,

I would like the BRAC Commission to reconsider the decision to close Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico. There are many factors that need to be re-evaluated which include: an abundance of air space with no encroachment issues, a bombing range within miles, airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, ideal year-around flying weather, facilities for warfare training and readiness, and ample space for training and emergency situations. Looking at these factors long term, Cannon Air Force base should be expanding their operations to help secure a stronger nation.

The local community has truly supported Cannon during the past 50 years. During this time, Clovis has purchased air easements to protect the air space from encroachment, and land for additional housing as well as land for the installation of instrument lighting. Having traveled to many military bases, due to active family members, I have seen the difference in the way communities respond to having bases outside their backdoors. Clovis, Portales, and surrounding communities truly consider Cannon a part of our family.

The closure of Cannon will also have a devastating impact on our community. It has been estimated that the closing of Cannon will cost this area the loss of more jobs, percentage-wise, than any other area in the country. Enrollment at the public and higher education systems will also be effected. Military retirees living within a two hour radius would not have healthcare available or access to a commissary. There is not another installation close by to serve the retired military.

Please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision. Come visit us and see what the commission is missing.

Sincerely,

Mary E Watson

Mary E. Watson

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

Antony Oldknow
1400 South Main Avenue
Portales, New Mexico 88130

19 May 2005

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi:

I am deeply concerned about the BRAC Commission's Cannon Air Force Base closure decision, which is regarded all over Eastern New Mexico as an unmitigated tragedy!

I do not believe the Commission is fully aware of the unique national-defense attributes Cannon offers. These include abundance of air space, and no encroachment issues; associated with the base, and by air only seconds away from it, is a most serviceable bombing range; in the vicinity also is ample air space for military flying at supersonic speeds; in the locality too, the weather for flying is ideal all-year-round. And there are many other advantages to the site and its installations.

In addition to Cannon's superlative military value to the nation, the base has been supported over the last fifty years by our local communities in a manner unmatched by analogous communities—we consider Cannon an integral part of our family.

Eastern New Mexico is not a densely populated area—which is in many respects an advantage for Cannon: such low density is a very great asset from the security viewpoint. However, not only would that advantageous security aspect be lost with base closure, such closure would also have devastating effect on our economy: credible estimates calculate that the area will lose at least twenty percent of its workforce if the base closes, and a radically deleterious ripple effect would play havoc with our public and private education systems and other professional and social activities. Particularly grievous for me personally, and for many fellow citizens in similar circumstances, would be the closing's negative effect on life-long investments in our homes. My own house, still under mortgage, was estimated prior to the closure news as worth as much as $150,000—I have already paid $120,000 towards my goal and still have $60,000+ to go, taking into account interest and other financial requirements. If the base closes, property values will plummet—news of the closing has already caused them to begin plummeting—and it is hard for us citizens to believe that we would receive adequate fiscal compensation for such catastrophic financial losses that are entirely beyond our control. Similar horrendous property loss would certainly not occur in densely populated areas whose fiscal well-being was independent of changing conditions at nearby bases.

Please reconsider all these cogent facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully yours.

Antony Oldknow

RECEIVED 5/25/05

5-19-05

DCN: 4872

Lenna Rolan
1521 S. Ave. E
Portales, NM 88130

Keep Cannon!

RECEIVED 5/25/05

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner

I'm so concerned about the decision to close Cannon Air Force Base! Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure because it has many unique attributes that aid our country in national defense. Cannon does not have to compete for air space with commercial airlines because we have an abundance of air space -- enough to fly at supersonic speeds. There are no encroachment issues, there's a bombing range just a few seconds away and ideal year-round flying weather.

Unlike some large cities that have a lot of industry etc., Portales doesn't have a lot. Cannon is the area's largest employer and we embrace it like a precious child. When Cannon needed additional housing, the community of Clovis purchased land and gave it back to the air force for the needed housing. Eastern New Mexico University, here in Portales, also provided university and for housing in Portales -- just north of the campus. Portales and Clovis are communities that support its family.

It has been estimated that the closing of Cannon will cost this area at least 20% of its workforce.

(over)

5-19-05

DCN: 4872

Lenna Rolan
1521 S. Ave. E
Portales, NM 88130

Keep Cannon!

RECEIVED 5/23/05

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Unlike some large cities that have a lot of industry etc., Portales doesn't have a lot. Cannon is the area's largest employer and we embrace it like a precious child. When Cannon needed additional housing, the community of Clovis purchased land and gave it back to the air force for the needed housing. Eastern New Mexico University, here in Portales, also provided university land for housing in Portales -- just north of the campus. Portales and Clovis are communities that support its family.

It has been estimated that the closing of Cannon will cost this area at least 20% of its workforce. It will

DCN: 4872

5-20-2005

Thai Nguyen
ENMU #3956
1500 S. Ave K
Portales NM, 88130

Admiral Harold W. Gehman Jr.,

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

I do not believe the Commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, and ideal year-round flying weather, among many others.

In addition to military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the last 50 year by the local communities like no other in country. We consider Cannon a part of our family.

The closure of Cannon will also have a devastating impact on your economy. It has been estimated that the area will lose at least 20 percent of its workforce, plus the ripple effect that we will have on our public and higher education systems.

Please consider all the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

5-20-2005

Thai Nguyen
ENMU #3956
1500 S. Ave K
Portales NM, 88130

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Please consider all the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

RECEIVED 6/25/05

DCN: 4872

5-19-05

Lenna Rolan
1521 S. Ave. E
Portales, NM 88130

Keep Cannon!

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi,

RECEIVED 5/25/05

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It has been estimated that the closing of Cannon will cost this area at least 20% of its workforce. It will have a devastating effect on the economy of the whole state. I work at the university and we have many students who are military personnel or dependents. I don't even

DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

The General Lloyd W. Newton,

This letter is in response to the proposed closing of Cannon Air Force Base.

I think Cannon AFB is a very vital attribute to the economy in the surrounding areas, including, but not limited to Clovis, Melrose, and Portales. Many jobs will be lost because of this closure and not to mention the impact that the military families leaving will have on the other business in the surrounding communities

Military spouses attend classes at Eastern New Mexico University and Clovis Community College and the enrollment would suffer if the base closes. Also, the public schools would be greatly impacted by the closure. Because of the military in the area, the community as a whole is very supportive and all the communities' relationship with Cannon Air Force Base is unlike any other in the country. The military is a positive thing in so many areas for Eastern New Mexico.

Cannon AFB is located in an area that would be perfect for pilots to have the ability to fly supersonic during training missions as there is an abundance of air space. The Melrose bombing range is just seconds away and the weather in eastern New Mexico is perfect for year-around training.

Eastern New Mexico has the space to expand and we are not a crowed area. To expand the base would only be positive, but to close the base would be devastating to our community.

I ask that you please reconsider the closure of Cannon Air Force Base as it is a vital part to all of the surrounding communities.

Respectfully yours,

Norma Stroik

Norma Stroik

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

Geralyn Million
404 Monticello
Portales NM 88130

May 20, 2005

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner
BRAC commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington VA 22202

General Lloyd W. Newton,

This letter is in reference to the BRAC Commission's decision to close Cannon Air Force Base.

Please be aware that in conjunction with the state of New Mexico, Curry County purchased air easements around Cannon and gave them to the Air Force. This was done to protect the air space from encroachment. In addition, the local community spearheaded the effort to expand and convert the airspace to supersonic capability through the New Mexico Training Range Initiative. Also, the Melrose bombing range is just seconds away from Cannon. The availability of air space and ideal flying weather make Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter and other military aircraft.

Please consider the negative local and statewide impact this closing will have on both education and the economy. I sincerely request that you reconsider and do not close Cannon Air Force Base!

Sincerely,

Geralyn Million

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4972

Michael F. Pitts
49 Laguna Court
Portales, NM 88130

May 20, 2005

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Madam:

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Michael F. Pitts

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

Michael F. Pitts
49 Laguna Court
Portales, NM 88130

May 20, 2005

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

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

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

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Sincerely,

Michael F. Pitts

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4072

Michael F. Pitts
49 Laguna Court
Portales, NM 88130

May 20, 2005

The Honorable Phillip Cole
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

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

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Sincerely,

Michael F. Pitts

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

Stephanie McClary
418 Monticello Parkway
Portales, NM

Admiral Harold W. Gehman Jr.,

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

I do not believe the Commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, and ideal year-round flying weather, among many others.

In addition to the military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the last 50 years by the local communities like no other in the country. We consider Cannon 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, plus the ripple effect that we will have on our public and higher education systems.

For the sake of my family and my community, please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

Stephanie McClary

Stephanie McClary

RECEIVED 6/25/05

DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

Stephanie McClary
418 Monticello Parkway
Portales, NM

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner,

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

I do not believe the Commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, and ideal year-round flying weather, among many others.

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For the sake of my family and my community, please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

Stephanie McClary

Stephanie McClary

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

Mary Watson
355 South Roosevelt Road Z
Portales, NM 88130

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner,

I would like the BRAC Commission to reconsider the decision to close Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico. There are many factors that need to be re-evaluated which include: an abundance of air space with no encroachment issues, a bombing range within miles, airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, ideal year-around flying weather, facilities for warfare training and readiness, and ample space for training and emergency situations. Looking at these factors long term, Cannon Air Force base should be expanding their operations to help secure a stronger nation.

The local community has truly supported Cannon during the past 50 years. During this time, Clovis has purchased air easements to protect the air space from encroachment, and land for additional housing as well as land for the installation of instrument lighting. Having traveled to many military bases, due to active family members, I have seen the difference in the way communities respond to having bases outside their backdoors. Clovis, Portales, and surrounding communities truly consider Cannon a part of our family.

The closure of Cannon will also have a devastating impact on our community. It has been estimated that the closing of Cannon will cost this area the loss of more jobs, percentage-wise, than any other area in the country. Enrollment at the public and higher education systems will also be effected. Military retirees living within a two hour radius would not have healthcare available or access to a commissary. There is not another installation close by to serve the retired military.

Please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision. Come visit us and see what the commission is missing.

Sincerely,

Mary E Watson

Mary E. Watson

RECEIVED 6/25/05

DCN: 4872

Ama V. McDermid
846 S Roosevelt Road U1/2
Portales, NM 88130

May 19, 2005

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

The Honorable James V. Hansen:

As a 51 year native of Portales, New Mexico I am extremely concerned by Cannon AFB being on the closure list. As you know, Cannon AFB is located in the rural southeastern area of New Mexico. This closure will have a devastating affect on our struggling economy as well as the moral of the citizens of the area. Cannon AFB is "family".

Our communities have embraced the air force personnel and their families. These Americans attend our churches, civic activities, and schools. They are part of our community, not only Portales and Clovis, but all of New Mexico and West Texas.

As a small business owner, I realize the closure of Cannon AFB will have a hard economic impact on this area. In the past year this area has finally begun to shows wonderful signs of growth. The closure of Cannon AFB will squelch the new growth. Everything from our construction companies to our educational facilities will be negatively impacted.

Cannon AFB is a tremendous asset to the security of our entire nation. The air space which is already part of Cannon as well as the proposed expansion for supersonic aircraft is vital for our nation. Cannon AFB is capable and ready for expansion for the joint armed forces.

This letter does not even touch on the assets of Cannon AFB and its importance to the area and the entire nation's security. Please take this into consideration when you make your decisions regarding the future of our nation without the tremendous asset we have in Cannon AFB.

Respectfully yours,

Ama V. McDermid

Ama V. McDermid

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

Harold D. Willis, Jr.
762 Southern Hills Pine Road
Portales, NM 88130

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi,

My family and I are very concerned about the BRAC Commission's decision to close Cannon Air Force Base.

We do not think the Commission is aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers for our national defense. To name just a few Cannon offers an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, year-round flying weather and the Melrose bombing range is seconds away from Cannon.

In addition to the military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the last 50 years by the local communities like no other in the country. We consider Cannon 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, plus the effect ripple effect that we will have on our public and higher education systems.

Respectfully yours,

Harold D Willis, JR.

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

Dear: Lloyd W. Newton

I would like to urge you to reconsider your decision to place Cannon Air Force Base on the BRAC list. Cannon will be a vital part of flight training in the future as it is soon to be designated for supersonic training.

I have lived in other cities (Colorado Springs) where military bases are despised by the general public. This is not the case with Cannon it plays a vital role in the community. The closing of this base will be devastating to this community. I moved here for the quality of life, and Cannon is a part of that. If the American Dream can survive it will be driven by the sense of community only available in smaller towns. Please reconsider this decision and remove Cannon from The BRAC list.

Thank You

Jeff Blake

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

Dear: General James T. Hill

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Thank You

Jeff Blake

RECEIVED 6/25/05

5-20-05

DCN: 4872

Ginger Creighton
408 E 16th St
Portales NM 88130

The Honorable James V. Hansen,

I am very concerned about the BRAC Commission's decision to close Cannon Air Force Base.
I would hope that the Commission has taken the time to look at all the attributes that the base has here in the Clovis/Portales area.

They have a university and a community college plus great school systems.
Cannon also has a lot of air space and a bombing range. The aircraft can fly at super sonic speeds and they have good weather to fly in. Plus lot of wind for training for windy conditions.

Thank you for reconsidering the closure of Cannon Air Force Base.

Ginger Creighton

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

Judy Privett
ENMU Station 9
Portales, NM 88130

The Honorable Phillip Coyle,

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

I do not believe the Commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, and ideal year-around flying weather.

In addition to the military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the last 50 years by the local communities like no other in the country. Clovis, Portales, and surrounding communities consider Cannon 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, plus the ripple effect that we will have on our public and higher education systems.

Please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision.

Sincerely,

Judy Privett

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

Judy Privett
ENMU Station 9
Portales, NM 88130

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner,

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Sincerely,

Judy Privett

RECEIVED 6/25/05

DCN: 4872

Michael F. Pitts
49 Laguna Court
Portales, NM 88130

May 20, 2005

General Lloyd W. Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Michael F. Pitts

RECEIVED 6/25/05

DCN: 4872

Michael F. Pitts
49 Laguna Court
Portales, NM 88130

May 20, 2005

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

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Sincerely,

Michael F. Pitts

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

Michael F. Pitts
49 Laguna Court
Portales, NM 88130

May 20, 2005

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

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Sincerely,

Michael F. Pitts

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

May 19, 2005

Larry N. Smith
1576 SRR 8
Portales, NM 88130

Hon. Anthony J. Principi,

This letter is to encourage you to take a close look before deciding to close Cannon Air Force Base.

As a member of the Eastern (NM) Area Workforce Development Board, I can tell you that the closure would have a serious impact on barely healthy, very delicate economic situation in this area.

I was raised in this area and watched B-29's take off from the base during World War II. The base closed after that War, but was reopened in the 1950's and has been a vital part of our economy since that time.

Having worked in Washington for Senator Edwin Mechem and Senator Paul Fannin, and later for the Department of Justice, I understand the common good sometimes must trump local interests. However, I believe the situation regarding Cannon AFB and this area is one that bears very close inspection.

It is a tough decision and I trust that you will use your very best judgment.

Sincerely,

Larry N. Smith

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

May 19, 2005

Rebecca Dawn Reeves
1904 West 2nd #47
Portales, NM 88130

The General Lloyd W. Newton,

This letter is in response to the closing of Cannon Air Force Base.

I think that this Air Force Base is a very vital attribute to the economy in the surrounding areas, including, but not limited to Clovis, Melrose, and Portales. Many jobs will be lost because of this closure and not to mention the impact that the military families leaving will have on the other business in the surrounding communities.

For the past three years, I have worked at Cannon Air Force Base Outdoor Recreation. This experience as a lifeguard, head lifeguard, and eventually aquatic director has helped open many doors for me. I think that had it not been for this base and swimming pool I would not be where I am now. I am finishing my accounting and business administration degree and without this summer job I would not be able to afford to attend college. I know that the swimming pool is just a little part of the base but there are other jobs there that people are counting on to help survive. All the little parts add up to the big part.

While working at Cannon, I realized that it is just one big family there. If there is anything that needs to be done, there is somebody that is always just a phone call away and is responsive at all times.

The military spouses attend many of the same classes that I attend and without them Eastern New Mexico Universtiy and Clovis Community College would also suffer. Because of the military in the area, the community as a whole is very supportive and all the communities' relationship with Cannon Air Force Base is unlike any other in the country.

I just ask that you would reconsider the closure of Cannon Air Force Base as it is a vital part to all of the surrounding communities.

Respectfully Yours,

Rebecca Dawn Reeves

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

5-20-2005

Thai Nguyen
ENMU #3956
1500 S. Ave K
Portales NM, 88130

The Honorable Philip Coyle,

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

I do not believe the Commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, and ideal year-round flying weather, among many others.

In addition to military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the last 50 year by the local communities like no other in country. We consider Cannon a part of our family.

The closure of Cannon will also have a devastating impact on your economy. It has been estimated that the area will lose at least 20 percent of its workforce, plus the ripple effect that we will have on our public and higher education systems.

Please consider all the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

TLN

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

Kyleen R. Willis
762 Southern Hills Pine Road
Portales, NM 88130

The Honorable James H. Bilbray,

My family and I are very concerned about the BRAC Commission's decision to close Cannon Air Force Base.

We do not think the Commission is aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers for our national defense. To name just a few Cannon offers an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, year-round flying weather and the Melrose bombing range is seconds away from Cannon.

In addition to the military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the last 50 years by the local communities like no other in the country. We consider Cannon a part of our family.

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Respectfully yours,

Kyleen R Willis

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DCN: 4872

Dear Admiral Harold W. Gerhman Jr.,

As a New Mexico resident for more than 10 years now Cannon Air Force Base has affected my life, and my surrounding communities in many ways. I lived across the highway from Cannon for many years. Even though I am not personally affiliated with the base itself, I, along with many others still continue to be affected by its every action.

The base has been there as long as I can remember. The base has shared a bond with its surroundings for more than 50 years now. Changing this would leave the economy and surrounding areas left to fade away. The base has brought a rise in economy to Eastern New Mexico and parts of West Texas. All the new businesses would struggle, because more than half of their business comes from the people of Cannon, their family and friends.

Before living in New Mexico I lived in Atwater, California and I was there when the closing of Castle Air Base took place. I might have been young but I still knew what was going on. The base went down and so did the town. The town had just begun to grow just as Clovis is expanding. Today, looking back at Atwater you see that the base property was taken over by a maximum-security prison. In my opinion this is what would happen to Clovis and nobody around here needs that. Who knows who will take over the property and what will happen to it. Even if no body does anything with it, still it will be left to rot away.

The relationship between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding towns; such as: Clovis, Portales, West Texas and many others, is unlike any other installation in the country. These are smaller well-rounded cities, which finally found their chance to grow and they took it.

I believe it would be a big mistake to close Cannon leaving all of Eastern New Mexico and West Texas to fend for itself. Our communities extremely need Cannon as part of their everyday life. In the early 90s, Curry County, as well as the State of New Mexico, purchased air easements around Cannon Air Force Base and GAVE them to the Air Force. This was done to protect that air space and this was an important issue for the Air Force. At the least the Air Force can do is stay around and continue helping our communities in our times of need.

We have supported the base like no other community over the last 50 years. We have done so financially, morally, spiritually, and most of all consistently. So what is to stop us now? Part of the Air Forces Mission is that: "Our company measures its success by its impact on the world, our country and the lives of its men and women." So please let us continue to help the base, and more than all let the base help us.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Audra Scofield Audra Scofield :)

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DCN: 4872

Harold D. Willis, Jr.
762 Southern Hills Pine Road
Portales, NM 88130

The Honorable James H. Bilbray,

My family and I are very concerned about the BRAC Commission's decision to close Cannon Air Force Base.

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Respectfully yours,

Harold D Willis, JR

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DCN: 4872

BRAC Commission
James V. Hansen

May 23. 2005

Kathleen L. Harris
404 Georgia St.
Clovis, N.M. 88101-7924

Dear Sir

Please do not close Cannon Air Force Base!
It is very important to this area.

I am also a widow of a retired air force
Military personal.

Sincerly
Kathleen L. Harris

RECEIVED
5/25/05

DCN: 4872

BRAC Commission
anthony J. Principi

May 23. 2005

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404 Georgia St.
Clovis, N.M. 88101-7924

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Sincerly
Kathleen L. Harris

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5/25/05

DCN: 4872

Susan Pippin
521 Anthony Drive
Clovis, NM 88101

May 22, 2005

RE: OPERATION KEEP CANNON OPEN

Samuel K. Skinner
BRAC COMMISSION
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Mr. Skinner:

I am writing in regards to Cannon Air Force Base being on the Closure List. Clovis and the surrounding rural communities have economically relied on Cannon Air Force Base for many years. Cannon AFB is also one of the very few places who will hire the physically and mentally handicapped. Several hundred of these types of folks would be left without a job and become a burden on society.

Cannon is perfectly situated in an area where civilian lives are not likely to be taken when an Air Force plane crashes. The plane might take a cow or two, but not a human life. Where can big cities have bombing ranges - a bombing range has been in use for years West of Cannon. Several million dollars of work has been completed on Cannon in the recent months, which would go to waste if the base is closed.

Why would someone make such an unwise and uneconomically sound decision to close Cannon?

Sincerely,

Susan Pippin

Susan Pippin

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

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

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 plans 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 personal 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.

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DCN: 4872

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 has just 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, and 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.

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.

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 personal 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,

Gayle Telshaw
D/W Ret. Lt. Col.

RECEIVED 5/05/05

Ms Mary Ayala
1515 S Main Ave
Portales NM 88130-6928

DCN: 4872

20 May, 2005

Honorable James H. Bilbray:

As a faculty member at Eastern New Mexico University, an active member of the Portales/Clovis community, and as a parent, I am very concerned about the BRAC Commission's proposal to close Cannon Air Force Base. This is an issue that will have a serious negative effect on our community, our region, and the better interests of our nation.

I do not believe the Commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of airspace and no encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, and ideal year-round flying weather, among many others. Truly, this base is unmatched for its potential to provide pilots with better training, within realistic training scenarios, that afford them the best possible preparation for real-life operating situations. In addition, the space and facilities at Cannon are ideal for the accommodation of joint war-fighting, training, and readiness, as recently occurred in the dual effort between Cannon and the US Navy. All of these factors are special features that can be found only in rural, open areas like we have here in the eastern New Mexico region. For these reasons, it seems clear that Cannon does not effectively meet the criteria established for base closure.

In addition to the military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported wholeheartedly over the last 50 years by the local communities with unequaled enthusiasm. We have invested local funds to benefit the base, including the purchase of air easements to protect Cannon from air encroachments, the purchase and gift of land by local communities for base housing, instrument lighting, and alternate runways, and community spearheading of the New Mexico Training Range Initiative for the benefit of the base. We consider Cannon a part of our family, and base employees and their families are valued members of our community, of our educational systems, and of our social and civic infrastructure. Indeed, the surrounding regional community has become a permanent home to a sizeable military retiree population and these people currently rely on Cannon for healthcare, shopping, and other services. These retired military personnel have no other installations within a reasonable geographic distance to serve them, and would be put at a disadvantage if they were forced either to lose these services or to leave behind the moderate cost-of-living that this area affords them in order to have these benefits accessible.

Furthermore, the closure of Cannon would have a devastating impact on our economy. It has been estimated that this area will lose at

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least 20 percent of its workforce, and that will entail a significant ripple effect on our local economy, and particularly in the public and higher education systems. This loss, percentage-wise, reflects the greatest impact of all the proposed closings in the nation, and we hope you will not consider that lightly as you make your final decisions on this matter.

Cannon has earned numerous awards over the years for its outstanding performance, at the ACC, Air Force, NAF, national, and STAT levels. This stellar record and the unequaled contributions of the community to support the base should be recognized and rewarded by our nation. You can well understand why the decision to put Cannon on the BRAC closure list has come as such a great shock to this community and has been perceived as an especially stark example of injustice. Please reconsider all of the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully,

Mary F. Ayala

Mary F. Ayala, Ph.D.

1515 S. Main Ave.

Portales, NM 88130

Keep Cannon AFB!

DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

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

Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.

The base has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.

Once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is implemented, we will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions. This is a very important point, as it allows the Air Force to better train for real-life situations.

The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training ability.

The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. This allows pilots to get airborne, and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range, rather than spending all of their fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, then returning to the base.

Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.

Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.

The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.

The relationship between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding towns; Clovis, Portales, West Texas, and others, is unlike any other installation in the country.

Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military

Sincerely,

Dona Dickinson

Dona Dickinson
1024 Fairway Terrace
Clovis, NM 88101

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

Cody Spitz
1313 Stratford Lane
Clovis, NM 88101

To General James T Hill

Sir,

I am very concerned that Cannon Air Force Base was placed on the BRAC list for closure.

To my understanding, Cannon offers various unique features to our nations' defense. A few features includes; a bombing ranges only minutes away, the ability for supersonic air space for training missions, and ideal year-round flying weather, among many others.

Not only does Cannon have a unique military presence for the nation, but has for the last 50 years been support by the communities of Curry and Roosevelt counties. You can say that Cannon is part of the community family. By closing Cannon, we are not just loosing economic support, but our families, friends, and neighbors.

I know that the road before you is a long, but please look at all of the details before you make your final decision.

Respectfully,

Cody Spitz

Cody Spitz

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

Kyleen R. Willis
762 Southern Hills Pine Road
Portales, NM 88130

The Honorable Philip Coyle,

My family and I are very concerned about the BRAC Commission's decision to close Cannon Air Force Base.

We do not think the Commission is aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers for our national defense. To name just a few Cannon offers an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, year-round flying weather and the Melrose bombing range is seconds away from Cannon.

In addition to the military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the last 50 years by the local communities like no other in the country. We consider Cannon 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, plus the effect ripple effect that we will have on our public and higher education systems.

Respectfully yours,

Kyleen R. Willis

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DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

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

We are very concerned about the BRAC Commission's decision to close Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, NM.

We do not believe the Commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, and ideal year-round flying weather, among many others.

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Please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully yours,

A & J Stagg
1887 S. Roosevelt Rd. 3
Portales, NM 88130

RECEIVED 05/25/05

DCN: 4872

Ama V. McDermid
846 S Roosevelt Road U1/2
Portales, NM 88130

May 19, 2005

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner:

As a 51 year native of Portales, New Mexico I am extremely concerned by Cannon AFB being on the closure list. As you know, Cannon AFB is located in the rural southeastern area of New Mexico. This closure will have a devastating affect on our struggling economy as well as the moral of the citizens of the area. Cannon AFB is "family".

Our communities have embraced the air force personnel and their families. These Americans attend our churches, civic activities, and schools. They are part of our community, not only Portales and Clovis, but all of New Mexico and West Texas.

As a small business owner, I realize the closure of Cannon AFB will have a hard economic impact on this area. In the past year this area has finally begun to shows wonderful signs of growth. The closure of Cannon AFB will squelch the new growth. Everything from our construction companies to our educational facilities will be negatively impacted.

Cannon AFB is a tremendous asset to the security of our entire nation. The air space which is already part of Cannon as well as the proposed expansion for supersonic aircraft is vital for our nation. Cannon AFB is capable and ready for expansion for the joint armed forces.

This letter does not even touch on the assets of Cannon AFB and its importance to the area and the entire nation's security. Please take this into consideration when you make your decisions regarding the future of our nation without the tremendous asset we have in Cannon AFB.

Respectfully yours,

Ama V McDermid

Ama V. McDermid

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

Ama V. McDermid
846 S Roosevelt Road U1/2
Portales, NM 88130

May 19, 2005

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

The Honorable James H. Bilbray:

As a 51 year native of Portales, New Mexico I am extremely concerned by Cannon AFB being on the closure list. As you know, Cannon AFB is located in the rural southeastern area of New Mexico. This closure will have a devastating affect on our struggling economy as well as the moral of the citizens of the area. Cannon AFB is "family".

Our communities have embraced the air force personnel and their families. These Americans attend our churches, civic activities, and schools. They are part of our community, not only Portales and Clovis, but all of New Mexico and West Texas.

As a small business owner, I realize the closure of Cannon AFB will have a hard economic impact on this area. In the past year this area has finally begun to shows wonderful signs of growth. The closure of Cannon AFB will squelch the new growth. Everything from our construction companies to our educational facilities will be negatively impacted.

Cannon AFB is a tremendous asset to the security of our entire nation. The air space which is already part of Cannon as well as the proposed expansion for supersonic aircraft is vital for our nation. Cannon AFB is capable and ready for expansion for the joint armed forces.

This letter does not even touch on the assets of Cannon AFB and its importance to the area and the entire nation's security. Please take this into consideration when you make your decisions regarding the future of our nation without the tremendous asset we have in Cannon AFB.

Respectfully yours,

Ama V McDermid

Ama V. McDermid

RECEIVED 5/25/06

DCN: 4872

Susan Pippin
521 Anthony Drive
Clovis, NM 88101

May 22, 2005

RE: OPERATION KEEP CANNON OPEN

Rep. James Bilbray
BRAC COMMISSION
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Rep. Bilbray :

I am writing in regards to Cannon Air Force Base being on the Closure List. Clovis and the surrounding rural communities have economically relied on Cannon Air Force Base for many years. Cannon AFB is also one of the very few places who will hire the physically and mentally handicapped. Several hundred of these types of folks would be left without a job and become a burden on society.

Cannon is perfectly situated in an area where civilian lives are not likely to be taken when an Air Force plane crashes. The plane might take a cow or two, but not a human life. Where can big cities have bombing ranges - a bombing range has been in use for years West of Cannon. Several million dollars of work has been completed on Cannon in the recent months, which would go to waste if the base is closed.

Why would someone make such an unwise and uneconomically sound decision to close Cannon?

Sincerely,

Susan Pippin

Susan Pippin

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

Charles B. Cree, IV
Rebecca J. Rice Cree

1411 N. Ave. O
Portales, NM 88130

May 20, 2005

The Honorable Philip Coyle
BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark St.
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Mr. Coyle:

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

It seems evident that the Commission did not have all the facts about Cannon when the decision was made. We believe Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure. Some unique attributes Cannon offers include:

- Ample space and facilities are readily available to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations, as well as joint warfare training and readiness;
- Air easements around Cannon to protect the air space from encroachment. These easements were purchased by Curry County with the help of the state of New Mexico and given to the Air Force.
- The local community has worked to expand and convert the air space to supersonic capability through the New Mexico Training Range Initiative, which is expected to be implemented soon.
- The local community also purchased land north of Cannon for base housing and land west of Cannon for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at the base. All of this land was given to the Air Force.

Closing Cannon will have an extremely negative impact, in several ways, on Clovis and Portales, as well as much of West Texas:

- An estimated 4780 jobs (approximately 20% of the Clovis/Portales Microplex work force), directly and indirectly generated by the base, will disappear. This job loss percentage is expected to be higher than any other affected area in the country.
- The ripple effect of these lost jobs will directly affect public education in the area, including public and private schools in both Clovis and Portales, Clovis Community College, and Eastern New Mexico University.
- The area, including Amarillo and Lubbock, TX, has a large military retiree population that depends on Cannon for heath care, grocery shopping, and more. There is no other military installation nearby to serve this population.

Please reconsider all of the facts before you make your final decision.

Respectfully yours,

Charles & Rebecca Cree

5/25/05

DCN: 4872

Mr. Yale H. Squibb
PO Box 787
Portales, New Mexico 88130

May 21, 2005

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

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

I do not believe the commission is fully aware of the Unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment problems, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds and ideal year round flying weather, among many others.

In Addition to the military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the last 50 years by the local communities like no other in the country. We consider Cannon 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 the workforce, plus the ripple effect that will have on our public and higher education systems.

Here are more reasons to keep Cannon Air Force Base open:
Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.

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

The weather in eastern New Mexico provides year around training.

The Melrose Bombing Range is seconds away from Cannon.

Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint warfare training and Readiness.

Cannon has ample space / ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in Training and emergency situations.

The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect Candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and

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Other military aircraft.

The relationship between Cannon and the surrounding area: Clovis, Portales, West Texas, and others is unlike any other installation in the country.

The entire area, including Amarillo and Lubbock, is home to a large military retiree Population. These retirees rely on Cannon for healthcare, grocery shopping, and More. There is not another military installation close by to serve retired military.

In the early 90's, Curry County in conjunction with the state of New Mexico purchased Air easement around Cannon and gave them to the Air Force. This was done to Protect the air space from encroachment.

The local community purchased the land north of Cannon and gave it back to the Air Force for additional housing.

The local community purchased the land west of Cannon and gave it back to the Air Force for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at the base.

The local community spearheaded the effort to expand and convert the airspace to Supersonic capability through the New Mexico Training Range Initiative.

It Has been estimated that the closing of Cannon will cost the area the loss of more Jobs, percentage-wise, than any other area in the country.

The closing of Cannon will have a severe ripple effect on the economy of the entire State, and west Texas.

The closing of Cannon will have a very negative impact on education throughout the Area, including the public schools and Eastern New Mexico University and Clovis Community College.

Please, re-consider ALL the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

Yale Squibb

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DCN: 4872

Mr. Yale H. Squibb
PO Box 787
Portales, New Mexico 88130

May 21, 2005

General Lloyd W. Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

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Yale Squibb

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DCN: 4872

Mr. Yale H. Squibb
PO Box 787
Portales, New Mexico 88130

May 21, 2005

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2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

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Yale Squibb

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DCN: 4872

Mr. Yale H. Squibb
PO Box 787
Portales, New Mexico 88130

May 21, 2005

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

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Please, re-consider ALL the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

Yale Squibb

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DCN: 4872

5-20-05

Aaron & Charlotte Sims
ENMU 4180
1500 S Ave K
Portales, NM 88130

General Lloyd W. Newton,

I am not, nor have I ever been employed by the Air Force, or any other branch of our nation's military. I am, however, very concerned about the closure of Cannon Air Force Base. What attributes and accolades the base brings to our nation's national security are beyond the scope of this letter; for this letter addresses the concerns of the community, more so, the concerns of two students about the future of their school. I am writing to you as a concerned graduate student of Eastern New Mexico University in Portales, NM.

Despite being the third largest university in the state of New Mexico, Eastern New Mexico University, Eastern to those whom it is well acquainted with, is not very well known by most outside of New Mexico but, as I can attest, is of great value to our nation's future. Since, my wife brought me out here to finish her undergraduate degree; I have been drawn into this school by the warmth of the people who comprise it. This is why I refer to Eastern as I would a friend. I graduated from Texas Tech University in the Fall of 2002 with a BBA, too soon after the fall of the World Trade Center. The nation's economy was still very wounded and not able support the entrance of most of the unfortunate graduates at that time, so I with countless others did all I could to make ends meet. I worked all sorts of jobs varying widely, including being an insurance agent to moving two hundred pound windows for extra cash. Because I was not working jobs that I could see myself doing as a career choice, I decided it wouldn't be fair to keep my wife out of school so we moved to Portales to further our education. The stark contrast between the learning environments at Texas Tech and here at Eastern is profound. Texas Tech has a regimental environment in which you are a student amongst tens of thousands. Eastern, because of its size, is much more accommodating to the individual needs of the student. There is a personal relationship between the students and the professors here at Eastern which Texas Tech cannot provide with its 450 students per class on average. In addition the student body at Eastern is more humbled, most students like myself, cannot afford "big" schools. For the most part we are on our own, trying to balance our educational responsibilities with financial responsibilities. We choose Eastern because the tuition is lower, and the hidden student fees which are usually overlooked are miniscule in respect to the larger universities, more importantly the cost of living is much lower than that of larger metropolitan areas. I understand the magnitude of the difference, as far expenditures are concerned, that a "little" university such as Eastern makes when compared with universities the size of Texas Tech. I worked my way through my undergraduate, and can brag about not taking out a single student loan until my junior year which is a great feat that most who attend schools of Texas Tech's size are unable to do. Furthermore, most students at Texas Tech that I was familiar with had additional financial support from their families where most here don't. With the cost of a

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higher education skyrocketing, Texas Tech's cost went up by more than thirty percent over the last three years since I left, because of this, schools like Eastern are gems to students such as my wife and I. I would not have even considered paying the higher prices that would have been required to get my masters degree from Texas Tech. It is hard enough trying to find a job in a troubled economy but to have to look for one with a mountain of debt burdening you down in addition would be exasperating. Unfortunately, this scenario is being asked of students more and more as the cost of a higher education exponentially grows.

The reason why I am taking time to describe my plight to you is that this scenario is shared by the myriads that choose schools like Eastern to pursue degrees and if you close Cannon you close Eastern. I am not interested in what the statistics say, I have heard that only twenty percent of Eastern students are stationed at Cannon but this is only part of the equation. Most of the students I know are in some way related to Cannon Air Force Base, it is safe to say that fifty percent or more have either had a relative stationed at Cannon some time in the past or have been stationed at Cannon themselves and are going back to school. For instance, one of my classroom acquaintances was stationed at Cannon ten years ago as enlisted but was injured and released from the Air Force with a medical discharge and attends here now with the hopes of becoming a physicians assistant. One of the girls in my office is here because her dad was stationed at Cannon when he retired and stayed in Portales after his Air Force career. Also, my next door neighbor is in Korea for a few weeks visiting her father who was stationed at Cannon in the past. I had another neighbor recently move-out because her father needed someone to stay at his home while he served a tour in Korea also. My wife used to come out to Cannon with her father who is a retired Colonel in the Air Force, to go shopping at the BX because Reese Air Force Base in Lubbock, Texas was closed in 1997. This leads to me, I would never have known about Eastern if it weren't for my wife and her trips out to the BX with her father. It would take a great deal of cost to run an analysis of this depth on the student body at Eastern to show this relationship between Eastern and Cannon, so my hope is to bring this to your attention. As you can see, the school supports the base in a mutual relationship which is why I fervently attest, that if you close Cannon you close Eastern. So, please reconsider for the welfare of the students of Eastern, that our dreams and aspirations can be attained, to keep Cannon open.

Respectfully Yours,

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DCN: 4872

Mr. Yale H. Squibb
PO Box 787
Portales, New Mexico 88130

May 21, 2005

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

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The closing of Cannon will have a very negative impact on education throughout the Area, including the public schools and Eastern New Mexico University and Clovis Community College.

Please, re-consider ALL the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

Yale Squibb

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DCN: 4872

Shirlene Peters
234 Dora Ave A
Portales, NM 88130

May 19, 2005

Dear Honorable Samuel Skinner,

After hearing that Cannon Air Force Base is on the BRAC list I felt that I needed to write to tell you a few things that maybe you have overlooked about Cannon.

Cannon has many unique attributes that it offers to our national defense. Not only is there year-round flying weather in the area, it is only seconds away from the bombing range. It has an abundance of air space with no encroachment issues and the pilots are able to fly at supersonic speeds.

Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations. They have space and facilities to accommodate joint warfare training.

Our community purchased the land north of Cannon and gave it back to the Air Force for the building of the alternate runway.

The closing of Cannon will have a negative impact on public schools, Eastern New Mexico Universtiy and Clovis Community College, not to mention the blow to the economy of the entire state and West Texas.

Maybe your criteria does not fit Cannon. Mr. Skinner, please give Cannon a second thought.

Respectfully Yours,

Shirlene Peters

Shirlene Peters

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DCN: 4872

Shirlene Peters
234 Dora Ave A
Portales, NM 88130

May 19, 2005

Dear Brigadier General Sue Turner,

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Shirlene Peters

Shirlene Peters

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5/20/05

DCN: 4872

Belinda Hilliard
906 W 17th St.
Portales, NM

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner

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

I do not know if the Commission has considered the total impact on Curry and Roosevelt Counties. If 20% of the workforce in those communities will be affected, then 10-20% of the schools will be affected if those air force families move to other communities. Many personnel act as volunteers in Scouting; Meals on Wheels; Habitat for Humanity, youth sports programs, etc.

I believe that closing CAFB will have a disastrous effect on the surrounding communities Clovis and Portales will suffer long-term hardship financially as well as spiritually.

Please reconsider your decision and keep Cannon open.

Sincerely,

Belinda Hilliard

RECEIVED 5/25/05

May 19, 2005

DCN: 4872

Don Chaney
PO Box 544
Portales NM 88130

Admiral Harold W. Gehman Jr.

I write to you with great concerns regarding the closure of Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico.

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I am a resident of Portales New Mexico, which is a small rural town near Cannon Air Force Base. I realize that the BRAC Commission's decision to close the base may seem necessary but it will greatly affect the economy of our town of 14,000 residents. Closure of Cannon would also mean closure of many home owned & home operated businesses. In my opinion, this translates to more unemployed Americans and would

DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

Mary Watson
355 South Roosevelt Road Z
Portales, NM 88130

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner,

I would like the BRAC Commission to reconsider the decision to close Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico. There are many factors that need to be re-evaluated which include: an abundance of air space with no encroachment issues, a bombing range within miles, airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, ideal year-around flying weather, facilities for warfare training and readiness, and ample space for training and emergency situations. Looking at these factors long term, Cannon Air Force base should be expanding their operations to help secure a stronger nation.

The local community has truly supported Cannon during the past 50 years. During this time, Clovis has purchased air easements to protect the air space from encroachment, and land for additional housing as well as land for the installation of instrument lighting. Having traveled to many military bases, due to active family members, I have seen the difference in the way communities respond to having bases outside their backdoors. Clovis, Portales, and surrounding communities truly consider Cannon a part of our family.

The closure of Cannon will also have a devastating impact on our community. It has been estimated that the closing of Cannon will cost this area the loss of more jobs, percentage-wise, than any other area in the country. Enrollment at the public and higher education systems will also be effected. Military retirees living within a two hour radius would not have healthcare available or access to a commissary. There is not another installation close by to serve the retired military.

Please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision. Come visit us and see what the commission is missing.

Sincerely,

Mary E Watson

Mary E. Watson

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

Mr. Yale H. Squibb
PO Box 787
Portales, New Mexico 88130

May 21, 2005

The Honorable James V. Hansen
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

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The entire area, including Amarillo and Lubbock, is home to a large military retiree Population. These retirees rely on Cannon for healthcare, grocery shopping, and More. There is not another military installation close by to serve retired military.

In the early 90's, Curry County in conjunction with the state of New Mexico purchased Air easement around Cannon and gave them to the Air Force. This was done to Protect the air space from encroachment.

The local community purchased the land north of Cannon and gave it back to the Air Force for additional housing.

The local community purchased the land west of Cannon and gave it back to the Air Force for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at the base.

The local community spearheaded the effort to expand and convert the airspace to Supersonic capability through the New Mexico Training Range Initiative.

It Has been estimated that the closing of Cannon will cost the area the loss of more Jobs, percentage-wise, than any other area in the country.

The closing of Cannon will have a severe ripple effect on the economy of the entire State, and west Texas.

The closing of Cannon will have a very negative impact on education throughout the Area, including the public schools and Eastern New Mexico University and Clovis Community College.

Please, re-consider ALL the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

Yale Squibb

RECEIVED 5/25/05

May 20, 2005

DCN: 4872

Virginia Amaro Labay
205 Utah Drive
Portales, N.M. 88130

TO: Brigadier General Sue E. Turner,

Please do not close Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis; it will hurt 90% of us.

Thank you,
Virginia Amaro Labay

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

REYNALDO & CHARLOTTE DOMINGUEZ
3724 LINKWOOD LANE
CLOVIS NM 88101

June 23, 2005

Representative James Bilbray
2005 BRAC COMMISSION
2521 South Clark St. Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Representative Bilbray

We are writing in reference to the proposed closing of Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico. We want to express our dissatisfaction in that decision.

We are Air Force retirees who chose to live in Clovis because of the Cannon Air Force Base. Also, this is a wonderful community. It would be a great loss if you were to close this base.

The Air Force is highly valued for the following reasons:

1. The military planes fly most of the year because of the nice weather. There is no conflict with any other air traffic.

2. The bombing range is close by, the planes don't have to worry about running out of fuel, they refuel right here.

3. It is close to Amarillo, the home of the Pantex Plant, which is a protection to that Plant.

4. There is endless room for expansion of the facility surrounding the base and bombing range.

5. Cannon Air Force Base has excellent housing, and has been expanding and improving. We can not believe that it would save money to close. All that money spent on remodeling, new buildings, new roads, would be money wasted instead of saved.

6. We as a community love and support our military. We don't believe you would find another City that has that much support for our troops. It is a Christian community; the Cannon Air Force military members attend our churches, they learn and teach good values. Besides fighting and protecting our country, we sincerely believe that our troops here at Cannon perform their service to the Department of Defense with high moral standards and sense of responsibility because of the positive values provided by our community.

RECEIVED
5/25/05

In closing, we believe that many other considerations were not taken into account. If you were to visit Clovis, you would see for yourselves our wonderful community, the location and space, you would realize that Cannon Air Force Base is an asset to be kept.

Sincerely Yours,

Reynaldo Dominguez
Charlotte Dominguez

Reynaldo & Charlotte Dominguez

RECEIVED 6/25/09

DCN: 4872

RICHARD A. HAUPTMANN
304 East 17th Street
Portales, New Mexico 88130
(505) 356-0964
rhauptmann@yucca.net

May 22, 2005

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

Dear General Hill:

I am writing to you to protest the decision by the U.S. Department of Defense to close Cannon Air Force Base in Eastern New Mexico. I believe that Cannon does not fit the criteria for closure for the following reasons:

- The base has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- Once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is implemented, the base will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions. This is a very important point, as it allows the Air Force to better train for real-life situations.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training ability.
- The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. This allows pilots to get airborne, and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range, rather than spending all of their fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, then returning to the base.
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
- Cannon has ample ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.
- The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.
- Cannon has won countless awards, both on ACC level, Air Force and NAF levels, and national and STAT levels.
- The relationship between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding towns including Clovis, Portales, and many others in Eastern New Mexico and West Texas, is unlike any other installation in the country.
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, and West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve the area's retired military families.

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 DCN: 4872

- Finally, the closure of Cannon Air Force Base will cost the local area over 20% of its jobs and devastate the local economy. No other base closure, as presently contemplated, will have as severe an adverse effect on its local economy as the proposed closure of Cannon.

Please keep this information in mind while you review the proposal to close Cannon Air Force Base. I would be happy to discuss this situation further, if you so desire.

Very truly yours,

Richard A. Hauptmann

Richard A. Hauptmann

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

RICHARD A. HAUPTMANN
304 East 17th Street
Portales, New Mexico 88130
(505) 356-0964
rhauptmann@yucca.net

May 22, 2005

General Lloyd W. Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear General Newton:

I am writing to you to protest the decision by the U.S. Department of Defense to close Cannon Air Force Base in Eastern New Mexico. I believe that Cannon does not fit the criteria for closure for the following reasons:

- The base has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- Once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is implemented, the base will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions. This is a very important point, as it allows the Air Force to better train for real-life situations.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training ability.
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- Cannon has ample ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.
- The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.
- Cannon has won countless awards, both on ACC level, Air Force and NAF levels, and national and STAT levels.
- The relationship between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding towns including Clovis, Portales, and many others in Eastern New Mexico and West Texas, is unlike any other installation in the country.
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, and West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve the area's retired military families.

RECEIVED 5/25/05

 DCN: 4872

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Please keep this information in mind while you review the proposal to close Cannon Air Force Base. I would be happy to discuss this situation further, if you so desire.

Very truly yours,

Richard A. Hauptmann

Richard A. Hauptmann

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

Charles B. Cree, IV
Rebecca J. Rice Cree

1411 N. Ave. O
Portales, NM 88130

May 20, 2005

Admiral Harold W. Gehman Jr.
BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark St.
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Admiral Gehman:

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

It seems evident that the Commission did not have all the facts about Cannon when the decision was made. We believe Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure. Some unique attributes Cannon offers include:

- Ample space and facilities are readily available to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations, as well as joint warfare training and readiness;
- Air easements around Cannon to protect the air space from encroachment. These easements were purchased by Curry County with the help of the state of New Mexico and given to the Air Force.
- The local community has worked to expand and convert the air space to supersonic capability through the New México Training Range Initiative, which is expected to be implemented soon.
- The local community also purchased land north of Cannon for base housing and land west of Cannon for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at the base. All of this land was given to the Air Force.

Closing Cannon will have an extremely negative impact, in several ways, on Clovis and Portales, as well as much of West Texas:

- An estimated 4780 jobs (approximately 20% of the Clovis/Portales Microplex work force), directly and indirectly generated by the base, will disappear. This job loss percentage is expected to be higher than any other affected area in the country.
- The ripple effect of these lost jobs will directly affect public education in the area, including public and private schools in both Clovis and Portales, Clovis Community College, and Eastern New Mexico University.
- The area, including Amarillo and Lubbock, TX, has a large military retiree population that depends on Cannon for heath care, grocery shopping, and more. There is no other military installation nearby to serve this population.

Please reconsider all of the facts before you make your final decision.

Respectfully yours,

Charles & Rebecca Cree

RECEIVED 5/25/05

May 20, 2005

DCN: 4872

Virginia Amaro Labay
205 Utah Dr.
Portales, NM 88130

To: The Honorable James V. Hansen,

Please do not close Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, it will hurt 90% of us.

Thank you,
Virginia Amaro Labay

5/25/05 D

DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

Nikie Bonner
20 NM Hwy 467
Portales, NM 88130

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner,

This letter comes to you with my concern about the BRAC Commission's decision to close Cannon Air Force Base.

With all due respect for our military and the leaders who make these decisions, I wish to express my concern for the need of our community as well as the need of our Nation to have Cannon remain an Active Air Base. We have a climate that does allow for year-round flying and the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, as well as a bombing range that is within flying seconds from the air base. Cannon has the space and facilities to provide training for warfare readiness. We have been the home to many diverse aircraft and also will be capable of facilities and training to any new aircraft that could come.

Cannon does not fit the base closure criteria. Technology and implementation of training as well as the climate and airspace make Cannon a unique asset to our military and it would be a tragic mistake to close the base before taking all the benefits into account of keeping Cannon Air Force Base open.

The location of Cannon Air Force Base provides its own unique set of positive attributes. Our nation is not protected nearly enough Inland as it is on the Coastal regions. Those great leaders who have designed and planned the location of Cannon Air Force Base were intelligent in their decision to protect the central part of the United States with the Air Base located in Clovis New Mexico.

Your thoughts and influence are extremely important to this decision, and I will personally be praying for you and your ability to make a difference.

Respectfully Yours,

Nikie Bonner

Nikie Bonner

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DCN: 4872

Kyleen R. Willis
762 Southern Hills Pine Road
Portales, NM 88130

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner,

My family and I are very concerned about the BRAC Commission's decision to close Cannon Air Force Base.

We do not think the Commission is aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers for our national defense. To name just a few Cannon offers an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, year-round flying weather and the Melrose bombing range is seconds away from Cannon.

In addition to the military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the last 50 years by the local communities like no other in the country. We consider Cannon 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, plus the effect ripple effect that we will have on our public and higher education systems.

Respectfully yours,

Kyleen R. Willis

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General Lloyd W. Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

DCN: 4872

May 19, 205

General Newton:

I would like the BRAC Commission to consider the future of Cannon Airforce Base and other critical installations in the continental United States.

I feel that the world mission on terrorism and national security should be given top priority in sustaining this mission. This area surrounding Clovis, New Mexico provides excellent air space and maneuver areas for training the various branches of the Armed Forces. Roving Sands has been conducted in this area for several years and has played a vital role in preparing soldiers for their mission in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Support for the Armed Forces in this area, from the community, has always been one of pride and honor. We shed tears for those who do not return to their families and support them through difficult times. We extend a hand of appreciation to those who have served and honor their service to our country. This community flies the Stars and Stripes as an indication of our willingness to do all we can to keep this community in tack.

The closure of Cannon Air Force Base will mean that we will be losing neighbors and friends that serve and it will be a great loss of our patriotic association with a military installation. The cost of this action is more than economic. It will have an effect on a large part of Southeastern New Mexico and West Texas. I also feel that this will adversely affect services provided by the local V.A. Clinics, it's future, as well as other services provided to veterans in this area.

It is essential that the commission give careful consideration to the fate of Cannon Air Force Base and keep it operating for the sake of our national security and regional economic stability. The same consideration should be given to all other installations considered for closure

Sincerely,
Jessie + Marsha Lerma
Clovis, New Mexico.

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5/20/05

DCN: 4872

Belinda Hilliard
906 W 17th St.
Portales, NM

The Honorable Philip Coyle

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

I do not know if the Commission has considered the total impact on Curry and Roosevelt Counties. If 20% of the workforce in those communities will be affected, then 10-20% of the schools will be affected if those air force families move to other communities. Many personnel act as volunteers in Scouting; Meals on Wheels; Habitat for Humanity, youth sports programs, etc.

I believe that closing CAFB will have a disastrous effect on the surrounding communities Clovis and Portales will suffer long-term hardships financially as well as spiritually.

Please reconsider your decision and keep Cannon open.

Sincerely,

Belinda Hilliard

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DCN: 4872

20 May 2005

Mary M. Gardels
637 S. Roosevelt Rd. P
Portales, NM 88130

The Honorable James V. Hansen,

I am writing concerning the decision to close Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico. The closing of Cannon will have a very negative impact on Clovis, Portales, and the surrounding communities as far west to Amarillo and Lubbock, Texas.

New businesses are bustling now because of Cannon Air Force Base and Clovis and Portales have benefited tremendously.

I have lived in Portales, New Mexico most of my life and Cannon has always been a calming neighbor. I know my family and I are safe with Cannon next door to us. I look up at the sky and see the planes at night and am able to sleep without fear.

Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure as it has ample space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.

I will personally pray for you and your ability to make a difference in keeping Cannon Air Force Base open.

Respectfully yours,

Mary M. Gardels

Mary M. Gardels

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DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

BRAC Commission
2521 S Clark Street Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

RE: KEEP CANNON

Dear Sir:

Please KEEP Cannon open.

The impact to Eastern New Mexico will be devastating to an area that is supportive and essential for an air force base and its members.

The following supportive issues MUST be considered....

1) Weather
2) Area is ideal
3) Availability of flying space
4) Location includes Clovis, Portales, Amarillo and Lubbock
5) National security

Again, this is an important issue. Please reconsider and keep Cannon.

Sincerely,

Lloyd J. Seefeld

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

BRAC Commission
2521 S Clark Street Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

RE: KEEP CANNON

Dear Sir:

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Again, this is an important issue. Please reconsider and keep Cannon.

Sincerely,

Lloyd J. Seefeld

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

May 23, 2005

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

Dear BRAC Commission:

As a civilian employee at Cannon Air Force Base, and concerned citizens of Clovis, New Mexico, we will do whatever is necessary to help save our base. The personnel who have been at Cannon over the past 50 years have been very involved in the growth of our part of Eastern New Mexico. Many of these people have remained in our area, own businesses, have retired here, and will forever be Clovis and Portales residents.

It is unfortunate the BRAC Commission would consider a base that has one of only two bombing ranges in the United States. Currently there are Air Force personnel from Singapore training at Cannon, and have been coming here to train for about six years. The unfettered air space is another point that should not be overlooked. Above all, Cannon doesn't fit the criteria provided for base closure.

The citizens of Clovis, as well as the Cannon personnel, will not sit back and let this closure happen without a fight. Cannon is Clovis, and we need them as much as they need us. Another thing that is so unbelievable is that this base could close after millions of dollars in improvements to runways, housing, and the fire station have been done recently. What would happen to all the military housing in Clovis and Portales? This just doesn't make sense to us.

Again, we ask that you strongly consider removing Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC List. Thank you for giving this issues your utmost attention. We must win this fight.

Sincerely,

David & Linda Adkins

David and Linda Adkins
3604 Tom Watson
Clovis, NM 88101-3154

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DCN: 4872

May 23, 2005

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

General Turner:

I respectfully request that you reconsider closing Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico. I have read the criteria for base closure, and Cannon does not appear to meet that criteria. It seems to me that Cannon fits the criteria for an effective military warfare and training readiness base, not one which should be closed.

Cannon AFB enjoys sunshine the majority of the year, which is ideal for flying missions year round. There is an abundance of air space without encroachment, and the Melrose bombing range is nearby allowing for immediate training operations and fuel savings. From what I understand, Cannon will soon be allowed to fly supersonic during training missions. Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war fighting, training and readiness, and also ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.

I am the wife of a retired Chief who spent 30 years in the US Air Force. We spent most of that 30 year period at Cannon Air Force Base, and it was a very good experience most of the time. The relationship between the community and Cannon Air Force Base is a unique one. We have been stationed at other cities that did not want an Air Force Base near them, and the relationship between the base and community was strained at best. This community was always supportive of us as military personnel and dependants, and we decided to retire here. One of the main reasons we and many other retires decided to retire here was because of the military healthcare facility, and the privilege of using the commissary and BX. Many retirees for hundreds of miles depend on this base and its services. If Cannon closes, it will cause many retirees in this area undue hardship since many live on fixed incomes.

I realize you have a huge task ahead of you, but please reconsider the closure of Cannon Air Force Base. Cannon has many unique attributes to offer our national defense, and is needed in this community. I believe it would be to our country's benefit to keep Cannon AFB open.

Respectfully Yours,

Jonnie Loadwick

Jonnie Loadwick
2017 E. 21st Street
Clovis, NM 88101
loadwickjj@plateautel.net

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

May 23, 2005

Samuel K. Skinner
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner:

I respectfully request that you reconsider closing Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico. I have read the criteria for base closure, and Cannon does not appear to meet that criteria. It seems to me that Cannon fits the criteria for an effective military warfare and training readiness base, not one which should be closed.

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Respectfully Yours,

Jonnie Loadwick

Jonnie Loadwick
2017 E. 21st Street
Clovis, NM 88101
loadwickjj@plateautel.net

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

05-20-05

John Montoya j
E.N.M.U. #3628
Portales, N.M. 88130

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner,

I am heart felt concerned about the BRAC commission's decision to closing of Cannon Air Force Base.

This has been a rude awakening to neighboring communities where military families attend Clovis Community College and Eastern New Mexico University as well as job through out New Mexico. C. A. F. B. has been here for 50 years and has inspired many throughout, doing their best. Hundreds and thousands join in unison in support to all members of the 27th Fighting squad, the best TOP GUNS'.

What will become of this area if (civilians) lose their jobs? Many plants will be forced to close or be put on hold for some duration time. All will be affected without our troops and no one will help secure our southern borders from threat of terrorists. Assurance of our troops here will comfort many cities and towns.

Respectfully Yours,

John Montoya j

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DCN: 4872

1903 South Avenue I
Apartment E-3
Portales, NM 88130

The Honorable Phillip Coyle
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

The Honorable Phillip Coyle:

I don't write many letters that are very important to anyone. However when I heard about the BRAC Commission's decision to close Cannon Air Force Base, I knew I had some letter writing to do.

Cannon Air Force Base has become an integral part of our lives here in Portales, and in Clovis also. I married an airman from Cannon many, many years ago. When we were younger, before we relocated to another State, our house and our friends' homes were always open to Cannon Air Force personnel. Many of these young men and women were far from home and were homesick. Many of the homes, as well as churches and other organizations, were opened to these young people. That was 50 years ago. That still holds true today. Now more than ever Cannon and it's personnel have become an integral part of the communities in Southeastern New Mexico and even West Texas.

Of course the base has helped the economy of Clovis and Portales. They buy homes here, they shop here, and they attend church here. You name the activity, and usually you will find Cannon personnel involved. These people are so active in our communities. They are so full of energy. They often bring new ideas to the community. They have become a part of us in Portales and Clovis. Through the years, Cannon Air Force Base has grown and expanded. Now pilots and their crews come here from around the United States, and even from overseas, to conduct training exercises so they will be prepared for battle. There is a lot of open space in Southeastern New Mexico, and the base here has no encroachments, as so many of the bases do have. It is also considerably less expensive for a Cannon family to live here rather than in New York or Chicago or San Francisco. Those families who choose to can more easily buy a home here. There are good public schools and even private schools that are not nearly as expensive as almost any place else in America. Not only does this base benefit Southeastern New Mexico, it also benefits the Cannon personnel. I sincerely hope you will change your mind and keep the base open here.

Respectfully,

Kay F. Glenn

Kay F. Glenn

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DCN: 4872

Mr. Yale H. Squibb
PO Box 787
Portales, New Mexico 88130

May 21, 2005

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

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

I do not believe the commission is fully aware of the Unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment problems, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds and ideal year round flying weather, among many others.

In Addition to the military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the last 50 years by the local communities like no other in the country. We consider Cannon 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 the workforce, plus the ripple effect that will have on our public and higher education systems.

Here are more reasons to keep Cannon Air Force Base open:

Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.

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

The weather in eastern New Mexico provides year around training.

The Melrose Bombing Range is seconds away from Cannon.

Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint warfare training and Readiness.

Cannon has ample space / ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in Training and emergency situations.

The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect Candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and

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Other military aircraft.

The relationship between Cannon and the surrounding area: Clovis, Portales, West Texas, and others is unlike any other installation in the country.

The entire area, including Amarillo and Lubbock, is home to a large military retiree Population. These retirees rely on Cannon for healthcare, grocery shopping, and More. There is not another military installation close by to serve retired military.

In the early 90's, Curry County in conjunction with the state of New Mexico purchased Air easement around Cannon and gave them to the Air Force. This was done to Protect the air space from encroachment.

The local community purchased the land north of Cannon and gave it back to the Air Force for additional housing.

The local community purchased the land west of Cannon and gave it back to the Air Force for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at the base.

The local community spearheaded the effort to expand and convert the airspace to Supersonic capability through the New Mexico Training Range Initiative.

It Has been estimated that the closing of Cannon will cost the area the loss of more Jobs, percentage-wise, than any other area in the country.

The closing of Cannon will have a severe ripple effect on the economy of the entire State, and west Texas.

The closing of Cannon will have a very negative impact on education throughout the Area, including the public schools and Eastern New Mexico University and Clovis Community College.

Please, re-consider ALL the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

Yale Squibb

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DCN: 4872

Brenda Wiggins-Gonzales
1704 South Avenue B
Portales, NM 88130

May 20, 2005

The Honorable Phillip Coyle
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

The Honorable Coyle,

I would like to take a moment of your time to write and express my concern about the BRAC Commission's decision to close Cannon Air Force Base.

Cannon has unique attributes that contribute to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the air space to fly at supersonic speeds, and ideal year-round flying weather. Plus, with Cannon's ample space, they can accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.

The surrounding communities support Cannon unlike any other in the country, and would impact on the area greatly if this base were to close. There is a huge military retiree population (including West Texas) who rely on Cannon for healthcare, grocery shopping and more.

The closure of Cannon will have a substantial negative impact on our economy. It has been estimated that the area will lose at least 20 percent of its workforce, plus the ripple effect that we will have on our public and higher education systems.

I ask that you please reconsider your decision, take another look at all the facts, and recognize the support our communities and surrounding areas have to prevent Cannon Air Force Base from closing.

Respectfully Yours,

Brenda Wiggins-Gonzales

Brenda Wiggins-Gonzales

RECEIVED
5/25/05

DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

BRAC Commission
2521 S Clark Street Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

RE: KEEP CANNON

Dear Sir:

Please KEEP Cannon open.

The impact to Eastern New Mexico will be devastating to an area that is supportive and essential for an air force base and its members.

The following supportive issues MUST be considered....

1) Weather
2) Area is ideal
3) Availability of flying space
4) Location includes Clovis, Portales, Amarillo and Lubbock
5) National security

Again, this is an important issue. Please reconsider and keep Cannon.

Sincerely,

Lloyd J. Seefeld

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

Dorothy Bulls
105 Oklahoma Drive
Portales, New Mexico 88130

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi,

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

Please consider the following information:

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.
- The base has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- Once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is implemented, we will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions. This is a very important point, as it allows the Air Force to better train for real-life situations.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training ability.
- The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. This allows pilots to get airborne, and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range, rather than spending all of their fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, then returning to the base.
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.
- The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.
- Cannon has won countless awards, both on ACC level, Air Force and NAF levels, and national and STAT levels.
- The relationship between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding towns; Clovis, Portales, West Texas, and others, is unlike any other installation in the country.
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

Please consider the information listed above before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

Dorothy Bulls

RECEIVED 5/23/05

DCN: 4872

5-20-05

Doug Main
1617 E. Amazon
Portales, NM 88130

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner,

I am writing our of concerned about the BRAC Commission's decision to close Cannon Air Force Base. Cannon offers to our national defense several unique attributes that I believe the Commission is overlooking. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, and ideal year-round flying weather, among many others.

In addition to the military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the last 50 years by the local communities like no other in the country. We consider Cannon 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, plus the ripple effect that we will have on our public and higher education systems.
Please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision.

Sincerely,

Doug Main

Doug Main

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

Mr. Yale H. Squibb
PO Box 787
Portales, New Mexico 88130

May 21, 2005

The Honorable Philip Coyle
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

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

I do not believe the commission is fully aware of the Unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment problems, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds and ideal year round flying weather, among many others.

In Addition to the military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the last 50 years by the local communities like no other in the country. We consider Cannon 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 the workforce, plus the ripple effect that will have on our public and higher education systems.

Here are more reasons to keep Cannon Air Force Base open:

Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.

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

The weather in eastern New Mexico provides year around training.

The Melrose Bombing Range is seconds away from Cannon.

Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint warfare training and Readiness.

Cannon has ample space / ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in Training and emergency situations.

The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect Candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and

RECEIVED 5/25/05

Other military aircraft.

The relationship between Cannon and the surrounding area: Clovis, Portales, West Texas, and others is unlike any other installation in the country.

The entire area, including Amarillo and Lubbock, is home to a large military retiree Population. These retirees rely on Cannon for healthcare, grocery shopping, and More. There is not another military installation close by to serve retired military.

In the early 90's, Curry County in conjunction with the state of New Mexico purchased Air easement around Cannon and gave them to the Air Force. This was done to Protect the air space from encroachment.

The local community purchased the land north of Cannon and gave it back to the Air Force for additional housing.

The local community purchased the land west of Cannon and gave it back to the Air Force for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at the base.

The local community spearheaded the effort to expand and convert the airspace to Supersonic capability through the New Mexico Training Range Initiative.

It Has been estimated that the closing of Cannon will cost the area the loss of more Jobs, percentage-wise, than any other area in the country.

The closing of Cannon will have a severe ripple effect on the economy of the entire State, and west Texas.

The closing of Cannon will have a very negative impact on education throughout the Area, including the public schools and Eastern New Mexico University and Clovis Community College.

Please, re-consider ALL the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

Yale Squibb

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DCN: 4872

Mr. Yale H. Squibb
PO Box 787
Portales, New Mexico 88130

May 21, 2005

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

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The closing of Cannon will have a very negative impact on education throughout the Area, including the public schools and Eastern New Mexico University and Clovis Community College.

Please, re-consider ALL the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

Yale Squibb

RECEIVED 5/26/05

DCN: 4872

5-20-2005

Larry Lewis
1816 Wilshire Blvd
Clovis, NM 88101

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner,

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

I do not believe the Commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, and ideal year-round flying weather, among many others.

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The closure of Cannon will also have a devastating impact on your economy. It has been estimated that the area will lose at least 20 percent of its workforce, plus the ripple effect that we will have on our public and higher education systems.

Please consider all the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

Larry Lewis

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

5-20-2005

Bradley David Mauldin
1315 South Roosevelt Road #6
Portales NM, 88130

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi,

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

I do not believe the Commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, and ideal year-round flying weather, among many others.

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Please consider all the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

RECEIVED 5/25/05

Dear Mr. Principi, Ms. Turner, Mr. Bilbray, Mr. Coyle, Mr. Gehman, Mr. Hansen, Mr. Hill, Mr. Newton, & Mr. Skinner

I am a concerned citizen and family member of the Clovis/Portales/Cannon family in Curry County, New Mexico. I am writing you today to inform you that including Cannon Air Force Base on the BRAC list for closure has been a grave mistake. A mistake that I feel confident will be brought to light in your research, and a mistake that you will act upon by removing Cannon from the closure list. Above all reasons we may list as reasons to remove us from this list I want to point out that **we, and Cannon personnel are family.** When you talk of taking our family away it hurts the core of who we are, and hurts our heart.

Below I will point out ways our community has reached out and supported the base like no other community over the last 50 years. We've done so financially, morally, spiritually and above all, consistently. I have also listed reasons why we feel Cannon should be considered a viable and valuable resource to our national and global defense.

- Cannon **does not fit the criteria** provided for base closure.
- The base has an **abundance of air space and no encroachment issues**. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- Once the **New Mexico Training Range Initiative** is implemented, we will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions. This is a very important point, as it allows the Air Force to better train for real-life situations.
- The **weather in Eastern New Mexico** provides year round training ability.
- The **Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway** at Cannon. This allows pilots to get airborne, and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range, rather than spending all of their fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, then returning to the base.
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- The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the **perfect candidate to support future training missions** for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.
- Cannon has **won countless awards**, both on ACC level, Air Force and NAF levels, and national and STAT levels.

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DCN: 4872

- **The relationship** between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding towns; Clovis, Portales, West Texas, and others, is unlike any other installation in the country.

- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are **home to a large military retiree population**. These people rely on Cannon Air Force base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

Clovis has a strong 50-year relationship with Cannon and the military.

- In the early 90s, Curry County, in conjunction with the state of New Mexico, purchased air easements around Cannon Air Force base and **GAVE** them to the Air Force. This one done to protect that air space from encroachment and was an important issue for the Air Force.

- The local community purchased the land north of Cannon Air Force Base and **GAVE** it back to the Air Force for additional housing, now known as Chavez Manor.

- Within the last few years, our community purchased land west of Cannon and **GAVE** it back to the Air Force for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at the base.

- Leaders within our community spearheaded the effort to expand and convert the air space to supersonic capability through the New Mexico Training Range Initiative.

I am looking forward for your visit to our area so we can show you how valuable our relationship is with Cannon, as well as how valuable Cannon is to our country.

In summary, it comes down to two valued reasons why Cannon should **not** be closed:

1) Cannon is a valued current and future asset to our military forces and
2) Quite possibly the most important reason I write this note is that Cannon is our family, and has been for over 50 years. Please, we do not want to lose members of our family... please do not send our family away.

Sincerely,

Vern L Dale

Pamela J Hales

RECEIVED 5/25/05

Dear Mr. Principi, Ms. Turner, Mr. Bilbray, Mr. Coyle, Mr. Gehman, Mr. Hansen, Mr. Hill, Mr. Newton, & Mr. Skinner

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- The base has an **abundance of air space and no encroachment issues**. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
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RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

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2) Quite possibly the most important reason I write this note is that Cannon is our family, and has been for over 50 years. Please, we do not want to lose members of our family... please do not send our family away.

Sincerely, Eloy Chavez

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

05/19/05

Sandi Blakey
2242 S Roos. Rd. 9
Portales NM 88130

The Honorable James H. Bilbray

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

I do not believe the Commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, and ideal year-round flying weather, among many others.

In addition to the military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the last 50 years by the local communities like no other in the country. We consider Cannon 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, plus the ripple effect that we will have on our public and higher education systems.

Please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

Sandi L. Blakey

RECEIVED
5/23/05

DCN: 4872

20 May 2005

Mary M. Gardels
637 S. Roosevelt Rd. P
Portales, NM 88130

General James T. Hill,

I am writing concerning the decision to close Cannon Air Force Base, New Mexico. The closing of Cannon will have a very negative impact on Clovis, Portales, and the surrounding communities as far west to Amarillo and Lubbock, Texas.

New businesses are bustling now because of Cannon Air Force Base and Clovis and Portales have benefited tremendously.

I have lived in Portales, New Mexico most of my life and Cannon has always been a calming neighbor. I know my family and I are safe with Cannon next door to us. I look up at the sky and see the planes at night and am able to sleep without fear.

Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure as it has ample space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.

I will personally pray for you and your ability to make a difference in keeping Cannon Air Force Base open.

Respectfully yours,

Mary M. Gardels

Mary M. Gardels

RECEIVED 5/23/05

DCN: 4872

20 May 2005

Mary M. Gardels
637 S. Roosevelt Rd. P
Portales, NM 88130

General Lloyd W. Newton,

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Respectfully yours,

Mary M. Gardels

Mary M. Gardels

RECEIVED 6/23/05

DCN: 4872

20 May 2005

Mary M. Gardels
637 S. Roosevelt Rd. P
Portales, NM 88130

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner,

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Mary M. Gardels

Mary M. Gardels

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

20 May 2005

Mary M. Gardels
637 S. Roosevelt Rd. P
Portales, NM 88130

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner,

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Respectfully yours,

Mary M. Gardels

Mary M. Gardels

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

Judy Shearer
2107 W. Beech St.
Portales, NM 88130

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner,

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

I do not believe the Commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, and ideal year-round flying weather, among many others.

In addition to the military value to the nation, the relationship between Cannon and the surrounding area: Clovis, Portales, West Texas and others, is unlike any other installation in the country. We consider Cannon a part of our family.

The closing of Cannon will have a very negative impact on education Throughout the area, including the public schools and Eastern New Mexico University and Clovis Community College.

Please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

Judy Shearer

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

Eric D. Alaniz
1201 W. Ivy
Portales, NM 88130

May 20, 2005

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner
BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark St.
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Mr. Skinner:

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

It seems evident that the Commission did not have all the facts about Cannon when the decision was made. I believe Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure. Some unique attributes Cannon offers include:

- Ample space and facilities are readily available to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations, as well as joint warfare training and readiness;
- Air easements around Cannon to protect the air space from encroachment. These easements were purchased by Curry County with the help of the state of New Mexico and given to the Air Force.
- The local community has worked to expand and convert the air space to supersonic capability through the New Mexico Training Range Initiative, which is expected to be implemented soon.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico is good enough to allow for year-round training.

Closing Cannon will have an extremely negative impact, in several ways, on Clovis and Portales, as well as much of West Texas:

- An estimated 4780 jobs (approximately 20% of the Clovis/Portales Microplex work force), directly and indirectly generated by the base, will disappear. This job loss percentage is expected to be higher than any other affected area in the country.
- The ripple effect of these lost jobs will directly affect public education in the area, including public and private schools in both Clovis and Portales, Clovis Community College, and Eastern New Mexico University.
- The area, including Amarillo and Lubbock, TX, has a large military retiree population that depends on Cannon for heath care, grocery shopping, and more. There is no other military installation nearby to serve this population.

Please reconsider all of the facts before you make your final decision.

Respectfully yours,

RECEIVED 5/25/05

May 20, 2005

DCN: 4872

Virginia Amaro Labay
205 Utah Drive
Portales, New Mexico 88130

To: The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner,

Please do not close Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, it will hurt 90% of us.

Thank you,
Virginia Amaro Labay

RECEIVED 5/23/05

DCN: 4872

5-20-2005

Bradley David Mauldin
1315 South Roosevelt Road #6
Portales NM, 88130

The Honorable Philip Coyle,

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Please consider all the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

5-20-2005

Bradley David Mauldin
1315 South Roosevelt Road #6
Portales NM, 88130

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Please consider all the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

RECEIVED 6/25/05

DCN: 4872

May 19, 2005

Kathie Rolston
ENMU 3107
Portales, NM 88130

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi,

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

I do not believe the Commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, and ideal year-round flying weather, among many others.

In addition to the military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the last 50 years by the local communities like no other in the country. We consider Cannon a part 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, plus the ripple effect that we will have on our public and higher education systems.

Please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully yours,

Kathie Rolston

Kathie Rolston

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

5-20-05

H. Charles Reader
1724 Imperial Ct.
Clovis, NM 88101

The Honorable Samuel K, Skinner,

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

I do not believe the Commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly supersonic speeds, and ideal year-round flying weather, among many others.

In addition to the military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the last 50 years by the local communities like no other in the country. The local community purchased the land north of Cannon and gave it back to the Air Force for additional housing.

The local community purchased land west of Cannon and gave it back to the Air Force for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at the base.

The entire area, including Amarillo and Lubbock, is home to a large military retiree population. These retirees rely on Cannon for healthcare, grocery shopping and more. There is not another installation close by to serve retired military.

Please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

H Charles Reader

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

05-20-05

John Montoya j
E.N.M.U. #3628
Portales, N.M. 88130

The Honorable James V. Hansen,

I am heart felt concerned about the BRAC commission's decision to closing of Cannon Air Force Base.

This has been a rude awakening to neighboring communities where military families attend Clovis Community College and Eastern New Mexico University as well as job through out New Mexico. C. A. F. B. has been here for 50 years and has inspired many throughout, doing their best. Hundreds and thousands join in unison in support to all members of the 27th Fighting squad, the best TOP GUNS'.

What will become of this area if (civilians) lose their jobs? Many plants will be forced to close or be put on hold for some duration time. All will be affected without our troops and no one will help secure our southern borders from threat of terrorists. Assurance of our troops here will comfort many cities and towns.

Respectfully Yours,

John Montoya

RECEIVED 5/23/05

DCN: 4872

05-20-05

John Montoya j
E.N.M.U. #3628
Portales, N.M. 88130

General Lloyd W. Newton,

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This has been a rude awakening to neighboring communities where military families attend Clovis Community College and Eastern New Mexico University as well as job through out New Mexico. C. A. F. B. has been here for 50 years and has inspired many throughout, doing their best. Hundreds and thousands join in unison in support to all members of the 27th Fighting squad, the best TOP GUNS'.

What will become of this area if (civilians) lose their jobs? Many plants will be forced to close or be put on hold for some duration time. All will be affected without our troops and no one will help secure our southern borders from threat of terrorists. Assurance of our troops here will comfort many cities and towns.

Respectfully Yours,

John Montoya

RECEIVED 6/23/05

DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

The General James T. Hill,

This letter is in response to the proposed closing of Cannon Air Force Base.

I think Cannon AFB is a very vital attribute to the economy in the surrounding areas, including, but not limited to Clovis, Melrose, and Portales. Many jobs will be lost because of this closure and not to mention the impact that the military families leaving will have on the other business in the surrounding communities

Military spouses attend classes at Eastern New Mexico University and Clovis Community College and the enrollment would suffer if the base closes. Also, the public schools would be greatly impacted by the closure. Because of the military in the area, the community as a whole is very supportive and all the communities' relationship with Cannon Air Force Base is unlike any other in the country. The military is a positive thing in so many areas for Eastern New Mexico.

Cannon AFB is located in an area that would be perfect for pilots to have the ability to fly supersonic during training missions as there is an abundance of air space. The Melrose bombing range is just seconds away and the weather in eastern New Mexico is perfect for year-around training.

Eastern New Mexico has the space to expand and we are not a crowed area. To expand the base would only be positive, but to close the base would be devastating to our community.

I ask that you please reconsider the closure of Cannon Air Force Base as it is a vital part to all of the surrounding communities.

Respectfully yours,

Norma Stroik

Norma Stroik

RECEIVED 5/25/05

5/20/05

DCN: 4872

Belinda Hilliard
906 W 17th St.
Portales, NM

The Honorable James V. Hansen

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

I do not know if the Commission has considered the total impact on Curry and Roosevelt Counties. If 20% of the workforce in those communities will be affected, then 10-20% of the schools will be affected if those air force families move to other communities. Many personnel act as volunteers in Scouting; Meals on Wheels; Habitat for Humanity, youth sports programs, etc.

I believe that closing CAFB will have a disastrous effect on the surrounding communities Clovis and Portales will suffer long-term hardship financially as well as spiritually.

Please reconsider your decision and keep Cannon open.

Sincerely,

Belinda Hilliard

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5/23/05

DCN: 4872

Brenda Wiggins-Gonzales
1704 South Avenue B
Portales, NM 88130

May 20, 2005

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

General Hill,

I would like to take a moment of your time to write and express my concern about the BRAC Commission's decision to close Cannon Air Force Base.

Cannon has unique attributes that contribute to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the air space to fly at supersonic speeds, and ideal year-round flying weather. Plus, with Cannon's ample space, they can accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.

The surrounding communities support Cannon unlike any other in the country, and would impact on the area greatly if this base were to close. There is a huge military retiree population (including West Texas) who rely on Cannon for healthcare, grocery shopping and more.

The closure of Cannon will have a substantial negative impact on our economy. It has been estimated that the area will lose at least 20 percent of its workforce, plus the ripple effect that we will have on our public and higher education systems.

I ask that you please reconsider your decision, take another look at all the facts, and recognize the support our communities and surrounding areas have to prevent Cannon Air Force Base from closing.

Respectfully Yours,

Brenda Wiggins-Gonzales

Brenda Wiggins-Gonzales

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DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

Susan Glenn
610 Wylie Cox Circle
Portales, NM 88130

General Lloyd W. Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

General Lloyd W. Newton:

The BRAC /Commission's decision to close Cannon Air Force Base has me very concerned. I implore you to reconsider the unique attributes that Cannon offers our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range the Air Force now owns that is only seconds away, and the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds.

I do not believe that Cannon fits the criteria provided for base closure. Once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is in place pilots will be able to fly at supersonic speeds during training. Cannon also has the space and facilities to accommodate joint warfare training and readiness and ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.

Curry County has purchased air easements around Cannon in conjunction with the State of New Mexico, purchased land north of the base for housing, purchased land west of Cannon for instrument lighting on the alternate runway and has given it all to the Air Force for Cannon.

According to the Department of Defense, Clovis would be the hardest-hit community on the BRAC closure list as far as the percentage of projected job losses from the local economy. As much as 26% of employment in Curry County alone is traced to Cannon with a loss of $173 million in gross-receipts taxes annually which does not include Portales where 250 airmen and their families make their home. It has been estimated that the closing of Cannon will cost this area the loss of more jobs, percentage-wise that any other area in the county having a severe ripple effect on the economy of the entire state. Clovis/Portales are small communities and Cannon Air Force Base is so much a part of our lives. I was even born there in the early 60's.

I implore you to please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Susan Glenn

RS 5/23/05

DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Brigadier General Sue E. Turner,

I am very concerned about the BRAC Commission's decision to close Cannon Air Force Base. I was born and raised in Clovis, New Mexico and feel very hurt if they loose CAFB.

I do not believe the Commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and to encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, and ideal year-round flying weather, among many others.

In addition to the military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the last 50 years by the local communities like no other in the country. We consider Cannon 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, plus the ripple effect that we will have on our public and higher education systems.

Please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision, and don't forget we are in the middle of a war and this would be devastating to close CAFB at this time.

Please feel free to call me if you need further information.

Respectfully Yours,

Olympia Chino

Olympia Chino
1607 N. Main
Portales, NM 88130
505-356-2114

RECEIVED 5/25/05

May 20, 2005

DCN: 4872

Virginia Amaro Labay
205 Utah Dr.
Portales, N.M. 88130

To: General James T. Hill,

Please do not close Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, it will hurt 90% of us.

Thank you,
Virginia Amaro Labay

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DCN: 4872

John and Noelle Bartl
1586 Simnacher Rd.
Portales, NM 88130
505-359-0171

Operation KEEP CANNON

May 19, 2005

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Bridgadier General Sue E. Turner:

This letter is in support of keeping Cannon Air Force Base open. Cannon does not appear to fit the criteria provided for base closure.

I have lived and traveled much in my life and have never found people friendlier and more supportive of their local military base than the Clovis and Portales communities.

Eastern New Mexico is an ideal location to maintain a military base. The weather in New Mexico provides for year round training. The Melrose bombing range is seconds away from Cannon. In the early 1990's, Curry County, in conjunction with the state of New Mexico purchased air easements around Cannon and gave them to the Air Force. This was done to protect the air space from encroachment.

The local community spearheaded the effort to expand and convert the airspace to supersonic capabilities through the New Mexico Training Range Initiative. Once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is implemented, Cannon will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions. This availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft. Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint warfare training and readiness as well as an opportunity to expand the base in the future if necessary.

It has been estimated that the closing of Cannon will cost this area the loss of more jobs, percentage-wise, than any other area in the country. The closing of Cannon would have a serious ripple effect on the economy of the entire state and West Texas. Closing Cannon would also seriously effect education in the area including the public schools, Eastern New Mexico University and Clovis Community College.

Come see for yourself, what a difference Cannon Air Force Base makes in our community. I hope that you will agree that Cannon does not fit the BRAC Commission's criteria for closing a base. Thank you for your time and consideration of this important issue affecting our community.

Sincerely,

RECEIVED 05/25/05

Noelle Bartl

Noelle Bartl

DCN: 4872

May 19, 2005

Don Chaye
PO Box 544
Portales NM 88130

RECEIVED 5/25/05

The Honorable James V. Hansen

I write to you with great concern regarding the closure of Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico.

I am a resident of Portales, New Mexico, a small rural town located near Cannon Air Force Base. I realize that BRAC Commission's decision to close ~~the~~ Cannon may seem necessary but it will have a negative affect on our economy in Portales, Clovis and the surrounding community. The many service men, women and their families greatly contribute to economy of our town of 14,000. Closure of Cannon would also mean closure of many home owned and operated businesses.

DCN: 4872

5-12-05

VIVIANO R. ARCHULETA
2820 BELLAMAH DR.
SANTA FE NEW MEXICO 87507

GENERAL LLOYD W. NEWTON,

I HAVE BECOME VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE BRAC COMMISSION'S DECISION TO CLOSE CANNON AIR FORCE BASE.

I BELIEVE THAT THE UTMOST CONSIDERATION ON THE EFFECTS THE CLOSURE OF CANNON AIR FORCE BASE WILL HAVE ON OUR STATE, ITS COMMUNITIES AND OUR SURROUNDING NEIGHBORS, INCLUDING WEST TEXAS.

IN ADDITION TO THE MILITARY VALUE TO THE NATION, CANNON HAS BEEN SUPPORTED OVER THE LAST 50 YEARS BY OUR STATE, THE CLOVIS COMMUNITY AND ITS NEIGHBORS INCLUDING WEST TEXAS.

THE CLOSURE OF CANNON WILL ALSO HAVE A DEVASTATING IMPACT ON OUR ECONOMY. THE AREA WILL LOSE ATLEAST 20% OF ITS WORKFORCE AND PUT ALOT OF PEOPLE OUT OF WORK.

PLEASE RECONSIDER VERY CAREFULLY ABOUT THE EFFECTS SUCH CLOSURE WILL HAVE BEFORE MAKING YOUR FINAL DECISION.

RESPECTFULLY,
Viviano Archuleta

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DCN: 4872

5-19-05

VIVIANO R. ARCHULETA
2820 BELLAMAH DR
SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO 87507

BRIGADIER GENERAL SUE E. TURNER,

I AM A VERY CONCERNED U.S. CITIZEN ABOUT THE BRAC COMMISSIONS DECISION TO CLOSE CANNON AIR FORCE BASE.

I BELIEVE THAT BETTER CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN THE MATTER OF CLOSING CANNON AIR FORCE BASE, BECAUSE OF THE NEEDS OUR NATIONAL DEFENSE HAS, AND BECAUSE OF CANNON'S NEEDS OFFERED TO OUR NATIONAL DEFENSE TEAM.

CANNON'S NEEDS HAVE BEEN MET BY THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO - THE CLOVIS COMMUNITY AND ITS SURROUNDING NEIGHBORS - INCLUDING WEST TEXAS.

THE CLOSING OF CANNON WILL HAVE A VERY NEGATIVE EFFECT ON THE CLOVIS COMMUNITY & ITS NEIGHBORS.

PLEASE CONSIDER ALL NEGATIVE EFFECTS THAT THE CLOSURE OF CANNON AIR FORCE BASE WILL HAVE ON ALL ASPECTS OF OUR NATIONAL DEFENSE.

RESPECTFULLY YOURS,

Viviano R. Archuleta

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DCN: 4872

May 20, 2005

Stephanie McClary
418 Monticello Parkway
Portales, NM

General Lloyd W. Newton,

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

I do not believe the Commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, and ideal year-round flying weather, among many others.

In addition to the military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the last 50 years by the local communities like no other in the country. We consider Cannon 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, plus the ripple effect that we will have on our public and higher education systems.

For the sake of my family and my community, please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

Stephanie McClary

Stephanie McClary

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DCN: 4872

Bob Greenspan •1 Tulane Court • Rancho Mirage • CA • 92270
Cell: (760) 880-0580
Email: tennisman1939@yahoo.com

May 20, 2005

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

Are we Closing the Right Bases?

Dear Commission Members:

I own a small lot in Clovis New Mexico, where **Cannon Air Force Base** has been located since 1943. Although I own this lot in Clovis I was born and raised in Los Angeles and spent a number of years in San Diego County as well.

I'm sure the folks in Clovis will give you a lot of information about why Cannon should be taken off the BRAC list because of logistics, air space, proximity to bombing ranges etc. I don't know about these things so I can't say much about that sort of stuff.

What I do know is that if the whole idea of the Base Closings is to save money, then Mr. Rumsfeld and them fellas advising him up at the Pentagon, got it all wrong. It don't take a ton of bricks to fall on your head to figure out that California land, any California land, is worth a hell of a lot more than any land in Clovis or for that matter any land in the whole darn State of New Mexico!

If Cannon closes you could not give the land and buildings away. There is no market for the base or it's surrounding lands. You could advertise it on Ebay and you might get some nuts who would bid a few thousand dollars for it just to say they own an Air Force Base and they might start a commune on it just like them hippies did in the 1960's. But seriously, who is going to buy it? What company is going to relocate to Clovis and take over the base? Where are the people who lose their jobs going to get another one?

Clovis is in the middle of nowhere! Have you looked at a map of New Mexico? Please get one out and look at it. Look for the closest big city? Look for the closest Interstate Highway connection. Can't find one can you. I told you, Clovis is in the middle of nowhere, which is good if you want lots of wide-open spaces to fly airplanes and not have complaints about the noise.

Now I want to compare Cannon AFB and Clovis to Miramar Naval Air Station in the heart of San Diego County. Miramar is surrounded on all sides by homes, shopping centers, office complexes etc. I am no real estate mogul like Donald Trump but I bet if you asked him he would put together a group of investors and make a MULTI BILLION DOLLAR offer to buy the whole darn base. I know the City & County of San Diego was looking at it a few years ago as a place to

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put their new airport. Look what happened at the Naval Training Center in San Diego. The base was closed and sold to the private sector and now it is full of homes, shopping centers, offices, businesses etc. This was prime land only 5 minutes ride to Downtown San Diego's waterfront! The same thing is happening in Orange County with the closing of the El Toro and Santa Ana Bases. The private sector has bought or is buying these bases. They already surround them.

According to Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, this year's BRAC recommendations should result in some $5.5 billion in recurring annual savings and a net savings of $48.8 billion over the next 20 years. Heck, if you close and sell off Miramar you could probably raise a minimum of $10 Billion just on this base alone. In it smack dab in the middle of San Diego, where property is sold by the foot, not the acre!

Not only do you make money on the sale of the land, you also save money on housing costs for our soldiers and sailors. It just seems to me that with the low cost of housing and low cost of living and the wide-open spaces Clovis is the place to have a base. The Department of Defense will pay $2,000 or $3,000 or more per month for housing subsidies to house officers and their families in places like San Diego, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Oakland, San Bernardino or any other big city or Metroplex when it would probably only cost $500 per month for a housing subsidy in Clovis or Portales. Plus there is no wasted commuting time. Cannon Air Force Base is just a few minutes from Downtown Clovis. The Commute in San Diego County to Miramar could be an hour or more on the clogged freeways.

Just look at these figures I pulled off the Internet about San Diego:

San Diego County's high housing prices, coupled with its relatively low wages, make it the **second least affordable area in the country**, the National Association of Home Builders reported." (*San Diego Union-Tribune*, 1/7/05)

- The average **new detached home in San Diego County sells for $781,000**, the average new condominium for $490,000 and the average condo conversion unit for $303,000. (2/28/05, *San Diego Business Journal*/MarketPointe Realty Advisors.)
- San Diego County's resale **single family homes are at a record high median price of $530,000;** the median resale price for condos is $380,000. (SDUT/DataQuick Information Systems, 2-11-05)
- The **median price of housing** in San Diego **doubled between 2000 and 2004, but the median household income only increased 10.4 percent**. (SDUT, 10/31/04)
- Just **11 percent of households are able to purchase the median-priced home**, according to the California Association of Realtors. (*North County Times*, 2/11/05)
- According to the National Association of Realtors, **"The median price of a single-family house [in San Diego] has increased** $152,700 in the last year, or **$418 per day**." (SDUT, 8/31/04)
- "'San Diego's Housing Market is one of the most inflated in the country – a detrimental factor in terms of recruiting and retaining employees,' said Kristine Norquist, Communications Manager for the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce." (*The Daily Transcript*, 2/18/05.)
- **"'Housing prices are too high for middle-income people,'** said Larry Fitch – the president of San Diego Workforce Partnership. 'People are now living in Tijuana and

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Riverside and putting stress on our roads commuting to their jobs because they can't afford homes in San Diego, and some people are leaving the area.'" (SDBJ, 1/17/05)

- **Families have to make nearly $135,000 to afford median priced homes in San Diego.** In other words, the median income of San Diego households is less than half what is needed to buy a median priced home. "The monthly income needed to buy a median-priced home in San Diego County rose to $134,420, from $109,130" from December 2003 to December 2004. (NCT, 2/11/05)
- In San Diego, 29 percent of residents are considering moving out of the state because of high housing prices, according to the Public Policy Institute of California. (SDUT, 11/18/04)

You are not doing a military family a favor by putting them in San Diego or Los Angeles or any other big expensive city! Military bases need to be in small town America where it costs less to own a home, where the kids can get a good education, where families can experience a true quality of life, instead of a concrete jungle and where the Military has the room to do what they need to do.

I am not against closing bases. In fact I am in favor of closing bases and reducing costs. But let's make sure we close "THE RIGHT BASES".

Respectfully,

Bob Greenspan

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

May 18, 2005

Dear Sirs,

We are a second grade class at Mesa Elementary School in Clovis, New Mexico. We are writing to tell you that we would like to see Cannon Air Force Base stay in our community. About half of our students are military at our school. Their parents are a great partner with our faculty and other faculties in our town. We believe Cannon AFB is in an effective location and able to serve the U.S. in many ways other bases can't. Our flying space is vast. Our town respects this base and we all work together to make our community a good place for our military citizens to live.

Our military parents - work hard at Mesa in so many ways. We want to keep them here.

Please reconsider your decision or recommendation to close our base.

DCN: 4872

TO: **BRAC Commissioners**
DATE: 5/23/05
SUBECT: **Reconsider and take Cannon AFB off the closure list**

Please keep our base open so that our retired military family can stay close to us!

Thank you and please let God help with this decision -

Marilyn Hartle
2508 Wallace
Clovis, N. M.
88101

Signed_____

PS: On a personal note,

RECEIVED
5/25/05

Dear Mr. Principi, Ms. Turner, Mr. Bilbray, Mr. Coyle, Mr. Gehman, Mr. Hansen, Mr. Hill, Mr. Newton, & Mr. Skinner

I am a concerned citizen and family member of the Clovis/Portales/Cannon family in Curry County, New Mexico. I am writing you today to inform you that including Cannon Air Force Base on the BRAC list for closure has been a grave mistake. A mistake that I feel confident will be brought to light in your research, and a mistake that you will act upon by removing Cannon from the closure list. Above all reasons we may list as reasons to remove us from this list I want to point out that **we, and Cannon personnel are family.** When you talk of taking our family away it hurts the core of who we are, and hurts our heart.

Below I will point out ways our community has reached out and supported the base like no other community over the last 50 years. We've done so financially, morally, spiritually and above all, consistently. I have also listed reasons why we feel Cannon should be considered a viable and valuable resource to our national and global defense.

- Cannon **does not fit the criteria** provided for base closure.
- The base has an **abundance of air space and no encroachment issues**. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- Once the **New Mexico Training Range Initiative** is implemented, we will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions. This is a very important point, as it allows the Air Force to better train for real-life situations.
- The **weather in Eastern New Mexico** provides year round training ability.
- The **Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway** at Cannon. This allows pilots to get airborne, and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range, rather than spending all of their fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, then returning to the base.
- Cannon has the **space and facilities to accommodate** joint war-fighting, training, and readiness; as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
- Cannon has **ample space/ramp space** to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.
- The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the **perfect candidate to support future training missions** for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.
- Cannon has **won countless awards**, both on ACC level, Air Force and NAF levels, and national and STAT levels.

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DCN: 4872

- **The relationship** between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding towns; Clovis, Portales, West Texas, and others, is unlike any other installation in the country.

- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are **home to a large military retiree population**. These people rely on Cannon Air Force base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

Clovis has a strong 50-year relationship with Cannon and the military.

- In the early 90s, Curry County, in conjunction with the state of New Mexico, purchased air easements around Cannon Air Force base and **GAVE** them to the Air Force. This one done to protect that air space from encroachment and was an important issue for the Air Force.

- The local community purchased the land north of Cannon Air Force Base and **GAVE** it back to the Air Force for additional housing, now known as Chavez Manor.

- Within the last few years, our community purchased land west of Cannon and **GAVE** it back to the Air Force for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at the base.

- Leaders within our community spearheaded the effort to expand and convert the air space to supersonic capability through the New Mexico Training Range Initiative.

I am looking forward for your visit to our area so we can show you how valuable our relationship is with Cannon, as well as how valuable Cannon is to our country.

In summary, it comes down to two valued reasons why Cannon should **not** be closed:

1) Cannon is a valued current and future asset to our military forces and
2) Quite possibly the most important reason I write this note is that Cannon is our family, and has been for over 50 years. Please, we do not want to lose members of our family... please do not send our family away.

Sincerely,

Ruben Galvan

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DCN: 4872

May 21, 2005

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

Dear Honorable Anthony J. Principi,

As a community, we are very concerned about the Brac Commissions decision to recommend Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico, for closure. I do not believe the commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include, but are not limited to, an abundance of airspace over land, no encroachment issues, a supersonic bombing range (Dec '05) just seconds away, ample airspace vertically as well as horizontally, and ideal year round flying weather. Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint warfare training and readiness, as well as surge force requirements in training and emergency situations. Our communities have always strongly supported our base by purchasing air easements around Cannon as well as land for housing and expansion, and then donating it back to the base. Cannon has absolutely zero encroachment issues from the community, as well as valuable supersonic air space *over land* that is irreplaceable for training.

Our community would be decimated with the unnecessary closure of Cannon. My practice alone is made up of 36% military dependants. If Cannon were to close, the rippling effects on our state and West Texas would be devastating. We are already feeling the effects with just the recommendation that the base be closed.

Please reconsider your decision to include Cannon in the BRAC list. We believe that once you hear all the facts, that you will also realize that Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.

Thank you for your time,

Sincerely,

Dr. Peter L. Thompson
President
Thompson Family Dentistry.

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DCN: 4872

May 21, 2005

Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark St, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Honorable James H. Bilbray

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Thank you for your time,

Sincerely,

Micah Thompson

Micah Thompson.

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

May 21, 2005

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

Dear Honorable Anthony J. Principi,

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May 21, 2005

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner
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2521 South Clark St, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

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Thompson Family Dentistry

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RECEIVED 5/28/05

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May 21, 2005

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

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Arlington, VA 22202

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RECEIVED 5/26/05

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RECEIVED 5/25/05

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Honorable Philip Coyle
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark St, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

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President
Thompson Family Dentistry.

RECEIVED 5/25/05

May 20, 2005

DCN: 4872

Virginia Amaro Labay
205 Utah Dr.
Portales, N.M 88130

TO: General Lloyd W. Newton,

Please do not close Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, it will hurt 90% of us.

Thank you,
Virginia Amaro Labay

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

Keep Cannon

BLACK age 5

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

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RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

May 19, 2005

Adam Morrison
1216 Libra Dr
Portales, NM 88130

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner

Several months ago I was working at Plateau, a telecommunications company in Clovis, NM. One day, we had a consultant from Washington, D.C. speaking to many of the employees. The facility we were in lies right under one of Cannon AFB's take-off and landing paths, so it didn't take long for a plane to go over and set the building to rumbling. The consultant looked around and explained to the group that the sound made him nervous because he was from Washington D.C. and it reminded him of September 11. Many of the group smiled a little at his concern and one lady expressed the sentiment of the whole room. She said, "We're not nervous. That's our protection."

While you may have heard from a grouch or two that we don't need Cannon, the majority of the community wants the base to stay right here. There have even been rumors that Luke AFB may close and move its personnel to Cannon. While we are sorry for Phoenix's loss, we are very excited at the idea of Cannon expanding and bringing more prosperity to our area.

I have lived in this area for my entire life and I have only once seen the community more concerned and united than I have for the last week. The only time that the community has united more was on September 12, 2001. Every store in town had an American flag flying and a sign saying to pray for our country and her leaders. If Cannon does close, the impact to Clovis, Portales, and the surrounding area would be much like the recession our country went into after the terrorist attacks. After experiencing the new growth of the last few months, we would all hate to see our local economy suffer.

I feel that closing Cannon would be a mistake. My father was in the navy and I grew up hearing stories of how many military bases are not appreciated by their surrounding communities. I can't imagine another area where the civilians are as supportive and appreciative of the military base as we are in eastern New Mexico.

Please keep Cannon AFB open!

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Portales, NM 88130

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Please keep Cannon AFB open!

Sincerely,

Adam Morrison

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RECEIVED 5/28/05

DCN: 4872

Dear Sue E. Turner,

As a New Mexico resident for more than 10 years now Cannon Air Force Base has affected my life, and my surrounding communities in many ways. I lived across the highway from Cannon for many years. Even though I am not personally affiliated with the base itself, I, along with many others still continue to be affected by its every action.

The base has been there as long as I can remember. The base has shared a bond with its surroundings for more than 50 years now. Changing this would leave the economy and surrounding areas left to fade away. The base has brought a rise in economy to Eastern New Mexico and parts of West Texas. All the new businesses would struggle, because more than half of their business comes from the people of Cannon, their family and friends.

Before living in New Mexico I lived in Atwater, California and I was there when the closing of Castle Air Base took place. I might have been young but I still knew what was going on. The base went down and so did the town. The town had just begun to grow just as Clovis is expanding. Today, looking back at Atwater you see that the base property was taken over by a maximum-security prison. In my opinion this is what would happen to Clovis and nobody around here needs that. Who knows who will take over the property and what will happen to it. Even if no body does anything with it, still it will be left to rot away.

The relationship between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding towns; such as: Clovis, Portales, West Texas and many others, is unlike any other installation in the country. These are smaller well-rounded cities, which finally found their chance to grow and they took it.

I believe it would be a big mistake to close Cannon leaving all of Eastern New Mexico and West Texas to fend for itself. Our communities extremely need Cannon as part of their everyday life. In the early 90s, Curry County, as well as the State of New Mexico, purchased air easements around Cannon Air Force Base and GAVE them to the Air Force. This was done to protect that air space and this was an important issue for the Air Force. At the least the Air Force can do is stay around and continue helping our communities in our times of need.

We have supported the base like no other community over the last 50 years. We have done so financially, morally, spiritually, and most of all consistently. So what is to stop us now? Part of the Air Forces Mission is that: "Our company measures its success by its impact on the world, our country and the lives of its men and women." So please let us continue to help the base, and more than all let the base help us.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Audra Scofield

Audra Scofield :)

RECEIVED 5/28/08

DCN: 4872

Worley Harper
513 Prarieview Dr.
Clovis, NM 88101

May 20, 2005

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

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner,

I moved back to this area about 9 months ago because the rapid growth of the region offered many good job opportunities. I have seen the financial impact that Canon Air Force Base has on the economy in this area and believe it would be a disaster for the area businesses and the local economy if Cannon Air Force Base were to close. Just listing Cannon on the BRAC list has already had a negative impact on the banking and housing markets.

Sincerely,
Worley Harper

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

Rick Taylor
P.O. Box 2461
Portales, NM 88130

May 20, 2005

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

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P.O. Box 2461
Portales, NM 88130

May 20, 2005

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

Honorable James H. Bilbray,

I was stationed at Cannon until my retirement. I have seen the financial impact that Canon Air Force Base has on the economy in this area and believe it would be a disaster for the area businesses and the local economy if Cannon Air Force Base were to close. Just listing Cannon on the BRAC list has already had a negative impact on the banking and housing markets.

Sincerely,
Rick Taylor

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4872

Worley Harper
513 Prarieview Dr.
Clovis, NM 88101

May 20, 2005

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

Honorable Samuel K. Skinner,

I moved back to this area about 9 months ago because the rapid growth of the region offered many good job opportunities. I have seen the financial impact that Canon Air Force Base has on the economy in this area and believe it would be a disaster for the area businesses and the local economy if Cannon Air Force Base were to close. Just listing Cannon on the BRAC list has already had a negative impact on the banking and housing markets.

Sincerely,
Worley Harper

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Honorable Philip Coyle,

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