DCN: 4873

May 20, 2005

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

Dear Sir:

I want to be one of many community members voicing my plea for Cannon Air Force Base.

Our nation's defense against those that would do us harm is much more important than our community, though, and I feel if you study the pros and cons you will see the benefit of leaving Cannon Air Force Base as is.

Please consider this very serious situation, and thanking you in advance. We need security for our people.

I am 95 years of age and have lost loved ones in wars, and I know I'm not alone. Let us do all possible to keep our defense strong.

Sincerely,

Ruth Morin

Ruth Morin
114 East 17th Lane
Portales, NM 88130

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Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission

Comissioner

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Senator Pete Domenici, FAX
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> **"1. The current and future mission capabilities and the impact on operational readiness of the total force of the Department of Defense, including the impact on joint warfighting, training, and readiness."**

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Diana Huey
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Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission

DCN: 4873

Comissioner

General Lloyd W. "Fig" Newton (USAF, Ret)

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Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission

DCN: 4873

Comissioner

The Honorable James V. Hansen

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4873

May 23, 2005

Commissioners - Base Realignment and Closure Commission
Govenor Bill Richardson, FAX
Senator Pete Domenici, FAX
Senator Jeff Bingaman, Email
Representative Tom Udall, FAX
Representative Steve Pearce, FAX
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Comissioner

Admiral Harold W. (Hal) Gehman, Jr. (USN, Ret)

RECEIVED 5/25/05

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DCN: 4873

Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission

Comissioner

The Honorable Philip Coyle

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4873

May 23, 2005

Commissioners - Base Realignment and Closure Commission
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DCN: 4873

Comissioner

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Since the following four criteria were not DOD's prime focus, we will only comment that without Cannon's payroll and manpower the twelve communities around here that depend on Cannon's manpower and income will suffer a lot. Without Cannon's manpower, groups such as the Boy Scouts of America, the Girl Scouts of America, all Little Leagues, Habitat for Humanity, etc. will be hurting for volunteers to help with their programs. We would imagine that some of these programs will even become nonexistant.

"5. The extent and timing of potential costs and savings, including the number of years, beginning with the date of completion of the closure or realignment, for the savings to exceed the costs."

"6. The economic impact on existing communities in the vicinity of military installations."

"7. The ability of the infrastructure of both the existing and potential receiving communities to support forces, missions, and personnel."

"8. The environmental impact, including the impact of costs related to potential environmental restoration, waste management, and environmental compliance activities."

We do not think that the DOD has examined the Air Force's infrastructure and reorganized it to make the most efficient and effective use of all its resources; improve operational efficiency; save taxpayer dollars; advance transformation and enhance the combat effectiveness of our military forces.

If the above Range and the NMTRI are not enough to show the needed **Military Value** we would offer the fact that the following awards have been won by the Troops at CAFB over the past two and one half years, which means that the men and women at Cannon have a very high work ethic:

AIR COMBAT COMMAND AWARDS (ACC):

1. 27th Fighter Wing - Safety Office – 2003 ACC Flight Safety Special Achievement Award
2. 27th Fighter Wing - Detachment 224 AFOSI – 2003 ACC Small Office of Special Investigations Detachment of the Year
3. 27th Fighter Wing - Services Squadron –2003 Winner and 2004 Finalist ACC for Eubank Award
4. Cannon Air Force Base – 2003 ACC Winner and 2004 Runner-up for the ACC Self Help Program
5. 27th Fighter Wing – Maintenance Operations Squadron – 2003 ACC Finalist for Maintenance Training Flight of the Year
6. 27th Fighter Wing – Medical Operations Squadron - 2003 ACC Outstanding Medical Logistics Activity Team Award – Category 4
7. 27th Fighter Wing – Operations Support Squadron – Airfield Operations Flight of the Year
8. 27th Fighter Wing – Services Squadron – 2004 Whispering Winds Golf Course in ACC
9. 27th Fighter Wing – Services Squadron – 2004 ACC Services Fitness and Sports Award
10. 27th Fighter Wing – Aeromedical Dental Squadron – 2004 ADOS ACC Quarterly Safety Award
11. 27th Fighter Wing – Maintenance Group – 2004 Clements McMullen Daedalian Weapons System Maintenance Trophy
12. 27th Fighter Wing – 2004 ACC Safety Special Achievement Award
13. 27th Fighter Wing – Aeromedical Dental Squadron – 2004 ACC Unit Safety Award of Distinction
14. 27th Fighter Wing – Mission Support Squadron – 2004 Alutiiq Team of the Year
15. 27th Fighter Wing – Mission Support Squadron – 2004 Nathan Altschuler Award for Excellence in Education Program
16. 27th Fighter Wing – 2004 ACC Flight Safety Achievement Award
17. 27th Fighter Wing – 2004 ACC Flight Safety Award
18. 27th Fighter Wing – 2004 ACC Explosives Safety Award
19. 27th Fighter Wing – 2004 ACC Medical Safety Achievement Award
20. 27th Fighter Wing – 2004 ACC Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (AFOUA)
21. 27th Fighter Wing – 2004 ACC Colombian Trophy
22. 27th Fighter Wing – 2005 CINC Installation Excellence Award

AIR FORCE AWARDS:

23. 27th Fighter Wing – Civil Engineering Squadron – 2003 Society of American Military

Engineers Major General Robert E. Curtin Award

24. 27th Fighter Wing – Safety Office – 2003 Colombian Trophy
25. 27th Fighter Wing – Maintenance Group – 2004 Clements McMullen Daedalian Weapons System Maintenance Trophy

OTHER AWARDS:

26. 27th Fighter Wing – Maintenance Group - 2004 Secretary of Defense Maintenance Award
27. CAFB Enlisted Spouses Club – 2004 Fisher House Foundation, "Newman's Own" Award
28. 27th Fighter Wing – 524th Fighter Squadron – 2003 David C. Schilling Award
29. 27th Fighter Wing – 2004 Winner of "Green Zia" Environmental Excellence Award – (7th Consecutive Year and Tree City 4th Consecutive Year)

Again we are writing this letter to say that we want Cannon Air Force Base to stay open and **NOT** remain on the Base Realignment and Closure Commission's (BRAC) list of Bases to be closed. Also, we think that the flying time available, the flight time to the range and the past awards given to the men and women a Cannon need to be considered as **Military Value.**

Sincerely,

Ken Huey, Jr.
Phone: 505.762.5294
Email: kenhuey@plateautel.net

Diana Huey
505.762.5294
diana_huey@hotmail.com

DCN: 4873

The Base Realignment and Closure Commission
Commissioner Philip Coyle
2521 S. Clark St.
Arlington, VA 22202

RECEIVED
4-24-05
5-24-05 JR

18 May, 2005

Dear Sir:

I am asking you to reconsider the BRAC decision to close Cannon Air Force Base near the eastern New Mexico towns of Clovis and Portales. Some of the reasons are as follows:

1. Cannon's active role in training and participation in the defense of our Nation for over 50 years.
2. The potential supersonic air space and average 360 flying days a year weather-wise.
3. The combat readiness of the Wing.
4. The top status award winning Maintenance Unit.
5. The lack of encroachment upon and by the civilian community.
6. The recent extension of the runways the new tower, the security beefing up of the overpass and guard entrance to the Base, and the hundreds of dollars allocated for other improvements which will be spent.
7. The many Base facilities offering support to the Service Men and their families:
   Excellent recreational facilities.
   Family Support services.
   Medical and pharmaceutical availability.
   A well supplied and appointed commissary and Base Exchange
   All of which are frequented and used by the active duty military and their families and the thousands of military retirees for hundreds of miles around.
8. The educational availability of Eastern New Mexico University and Clovis Community College
9. The economic impact will be devastating to many of the local businesses and industries.
   -20.50% Micropolitan statistical area, the largest loss of any of the listed closures.
10. Our local schools receive badly needed federal monetary support based on the number of military children enrolled.
11. The reasonable cost of living, a distinct factor in this area, and benefit to enlistees, and the real-estate industry will be severely impacted, taking a major hit with present and proposed housing starts.
12. The loss of several thousand civil service jobs to the communities of Clovis and Portales

On a personal note, my late husband served 28 ½ years in the USAF; a tour in Korea and two tours in Viet Nam. He was shot down on his second tour in 1971, miraculously found and picked up by the Army. We have had many duty stations and have lived in many places in the world with two tours at Cannon AFB. We decided to retire in Clovis partly because of the receptiveness, hospitality and the spirit of the community. (One of the communities we once lived near had signs on property stating "Military Keep Off Grass"). Our three children graduated from Clovis High School, are all successful, and the eldest is currently on active duty with the AF having just returned from a deployment to Afghanistan.

Unlike many communities having a running battle with military installations over noise and encroachment, the communities of Clovis and Portales want the base, and feel that the sound of the jets is the sound of freedom.

Please reconsider the decision to close Cannon AFB. Increase its mission as it has the capacity and infrastructure to grow and the continued support of the surrounding communities and its people.

Sincerely,
Lyn Henderson

Lyn M. Henderson,
Widow of Lt. Col. (Ret.) Warren L. Henderson
1613 Fairway Terrace,
Clovis, NM 88101

The Base Realignment and Closure Commission
Admiral Harold W.Gehman Jr. (USN Ret.)
2521 S. Clark St.
Arlington, VA 22202

RECEIVED
~~4-24-05~~
5.24.05 JR

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Lyn Henderson

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Widow of Lt. Col. (Ret.) Warren L. Henderson
1613 Fairway Terrace,
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4873

19 May 2005

RECEIVED
5-24-05
5.24.05 JR

Raejean Toledo
240 E. Tierra Blanca
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

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

Commission,

THIS WILL REMAIN THE LAND OF THE FREE ONLY SO LONG AS IT IS THE HOME OF THE BRAVE.

Elmer Davis

The home of the Brave is the Home you will find at Cannon Air Force Base. Keep Cannon and we will have the Land of the Free.

Sincerely

Raejean

DCN: 4873

RECEIVED 5-24-05

JOHN C. URBAN

May 18, 2005

Mr. Anthony Principi
Chairman
The B.R.A.C. Commission
2521 S. Clark St. Ste 600
Arlington VA 22202

Dear Mr. Principi:

I am but one of many thousands of concerned citizens and business professionals in Curry and Roosevelt counties in New Mexico as well as some west Texas counties. Our concern, of course, is the proposed closure of Cannon Air Force Base.

Cannon has been our economic backbone for over five decades. One might compare this issue to the failure of a large pension plan causing total dependency on Social Security income: a very staunch comparison.

Mr. Principi, for some time now, all indications to us have been that Cannon is not in danger. We would like to know the specific reasons Cannon has been targeted for closure as we are fearful some of the criteria set forth by the Pentagon for determining the military value of Cannon has not been considered, perhaps erroneously overlooked. When you visit Cannon for your on-site inspection and subsequent public hearing, please notice our unfettered air space.

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

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

We have no encroachment issues here, giving Cannon the military freedom it needs for its personnel to do its job that it has done so well over the past years. Because of our unlimited air space, Cannon has the ability to accept future aircraft with supersonic capabilities. With almost unlimited land resources, the expansion possibilities are vast. And, due to our excellent year-round flying weather, Cannon retains the ability to continue training for these future aircraft changes: a multitude of aircraft...not just the F-16.

One of our recently transferred base commanders made the comment that out of all of his assignments, the relationship between Cannon personnel and the Clovis community was the greatest he had ever known. Over the years, we have taken pride in helping to meet the needs of Cannon personnel.

Hopefully, your studies of this issue will reveal the real military value of the Cannon facility thereby resulting in a reversal of the original decision of the commission and remove Cannon from the closure list.

Sincerely,

John C. Urban

DCN: 4873

May 19, 2005

Brac Commission
2521 S. Clark St.
Arlington, VA 22202

RECEIVED 4-29-05
5-24-05 AL

Dear Members:

I am writing to you once again in support of Cannon Air Force Base. In my previous letter, I neglected to address the issue of Nellis Air Force Base. The sprawl of Las Vegas has significantly compromised the security and safety of this Air Force Base. It is well know that the City wants to acquire the base to open a new airport similar to Bergstrom in Austin. Not only was the encroachment on this base not considered, but 1,412 people are being added. Where is the logic in this?

Furthermore, I feel that it is necessary to address with you the increases in Texas and Florida. Need I say more? Have you been to San Antonio and seen the area where Fort Sam Houston is located? Guess you will not be going there, since they are realigning. It is a horrible part of the city and I cannot believe it is growing rather than closing. This appears very suspicious to everyone. And please explain to me why New England is being hit so hard. Is it because Mr. Bush's is punishing them because of John Kerry? Next, I question why a state the size of Oklahoma needs seven military installations with three of those being Air Force Bases. They will be seeing an overall increase of 3,919. This just does not make sense to me.

My final area of interest lies with the announcement yesterday by the Air Force to once again pursue the weapons in space program. The amount of money they want to spend on the project is astronomical. Guess now I understand why they need to close bases. They need to pay for a project that will never work and supposedly is not needed since the cold war is over.

"The Air Force does not put a price tag on space superiority. Published studies by leading weapons scientists, physicists and engineers say the cost of a space-based system that could defend the nation against an attack by a handful of missiles could be anywhere from $220 billion to $1 trillion."

ONE TRILLION DOLLARS!!! Where is this money coming from?

Mr. Rumsfeld has issued you an ultimatum and a threat not to change anything on the list. I say issue one to him. Mr. Hansen, I believe you showed a lot of backbone with your comments to Mr. Rumsfeld.

"Former Utah congressman James V. Hansen, a Republican, told Rumsfeld he was certain this would be the last round of closures in the face of swelling political opposition.

DCN: 4873

"I'm convinced this is your last bite of the apple," Hansen said, saying the plan would bring "a lot of pain for a lot of people."

The 1995 BRAC should have been the last. Please show our country that in a time of war, when enlistments are at an all time low, that we need our military. All these reductions are showing the country that Washington sees our military as unnecessary and redundant. Why would our young men and women enlist in something like this?

Thank you for your attention and patience with my letters. Rest assured, this will not be my last.

Sincerely,

Sharon Winn

1620 Axtell

Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4873

RECEIVED 4.29.05
5.24.05 SR

19 May 2005

Raejean Toledo
240 E. Tierra Blanca
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

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

Commission,

For without belittling the courage with which men have died. We should not forget those acts of courage with which men..have lived.. a man does what he must in spite of personal consequences. In spite of obstacles and dangers and pressures. And that is the basis of all human morality. John F. Kennedy

To speak of our mission at Cannon is to speak of the courage of our men and women. They are asked to have the spirit to protect our nation, and they do. They are ask to act with courage, and they do. They are asked to Close this base and they Do Not want to.

Save the National Security by saving Cannon Air Force Base.

Sincerely

Raejean

DCN: 4873

RECEIVED
~~4-24-05~~
5.24.05 JL

19 May 2005

Raejean Toledo
240 E. Tierra Blanca
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

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

Commission,

"Great Men

"Not gold, but only man can make a people great and strong. Men who for truth and honor's suffer long.
Brave men who work while others sleep. Who dare while other fly.
They build a nation's pillars deep. And lift them to the sky."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

The nation sleeps, while the Men and Women at Cannon Air Force Base Keep a watch to the sky. To protect and defend our Nation at all cost. We are the future. To not shut that door.

Sincerely

Raejean

DCN: 4873

19 May 2005

Raejean Toledo
240 E. Tierra Blanca
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

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

Commission,

There are many letters coming to your office with many reason to keep this base or that base open. But I speak for National Security.

Wars May Be Fought With Weapons. But they are Won By Men. It is the spirit of the Men Who Follow and of the Man Who Leads That Gains The Victory.

Gen. George S. Patton

The victory for National Security is fought by the men and women at Cannon Air Force Base. Let them do there job and keep our Nation Secure. Let us win.

Sincerely

Raejean

RECEIVED
~~4-29-05~~
5-24-05

DCN: 4873

19 May 2005

RECEIVED
~~4-21-05~~
5-24-05 JR

Raejean Toledo
240 E. Tierra Blanca
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

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

Commission,

I could write hundreds of letters about the base. The base meets all of its missions. It has air space that is not fought for, a bombing range so close that we conserve fuel by costing home. A community that is behind the troops 100%. Not just for there money that they spend in town but for their participation in the community. Doc Stuart has given his life to help the families at Cannon Air Force Base. We are a Family. I have worked at Cannon as the Shift Manager at the Cannon Shoppette since 1986 and this also has become my home and life. I have seen the good time the bad. The troops that left for Iraq. They came back to home.

Our Senator Pete Domenici, (R-N.M.) is doing the right thing by co-sponsoring a bill to stop the base realignment and closure process to in its tracks. Please postpone this round of closure and realignment till we get our troops home, till we are out of Iraq and other war torn areas. We need these bases. If any thing prepare for the future. Get use ready for what will happen.

Sincerely

Raejean

DCN: 4873

Flanigen, 412 Merrill Drive, Clovis, New Mexico 88101

RECEIVED ~~5-24-05~~ 2R 5.24.05

May 19, 2005

When I first arrived in Clovis in 1989, I was a young mom, scared and unsure. My husband worked long hours in the Air Force, on the flight line, at Cannon Air Force Base, Clovis, New Mexico. At first we lived in Clovis. We quickly learned Clovis was a nice community with friendly people. Soon after, we moved to base housing located on CAFB. My husband was always at work it seemed. I soon got a job working in town at a local bank. Every one was friendly and inquisitive. This was something I was not used to. I came from a small community that was located in a very large county (Sacramento, CA).

Many of the Clovis residents, and many military members that have since moved away, probably remember the year 1990 ... when all the military members and all the residents of Clovis got together on a search for a small boy. This boy had gone missing. Unlike many kids today, this boy was not kidnapped. However, at the time no one knew a thing. I remember my husband not coming home one night. I knew about the boy and I knew that people were looking for him. It never occurred to me, that "I" could help. Clovis and the members at Cannon AFB showed me by their involvement that "everyone" mattered and "everyone" counted. When my husband came home, late, late, that night he told me what he and several of his crew members had been doing. They weren't at work...they were in town, in fields, on county roads, searching and searching for this small boy. It broke my heart. I had never seen or heard such a thing. Growing up, we were told "not to talk to strangers," so I didn't; we were told, "never get involved in someone else's business," so I didn't. But the next day, I too was out searching. I can't say I did a very good job, I didn't even know the area and was too scared to go places I didn't recognize. But I still did what I could. Thanks to the community of Clovis and CAFB this little boy was found, it took nearly a week, but he was found.

Today, 2005, I know lots of strangers.
These strangers come from CAFB, from Clovis, from Portales, and from many of the surrounding areas.
These strangers **have become not only my friends, but my family**.
I know that if I needed something, anything, I could count on "everyone" in this area.
It's not because of the United States Air Force, but because of **Cannon Air Force Base** combined with **the community of Clovis**, located in this desert area... we know living here, working here, loving here, together ... it all just works!

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

I've been here a long time; I have lots of stories to tell. This is just the beginning of many to come...to be continued...

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

Thank you for listening. We trust God, and in the name of Jesus Christ, we are putting our trust in a good and logical system.

MSgt Patrick Flanigen, Retired
Veronica Clark Flanigen
Michael
Amanda
Scott

RECEIVED
~~4.24.05~~
5.24.05 JR

DCN: 4873

May 20, 2005

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a citizen of Clovis, NM and **I am proud to live in a community that supports Cannon Air Force Base.** I have lived in Clovis for 18 years, and in the Texas Panhandle for 19 prior to that, so Cannon has always been a part of my life. I've read the justification given by the Pentagon for closing our air base and ask that you please reconsider the DOD's recommendation.

MILITARY NEEDS

Cannon has been home to various types of aircraft and currently houses F16's. Cannon jets have flown in multiple wars and the F111's from Cannon were instrumental in Desert Storm; not to mention they were the planes sent by President Reagan to bomb Libya. Cannon has always had a strong presence everywhere they go. Plus, there is ample base space and air space available, as well as great weather conditions that allow almost zero days lost of flight time per year. Cannon and Clovis is willing and able to accommodate growth.

Cannon is also home to the Melrose bombing range, and to unlimited air space (up to 50,000 feet in some areas) free from obstacles or hindrances found in larger metropolitan areas. There is limited risk here; if a jet crashes – normally it hits dirt, not housing units or schools.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Clovis will be the hardest community hit economically if you go through with this closure. We will take a -20.5% hit in job losses alone; the next closest impact is Martin County Indiana at -11.6%. Our loss represents ***4 times more (400%)*** of the current national average of the employment rate. In a town the size of Clovis, this is tragic. Clovis has built itself around the base, and much of the livelihood in Clovis relies on base personnel and/or resources.

The report says that approximately 4,780 jobs would be affected if the base were to close. While these numbers may be somewhat lower than other areas – based on the overall population of Clovis, the results will be devastating nonetheless. A large city can more easily survive a base closure (even with higher numbers than those reflected above) because of population, but with only 34,000 residents in Clovis – it would kill us. It will take years and years to rebound from a loss this great, if ever.

Clovis is rural; there are no big businesses knocking on our door begging to come in. We cannot support a larger airport, and there are no people to build or buy big high-rise condominiums. How can we possibly rebound after such an enormous blow? Please reconsider the ramifications that this closure would deal us if it were to close.

SUPPORT INFRASTRUCTURES

Cannon provides support/resources for the Melrose bombing range. The range serves the 27th FW, B1's out of Dyess (Abilene), 150th ANG (Kirtland), 550th SOS (Special Ops, Kirtland), B52's (Barksdale AFB, Louisiana), B2's (Missouri), F-117's (Alamogordo), along with occasional E3's, EC-135's, and whoever else flies within range. It is also used by the Army for air drop exercises, and both USAF and Army Forward Air Controller training. To say it is a valuable asset, would be a minor understatement. The facility consists of 66,000 acres,

with 59,000 acres owned by the Air Force, and has been in use continuously since 1952 and accounts for 4800 sorties annually. They also provide an electronic counter measure facility for advanced training, as well as night-vision goggle training.

The September 2001 Defensive Training Initiative permitted the use of chaff and flares in existing airspace contiguous to the Melrose bombing range so that combat-condition training could occur in response to available simulated ground-based and aircraft threats. Currently, pilots use defensive countermeasures to avoid these threats only in the restricted airspace over the bombing range. The 27 FW, as the proponent for this action, conducts defensive training using chaff and flares in surrounding areas. As far as I can tell by my research, Cannon Air Force Base is the only base in the United States authorized to utilize this training, thus making the bombing range in Melrose even more of a critical infrastructure that should remain in place along with the base itself.

Cannon is the closest base to PANTEX in Amarillo, Texas, which is a Nuclear weapons facility. I would consider Cannon to be a huge defensive support infrastructure to this facility, and the closest fighter jets in reach.

Cannon is a base that is supported by the community. Clovis and the surrounding communities are proud to have the air base in our presence; we welcome the people it brings to the area, the diversity it offers us, and the security of knowing we are protected and safe.

In closing, I would like to note that Cannon believes in giving back to the community and does so through volunteer and other charitable work. I have a handicapped daughter that participates in Special Olympics, and our team benefits greatly from their help. We have anywhere from 2-50 volunteers at any given time, which shows how much they love our community and the families that make it up. With this said, I'd like to ask that you please rethink the numbers, the loss, and the impact that this closure would have on our community and the people who live here. And then reconsider the opportunities available at Cannon if kept open.

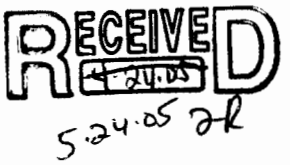
Clovis is a community that has always supported the base, its personnel, and FREEDOM. Our community will do anything necessary to accommodate the needs of the base and its personnel. Please consider removing Cannon Air Force Base off the list of base closures.
Thank you for your time.
Sincerely,

Gena Hankins

Gena Hankins
505-389-4377 or 505-762-6398

We are PROUD of our air base!
We love it and want it to remain a part of our community.

DCN: 4873



May 20, 2005

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Clovis is rural; there are no big businesses knocking on our door begging to come in. We cannot support a larger airport, and there are no people to build or buy big high-rise condominiums. How can we possibly rebound after such an enormous blow? Please reconsider the ramifications that this closure would deal us if it were to close.

SUPPORT INFRASTRUCTURES

Cannon provides support/resources for the Melrose bombing range. The range serves the 27th FW, B1's out of Dyess (Abilene), 150th ANG (Kirtland), 550th SOS (Special Ops, Kirtland), B52's (Barksdale AFB, Louisiana), B2's (Missouri), F-117's (Alamogordo), along with occasional E3's, EC-135's, and whoever else flies within range. It is also used by the Army for air drop exercises, and both USAF and Army Forward Air Controller training. To say it is a valuable asset, would be a minor understatement. The facility consists of 66,000 acres,

with 59,000 acres owned by the Air Force, and has been in use continuously since 1952 and accounts for 4800 sorties annually. They also provide an electronic counter measure facility for advanced training, as well as night-vision goggle training.

The September 2001 Defensive Training Initiative permitted the use of chaff and flares in existing airspace contiguous to the Melrose bombing range so that combat-condition training could occur in response to available simulated ground-based and aircraft threats. Currently, pilots use defensive countermeasures to avoid these threats only in the restricted airspace over the bombing range. The 27 FW, as the proponent for this action, conducts defensive training using chaff and flares in surrounding areas. As far as I can tell by my research, Cannon Air Force Base is the only base in the United States authorized to utilize this training, thus making the bombing range in Melrose even more of a critical infrastructure that should remain in place along with the base itself.

Cannon is the closest base to PANTEX in Amarillo, Texas, which is a Nuclear weapons facility. I would consider Cannon to be a huge defensive support infrastructure to this facility, and the closest fighter jets in reach.

Cannon is a base that is supported by the community. Clovis and the surrounding communities are proud to have the air base in our presence; we welcome the people it brings to the area, the diversity it offers us, and the security of knowing we are protected and safe.

In closing, I would like to note that Cannon believes in giving back to the community and does so through volunteer and other charitable work. I have a handicapped daughter that participates in Special Olympics, and our team benefits greatly from their help. We have anywhere from 2-50 volunteers at any given time, which shows how much they love our community and the families that make it up. With this said, I'd like to ask that you please rethink the numbers, the loss, and the impact that this closure would have on our community and the people who live here. And then reconsider the opportunities available at Cannon if kept open.

Clovis is a community that has always supported the base, its personnel, and FREEDOM. Our community will do anything necessary to accommodate the needs of the base and its personnel. Please consider removing Cannon Air Force Base off the list of base closures.
Thank you for your time.
Sincerely,

Gena Hankins

Gena Hankins
505-389-4377 or 505-762-6398

We are PROUD of our air base!
We love it and want it to remain a part of our community.

RECEIVED
~~4.24.05~~
22
5.24.05

May 20, 2005

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a citizen of Clovis, NM and **I am proud to live in a community that supports Cannon Air Force Base.** I have lived in Clovis for 18 years, and in the Texas Panhandle for 19 prior to that, so Cannon has always been a part of my life. I've read the justification given by the Pentagon for closing our air base and ask that you please reconsider the DOD's recommendation.

MILITARY NEEDS

Cannon has been home to various types of aircraft and currently houses F16's. Cannon jets have flown in multiple wars and the F111's from Cannon were instrumental in Desert Storm; not to mention they were the planes sent by President Reagan to bomb Libya. Cannon has always had a strong presence everywhere they go. Plus, there is ample base space and air space available, as well as great weather conditions that allow almost zero days lost of flight time per year. Cannon and Clovis is willing and able to accommodate growth.

Cannon is also home to the Melrose bombing range, and to unlimited air space (up to 50,000 feet in some areas) free from obstacles or hindrances found in larger metropolitan areas. There is limited risk here; if a jet crashes – normally it hits dirt, not housing units or schools.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Clovis will be the hardest community hit economically if you go through with this closure. We will take a -20.5% hit in job losses alone; the next closest impact is Martin County Indiana at -11.6%. Our loss represents ***4 times more (400%)*** of the current national average of the employment rate. In a town the size of Clovis, this is tragic. Clovis has built itself around the base, and much of the livelihood in Clovis relies on base personnel and/or resources.

The report says that approximately 4,780 jobs would be affected if the base were to close. While these numbers may be somewhat lower than other areas – based on the overall population of Clovis, the results will be devastating nonetheless. A large city can more easily survive a base closure (even with higher numbers than those reflected above) because of population, but with only 34,000 residents in Clovis – it would kill us. It will take years and years to rebound from a loss this great, if ever.

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Thank you for your time.
Sincerely,

Gena Hankins

Gena Hankins
505-389-4377 or 505-762-6398

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DCN: 4873

Dr Sir

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Please Save Cannon!!

Kathleen Chandler

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4873

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Please Save Cannon!!

Kathleen Chandler

RECEIVED 5/25/05

500 Kimberly Lane
Clovis, N.M. 88101
DCN: 4873

May 28, 2005

James T. Hill, Gen. Ret.
2521 S. Clark Street
Arlington Va. 22201

Dear Sir:

RE: Cannon Air Force Base, "The World's Most Lethal Weapon War Fighting Machine."

Referring to Cannon Air Force Base into the Category of "redundant" and "inefficient" is absurd. This was stated in President Bush's speech at the Annapolis Navy Graduation as reported in the Albuquerque Journal May 28, 2005, Page 4A. It is well known Cannon AFB is one of the most efficient (if not no. one) in the Air Force and is most certainly vital in our defense.

Some of our Vital Positive Points:

1. Two or Three minutes from our bombing range of 160,000 acres plus the newly aquired supersonic air space of 100 miles. Flying planes from other installations to our bombing range would be "redundant" and grossly "inefficient."

2. Cost of living is far lower here than in other parts of the Country i.e., Real Estate, lower property taxes etc. This is especially important to the lower ranks.

3. Clovis loves Cannon and its Personel. We support it and the troops 100%. This goes back to World War II when we housed them in our homes until quarters could be built.

We urge you to Remove Cannon AFB from the B.R.A.C. list.

Sincerely
Gloria Winker

RECEIVED 6/1/05

Telephone: 505-762-0029

500 Kimberly Lane
Clovis, N.M. 8810
May 28, 2005

James V. Hansen Army Gen. Ret.
2521 S. Clark St.
Arlington Va 22202

Dear Sir:

RE: Cannon Air Force Base, "The World's Most Lethal Weapon War Fighting Machine."

Refering to Cannon Air Force Base into the Catagory of "Redundant" and "ineffective" facility is absurd. This was stated in President Bush's speech at the Annapolis Navy Graduation as reported in the Albuquerque Journal May 28, 2005, Page 4A. It is well known Cannon is one of the most efficient, (if not no. one) in the Air Force and is most certainly vital in our defense.

Positive Points

1. Two or Three minutes from our bombing range of ~~100,000~~ 60 acres plus the newly added supersonic air space of 700 miles. Flying planes from other installations to our bombing range for training would indeed be "redundant" and grossly inefficient."

2. Cost of living is far lower here than in other parts of the Country, ie. Real estate, lower property taxes. This is especially important to the lower ranks.

3. Clovis loves Cannon and its personel. We support it and the troops 100%. This goes back to World War II when we all housed them in our homes until quarters could be built.

We urge you to remove Cannon A.F.B. from the B.R.A.C. list!

Sincerely
Gloria Wicker

Telephone 505-762-0029

RECEIVED 6/1/05

500 Kendalyn Lane
Clovis, N.M. 88101
May 28, 2005

Harold W. Gehman Jr. Ret.
2521 S. Clark St.
Arlington Va. 22202

Dear Sir;

RE: Cannon Air Force Base, "The World's Most Lethal War Fighting Machine."

Referring to Cannon Air Force Base into the Catagory of "redundant" and "inefficient" is absurd. This was stated in President Bush's speech at the Annapolis Navy Graduation reported in the Albuquerque Journal May 28, 2005, Page 4A. It is well known Cannon is one of the most efficient, (if not no. 1) in the Air Force and is most certainly vital in our defense!

Positive Points

1. Two or Three minutes from our bombing range of 69,000 acres plus the newly acquired supersonic air space of 700 miles. Flying planes from other installations to our bombing range would be "redundant" and grossly "inefficient."

2. Cost of living is far lower here than in other parts of the Country ie, Real estate, lower property taxes. This is especially important to the lower ranks.

3. Clovis loves Cannon and its personel. We support it and the troops 100%. This goes back to World War II when we housed them in our homes until quarters could be built.

We urge you to remove Cannon A.F.B. from the BRAC list!

Sincerely Yours
Gloria Wisher

RECEIVED 6/1/05

Telephone: 762-0029

500 Kimberly Lane
Clovis, N.M. 88101
DCN: 4873
May 28, 2005

Mr Phillip Coyle
2521 S. Clark St.
Arlington, Va. 22202

Dear Sir:

RE: Cannon Air Force Base, "The Worlds Most Lethal War Fighting Machine"

Referring to Cannon Air Force Base into the Catagory of "redundant" and "inefficient" facility is absurd. This was stated in President Bush's speech at the Annapolis Navy Graduation reported in the Albuquerque Journal May 28, 2005, Page 4A. It is well known Cannon is one of the most efficient (if not (No.) 7 in the Air Force and is most certainly vital in our defense.

Positive Points:

1. Two or Three minutes from our bombing range of ~~100~~ 60,000 acres plus the newly added supersonic air space of 700 miles. Flying planes from other installations to our bombing range would indeed be "redundant" and grossly "inefficient."

2. Cost of living is far lower here than in other parts of the Country ie, Real estate, lower property taxes. This is especially important to the lower grades.

3. Clovis loves Cannon and its personel. We support it and the troops 100%. This goes back to World War II when we all housed them in our homes until quarters could be built.

We urge you to remove Cannon A.F.B. from the BRAC list.

Sincerely
Elaria Wicker

Telephone: 505-762-0029

RECEIVED 6/1/05

500 Kimberly Lane
Clovis, N.M. 88101
May 29, 2005

James H. Bilbray
2521 Clark Street
Arlington VA 22202

Dear Sir;

RE: Cannon Air Force Base, "The Worlds Most Lethal War Fighting Machine;"

Referring to Cannon Air Force Base into the Catagory of "Redundant and "inefficient" facility is absurd. This was stated in President Bushs' speech at Annapolis Navy Graduation in the Albuquerque Journal May 28, 2005, Page A4. It is well known Cannon is one of the most efficient (if not No. One) in the Air Force and is most certainly vital to our defense.

Positive Points:

1. Two or Three Minutes from our bombing range of 60,000 acres plus the newly added supersonic air space of 700 miles. Flying planes from other installations to our bombing range would indeed be "redundant and grossly inefficient"

2. Cost of living is far lower here than other parts of the Country ie, Real Estate, lower property taxes. This is especially important to the lower ranks.

3. Clovis loves Cannon and its troops. We support it and the troops 100%. This goes back to World War II when we all housed them in our homes until quarters could be built.

We urge you to remove Cannon AFB from the BRAC list.

Sincerely
Gloria Wicker

RECEIVED 6/1/05

Telephone: 505-7620029

500 Kimberly Lane
Clovis, N.M. 88101
DCN: 4873
May 29, 2005

Chairman Anthony J. Principe
2521 S. Clark St.
Arlington Va. 22202

Dear Sir:

RE: Cannon Air Force Base. "The Worlds Most Lethal Weapon War Fighting machine."

Refferring to Cannon Air Force Base into the Catagory of "Redundant" and "inefficient" is absurd. This was stated in President Bush's speech at the Annapolis Navy Graduation reported in the Albuquerque Journal May 28, Page 4A. It is well known Cannon AFB is one of the most efficient (if not No. one) in the Air Force and is most certainly vital to our Countrys defence.

Some of our Vital Points:

1. Two or Three minutes from our bombing range of 60,000 acres plus the newly acquired Super Sonic air space of 700 miles. Flying planes from other installations to our bombing range would be "redundant" and grossly "inefficient." Curry County farmers and Ranchers gave up their land so Cannon Could be number one in Training. This bombing range belongs here for Cannon AFB.

2. Cost of living is far lower here than in other parts of the Country ie, Real Estate, lower Property tax etc. This is especially important to the lower ranks. Many retired military returned here because of it.

3. Clovis loves Cannon A.F.B. and its Personal. We support it and the troops 100%. This goes back to World War II, we housed them in our homes until quarters Could be built.

We urge you to remove Cannon A.F.B. from the B.A.A.C. list

Sincerely
Gloria Wicker

Telephone: 505 762 5029

RECEIVED
6/1/05

DCN: 4873

May 27, 2005

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

Dear Admiral Gehamn,

I am writing to you today about the closing of Cannon Air Force Base. I know that you have received many letters with the facts, so I won't repeat what has already been said. I'm sure that you can tell from all the mail you are receiving that this community really pulls together when we're faced with a serious issue that affects us all. Whether it's a lost child or an air force base closing, this community stands side by side. They support each other and give whatever they can to help. These are the values that our great nation is built upon.

I know that we will survive no matter what the BRAC Commission decides, but I hope and pray that you will decide to let us keep the base. This town is finally seeing some growth and potential and I would hate for that to be taken from us. Our lives are all intertwined and Cannon is often the glue that holds us together. Without the base, we'll lose so many jobs. Funds for our kids in the schools will be drastically reduced and that's our future right there!

I hope that you will study the facts and that you will come and visit to see for yourself. I have to believe that the BRAC Commission will make the right decision. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Mary K Blake

Mary K. Blake

RECEIVED 6/1/05

DCN: 4873

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

5/25/05

DCN: 4873

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Please Save Cannon!!

Kathleen Chandler

RECEIVED
5/25/05

DCN: 4873

307 West 22nd St.
Portales, NM, 88130
May 26, 2005

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

Subject: Reconsider and take Cannon AFB off the closure list.

Dear Members of the Commission

As a citizen of Portales for the past 75 years, I can truly testify that we have appreciated and maintained the highest respect for the personnel of Cannon Air Force base since its beginning. I feel that the fact that many of the retirees have retired and returned to live in this area proves that they recognized that they were appreciated while serving here. To them it must have been "coming home to retire."

Cannon has become so much a part of our communities that we will be devastated should you close the base. We truly feel that Portales and Clovis school districts have the best public schools in the State – Cannon has contributed much to that fact, so as a former teacher I ask you to please reconsider and take Cannon AFB off the closure list.

Sincerely,

Ruth Visage

Ruth Visage

RECEIVED 5/31/05

DCN: 4873

May 25, 2005

Nadine Moore
349 S. Roosevelt Rd. P
Portales, NM, 88130

Dear ~~Sirs and Madams~~, The Honorable Anthony J. Principi,

Concerning the closing of Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico, I have some questions. The military put up new housing in Portales, a town some 17 miles from the base, just a few years ago. Why would you now want to abandon them and have to make new ones for the families that you would be moving somewhere else? That seems a waste of taxpayers money.

Other than that, the base itself has housing and all the necessary buildings to run a base. If you moved this personal somewhere else, would you have to make more housing for the families and enlarge that base?

We have an abundant of airspace here in the wide open plains. My understanding is that we were going to be able to offer pilots the ability to train on supersonic airplanes because of our open airspace. The local community spearheaded the effort to expand the airspace for supersonic capability. Why would you abandon that?

Our weather is next to none. There are very few days that the pilots are grounded due to the weather.

It would indeed be a blow to the economy here. I am told that the closing of Cannon will cost the area the loss of more jobs, percentage-wise, that any other area in the country.

Please consider all the facts and leave Cannon open.

Thank you for listening.

Sincerely.

Nadine

RECEIVED 5/31/05

DCN: 4873

May 25, 2005

Nadine Moore
349 S. Roosevelt Rd. P
Portales, NM, 88130

Dear ~~Sirs and Madams~~, The Honorable Philip Coyle

Concerning the closing of Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico, I have some questions. The military put up new housing in Portales, a town some 17 miles from the base, just a few years ago. Why would you now want to abandon them and have to make new ones for the families that you would be moving somewhere else? That seems a waste of taxpayers money.

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Nadine

RECEIVED 5/31/05

DCN: 4873

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349 S. Roosevelt Rd. P
Portales, NM, 88130

Dear ~~Sirs and Madams~~, The Honorable James H. Bilbray

Concerning the closing of Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico, I have some questions. The military put up new housing in Portales, a town some 17 miles from the base, just a few years ago. Why would you now want to abandon them and have to make new ones for the families that you would be moving somewhere else? That seems a waste of taxpayers money.

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Thank you for listening.

Sincerely.

Nadine

RECEIVED 5/31/05

DCN: 4873

TOOLS AND MORE

412 Commerce Way
Clovis, NM 88101
(505) 763-4814

May 26, 2005

Samuel Knox Skinner
BRAC Commission
2521 S Clark ST
Arlington, VA 22202
(703) 699-2952

Ref: Cannon AFB Closure

Dear Mr. Skinner,

The economic impact of our community has already been hit tremendously as a result of Cannon AFB coming out on the BRAC list. My business has already decreased by approximately 50 to 60%. People are scared and are not going to continue with construction, buying homes, or just about anything until the decision to take Cannon off the list of closures is made.

When a community the size of ours is asked to give up 20% of their jobs, it can have no effect other than total devastation.

As long as I can remember, our community has supported our military not only monetarily, emotionally, patriotically,

RECEIVED 5/31/05

but also spiritually. These are not just military people to us. They are our friends and neighbors. They have brought diversity to our community that could not have happened any other way.

I believe that Cannon was put on the list of closures in error. This base should be expanding, not closing.

Since our area is faced with the hardest hit economy on the BRAC list in percentage of loss of jobs, I am asking that all nine members of The BRAC Commission attend the meeting in Clovis set for the 24th of June. Please take time to look at the physical advantages of expanding Cannon Air Force Base. You will find unlimited air space and no encroachment of the community and installation. The runways do not go over populated areas in any direction like you find at Luke or Nellis AFB.

I believe it is very important that all the commissioners visit the area to get a clear concise view of all the aspects that are relevant to keeping Cannon AFB open.

I know that the expense and scheduling of all nine of you coming to Clovis and CAFB is expensive and not an easy task, however the importance of our economy and the safety factor of our military and civilian population along with the safety of our nation should be reason enough to offset the trouble and expense.

Sincerely,

Donald K. Reid

Donald K. Reid

R 5/31/05

DCN: 4873

TOOLS AND MORE

412 Commerce Way
Clovis, NM 88101
(505) 763-4814

May 26, 2005

James T. Hill
BRAC Commission
2521 S Clark ST
Arlington, VA 22202
(703) 699-2952

Ref: Cannon AFB Closure

Dear Mr. Hill,

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Sincerely,

Donald K. Reid

Donald K. Reid

RECEIVED 5/31/05

DCN: 4873

TOOLS AND MORE

412 Commerce Way
Clovis, NM 88101
(505) 763-4814

May 26, 2005

James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 S Clark ST
Arlington, VA 22202
(703) 699-2952

Ref: Cannon AFB Closure

Dear Mr. Bilbray

The economic impact of our community has already been hit tremendously as a result of Cannon AFB coming out on the BRAC list. My business has already decreased by approximately 50 to 60%. People are scared and are not going to continue with construction, buying homes, or just about anything until the decision to take Cannon off the list of closures is made.

When a community the size of ours is asked to give up 20% of their jobs, it can have no effect other than total devastation.

As long as I can remember, our community has supported our military not only monetarily, emotionally, patriotically,

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but also spiritually. These are not just military people to us. They are our friends and neighbors. They have brought diversity to our community that could not have happened any other way.

I believe that Cannon was put on the list of closures in error. This base should be expanding, not closing.

Since our area is faced with the hardest hit economy on the BRAC list in percentage of loss of jobs, I am asking that all nine members of The BRAC Commission attend the meeting in Clovis set for the 24th of June. Please take time to look at the physical advantages of expanding Cannon Air Force Base. You will find unlimited air space and no encroachment of the community and installation. The runways do not go over populated areas in any direction like you find at Luke or Nellis AFB.

I believe it is very important that all the commissioners visit the area to get a clear concise view of all the aspects that are relevant to keeping Cannon AFB open.

I know that the expense and scheduling of all nine of you coming to Clovis and CAFB is expensive and not an easy task, however the importance of our economy and the safety factor of our military and civilian population along with the safety of our nation should be reason enough to offset the trouble and expense.

Sincerely,

Donald K. Reid

Donald K. Reid

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DCN: 4873

TOOLS AND MORE

412 Commerce Way
Clovis, NM 88101
(505) 763-4814

May 26, 2005

Harold W. Gehman Jr.
BRAC Commission
2521 S Clark ST
Arlington, VA 22202
(703) 699-2952

Ref: Cannon AFB Closure

Dear Mr. Gehman,

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Donald K. Reid

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TOOLS AND MORE

412 Commerce Way
Clovis, NM 88101
(505) 763-4814

May 26, 2005

Anthony J. Principi
BRAC Commission
2521 S Clark ST
Arlington, VA 22202
(703) 699-2952

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TOOLS AND MORE

412 Commerce Way
Clovis, NM 88101
(505) 763-4814

May 26, 2005

Sue Ellen Turner
BRAC Commission
2521 S Clark ST
Arlington, VA 22202
(703) 699-2952

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Donald K. Reid

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TOOLS AND MORE

412 Commerce Way
Clovis, NM 88101
(505) 763-4814

May 26, 2005

Phillip Coyle
BRAC Commission
2521 S Clark ST
Arlington, VA 22202
(703) 699-2952

Ref: Cannon AFB Closure

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TOOLS AND MORE

412 Commerce Way
Clovis, NM 88101
(505) 763-4814

May 26, 2005

Lloyd "Fig" Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 S Clark ST
Arlington, VA 22202
(703) 699-2952

Ref: Cannon AFB Closure

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5/31/05

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TOOLS AND MORE

412 Commerce Way
Clovis, NM 88101
(505) 763-4814

May 26, 2005

James V. Hansen
BRAC Commission
2521 S Clark ST
Arlington, VA 22202
(703) 699-2952

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Sincerely,

Donald K. Reid

Donald K. Reid

RECEIVED 5/31/05

Robert and Sandra Matheny
1411 South Abilene
Portales, NM 88130
(505) 359-0561

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

Dear Commissioner Gehman:

I seldom take the time to write governmental leaders when I disagree with their actions, but the initial decision to close Cannon Air Force Base strikes me as ill advised and untimely.

I have not experienced a time in our history since World War II when this nation has been under greater threat. The Administration is pursuing an aggressive foreign policy that has uncovered actual or potential enemies across the globe. From Iraq to Iran to North Korea to Indonesia, and even China, we could be engaged in other wars at the drop of a hat. Although modernization of our forces is one reason given for the closing of bases, this is not a good time to even hint at a decrease in our military readiness.

Cannon AFB in particular is strategically positioned to provide training for our defense in this perilous time. For many years, the communities of Clovis and Portales have maintained a positive, welcoming relationship with Cannon people. Base commanders have shared with me that the relationship is unusual compared to attitudes experienced in other base/town relationships; some communities hope the bases will leave. The morale of Cannon's people has been immensely enhanced by the relationship.

An extensive bombing range and restricted air space complemented by weather that seldom prohibits flying gives Cannon an advantage few bases enjoy. Cannon has received high marks for quality and is recognized for cost effectiveness and efficiency in accomplishing its mission.

I know that the economic, social and cultural impact on eastern New Mexico is not a part of your consideration, but there are many bases located in or near metropolitan areas that would only marginally be affected with the loss of a base. Some would care little whether their bases stay or close.

You have a difficult task ahead. I encourage you to carefully consider all of the comparative data before making your final decision. Cannon is an invaluable asset for our defense.

Sincerely,

Robert L. Matheny

Robert L. Matheny
President Emeritus,
Eastern New Mexico University

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DCN: 4873

Robert and Sandra Matheny
1411 South Abilene
Portales, NM 88130
(505) 359-0561

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Eastern New Mexico University

RECEIVED 6/3/05

DCN: 4873

Robert and Sandra Matheny
1411 South Abilene
Portales, NM 88130
(505) 359-0561

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BRAC Commission
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RECEIVED
5/31/05

DCN: 4873

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

May 26, 2005

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

The Honorable Philip Coyle:

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

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DCN: 4873

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

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Rod B. McDermid

Rod B. McDermid

RECEIVED 5/31/05

DCN: 4873

Iola Richardson
325 W. University Dr.
Portales, New Mexico

The Honorable Philip Coyle

I am very concerned about the proposal 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. Some of these include the 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 other things.

Cannon is an award-winning base on ACC, Air Force , and NAF levels. Ample space and ramp space for surge requirements, and they have new runways on the base.

We consider Cannon as part of out family. Cannon has been supported by the Clovis and Portales communities like no other facility for the past 50 years. This is besides the military value to the nation.

The closure of Cannon will also have a very devastating impact on our economy in both the Clovis and Portales areas. It has been estimated the area will loose at least 20% of its work force, plus the ripple effect that it will have on our public and higher education school systems.

There is a large military population within a 150 mile radius. The entire area including Amarillo and Lubbock, is home for a large retiree population. These retirees rely on Canon for healthcare, grocery shopping. There is not another installation close by to serve the retired military.

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

Please consider all of the facts before making you final decision..

Respectfully yours

Iola Richardson

RECEIVED 5/31/05

DCN: 4873

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325 W. University Dr.
Portales, New Mexico

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Respectfully yours

Iola Richardson

RECEIVED 5/31/05

DCN: 4873

Dear BRAC commission,

My name is Chad Woods, I am an Air Force member stationed at Cannon AFB. My wife and I arrived here last May and have loved it ever since. I have been in the Military for a number of years and have never received such a warm and inviting welcome as we have here. My wife and I share in the American dream of owning a home. Therefore, we purchased a home last May. In an attempt to better provide for our future and become more self sufficient during retirement, we also purchased a rental home. After working hard and fixing up these homes, it appeared that we were well on our way of meeting our goals. With the BRAC announcement on May 13th the value of property has already begun to decline. If Cannon AFB remains on the list, there will be no way to tell how low property values will drop.

I have heard it said that the military is not there to support local communities. Although the Government and the Military have bigger responsibilities than providing for local communities alone, providing for the betterment of a community, especially one so dependant on the Military, is still vitally important. The following definition of the government helps to articulate this thought:

Government exists to protect the rights of its citizens.
Government exists to protect us from ourselves.
Government exists to promote prosperity.
Government exists to promote equality.
Government exists to shape society.
Government exists to help people.

A basic economic principal states that for an economy to fully thrive, there must be consumer confidence. Although as Military members we have confidence that our jobs will be there tomorrow, the BRAC process leaves little confidence to lead normal "All American" lives; the kind of life that will allow you to participate in the American Dream of home ownership, without fear of extreme financial hardship. We, as members of the Military sacrifice a lot so that others are free and can participate in this dream. Don't Close Cannon AFB and help us enabling this dream enjoy it too.

Thank you,

Chad Woods

Chad Woods

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DCN: 4873

Village of Des Moines

654 Broadway
Des Moines, New Mexico 88418-0127
Phone: 505-278-2127
Fax: 505-278-2126
e-mail: dmoinesvillage@bacavalley.com

May 25, 2005

RECEIVED
06 03 2005

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

Re: "KEEP CANNON INITIATIVE"

To Whom It May Concern:

As Mayor of the Village of Des Moines, Union County, New Mexico, I am writing this to let you know that the Village of Des Moines strongly supports the City of Clovis and the Clovis City Commission in their efforts to have Cannon Air Force Base removed from the BRAC closure list.

All of Eastern and Northeastern New Mexico would be greatly affected if the Cannon Air Force Base were closed. There are many area students who live in the Clovis and the Portales areas: while attending college. These students also work to help pay their way through college. The economic impact would be very far reaching, as many families around the state and west Texas would be affected. Many young people would be unable to find employment to help support themselves while attending College.

Cannon Air Force Base through the foresight and planning by our military, local and state officials has become a necessary component for the military and security needs for our country.

Removing Cannon Air Force Base from the closure list will not only help the Clovis, Portales and surrounding areas but also the entire Eastern and Northeastern side of New Mexico and West Texas.

Thank you, for your consideration in this diligent effort by all.

Respectfully,

Shirley Brooks

Shirley Brooks
Mayor, Village of Des Moines

CC: City of Clovis, Claire Burroughes

DCN: 4873

Kathi Shaw
109 Green Acres Rd.
Clovis, NM 88101

RECEIVED
06 03 2005

May 22.2005

Dear BRAC commission,

I am writing to express my sincere desire to keep CANNON AFB, in Clovis, NM open and active. I am positive that our senators and representative along with our Community leaders have provided you with all the military criteria for keeping Cannon open and thriving as a base for the future of the Air Force. I want you to hear from me some of the human aspects for keeping Cannon.

Cannon is Clovis. By closing Cannon you will be closing down Clovis. There are so many families that will be affected in so many ways. I am in Clovis because my father was transferred here when I was in High School. We chose to stay when he retired. I have raised my Family here. One son is in Construction and just sold his first house to an active member of our Air Force. Another son works for the Santa Fe. Railroad and another is in school. They are active Christian members of society and the world they have built for their selves and their families is going to collapse around them if Cannon closes. I teach school and it is scary to think what loosing the families at Cannon will do to our school district. We will loose students but we will also loose some of the best mentors in the world.

How many communities are you aware of that puts together a support drive for its military and actually goes to visit them at there base. Clovis did. A few months ago the citizens of Clovis gathered together letters, banners and souvenirs from our area and actually took them to a base in Japan where many men and women from Cannon were temporarily stationed. We are the type of community you want your bases to be associated with.

When you come to town to visit you will see for yourselves that Clovis and Cannon are one and the same. You will see that in all our business are signs supporting Cannon and all the Military. You will see yellow ribbons and red, white and blue ribbons of support on cars and homes. Not just because of our desire to keep Cannon but Because we support our Armed Forces always.

Please look at the facts and potential Cannon has to offer to the Air Force of the future and remove Cannon from the BRAC list.

Sincerely,

Kathi Shaw

Kathi Shaw

RECEIVED
06032005

DCN: 4873

Donna Whitfield
19 Pineway Blvd
Clovis, New Mexico 88101
May 31, 2005

General Lloyd W. "Fig" Newton:

Dear Sir:

I am writing this letter in the hopes that you will consider taking Cannon Air Force Base off the list of bases to be closed.

Cannon is Clovis, New Mexico and Clovis is Cannon. Every since I can remember there has been a Cannon Air Force Base. I have great respect for the men and women of the armed services and try to let them know how much I appreciated their service to our country.

We have friends that were stationed at Cannon and when they retired they have chosen to make Clovis their home. Some even moved back to their "previous home" and ended up coming back to Clovis. You will not find any place on this earth that has more friendly people than Clovis, New Mexico and that is why people come here and want to stay here.

My daughter was best friends with one of the gentlemen of Cannon Air Force Base and eventually married him. I love my son in law as if he were my own. They have a fine young son of which I am very proud.

Cannon has plenty of airspace for flying. The weather here is great for flying and the bombing range is a short distance from Cannon Air Force base. It only seems logical to me that Cannon is a base that should remain open for the security of the United States.

Thank you for your consideration in removing Cannon Air Force Base from the base closing list.

Respectfully yours,

Donna Whitfield

Donna Whitfield

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06 03 20 05

Brac Commission
2521 S. Clark St.
Arlington, VA 22202

Attn: Commission Chairman Anthony J. Principi

Dear Mr. Principi

My name is John Perez. I was born and raised and still am a permanent and proud resident of Clovis, New Mexico.

Concerning Cannon Air Force Base

#1. If our federal government can afford to give millions of our dollars away to foreign countries for whatever reasons. I am of the opinion that these foreign countries do not care for the United States, they only care for our dollars and they despise Americans.

#2. If we cut some of this foreign aid and invest these monies on our own citizens and military, I believe we will be a lot better off, because the United States did not get to be the number 1 super power on the globe by scaling back our military.

Clovis is a small community of approximately 35,000. Cannon Air Force Base has been a viable part of our community since the early 40's. If CAFB were to be taken away from us it would have a devastating negative effect on our community, whereas a larger community could possibly absorb such a loss, Cannon being about 20% of our local economy.

I ask and plead with you, Mr. Principi, to re-evaluate CAFB and remove it from the BRAC list.

In closing Mr. Principi, I too am a Vietnam Veteran, having served in an infantry unit in 1967. I chose to work and live in Clovis New Mexico and raise my family.

Thanking you in advance for your consideration into this matter.

Sincerely

John Perez

DCN: 4873

Rhonda Bookout
Curry County Treasurer

PO BOX 897
CLOVIS NM 88102-0897

RECEIVED
06032005

May 24, 2005

BRAC Commission
2521 S Clark St Ste.600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

As the newly elected Treasurer of Curry County, the thought of CAFB closing terrifies me. The county's ablility to pay for the running of the county largely depends on the gross receipts tax collected in Curry County, which a large portion comes from military families. The economic value of the base closing will be catostropic.

Cannon Air Force Base should not be on the list for the following reasons:

First, and foremost Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.

The base has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues.

The ability to offer supersonic training missions.

The weather in Curry County provides year round training.

The Melrose Bombing Range is within seconds of the end of the runway.

Clovis and the surrounding communities are home to a large military retiree population.

The citizens of Curry County and surrounding communities feel safe with CAFB in our county.

Please, reconsider your decision and take CAFB off of the BRAC list.

Thank you for your time and attention.

Sincerely,

R. Bookout

Rhonda Bookout
Curry County Treasurer

DCN: 4873

RECEIVED

06032005

Eric C. Wuest
P.O. Box 2131
Clovis, NM 88102

Dear Sirs:

I just wanted to say thank you for sending two counties and likely a fifty mile radius of New Mexico and Texas around Cannon AFB back into a 1930's depression.

Sincerely

Eric C. Wuest

DCN: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED 06 03 2005

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

Dear General Hill:

I am writing today to voice my concern for Clovis and Cannon Air Force Base. I have lived in Clovis for 26 of my 33 years and never known Clovis without Cannon. It is my understanding that many years ago it was closed for a short time but was reopened and has stayed open since then. Do I take Cannon for granted? Maybe I did but the events of 9/11 changed my feelings and my dependency on Cannon. I remember how quite the air ways were on that day due to air traffic being stopped. We have gotten accustomed to the jets flying day in and day out. That was a very eerie feeling. I hope and pray that situations like that never happen to our country again. Even now hearing the sound of the jets from the base, I just feel safer for my family and myself.

I remember back when I was in school, a lot of my friends came from military families. Some of my friends now are either military dependents or the base brought them here and they have retired in Clovis because they like it so much. Yes, I have had friends that have left and we do try to stay in touch. But that is just part of living in a military town.

Clovis is a great town to live in. The weather is great pretty much all the time. Our winters are never very bad. This would allow training throughout the year. But not only the weather the schools and teachers are top notch with a variety of activities and backgrounds for the students.

I just ask and pray that you re-evaluate your decision on closing Cannon. You will see that keeping Cannon open would be best for our community and our country.

Sincerely,

Denise Johnson
2205 Belair Rd.
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4873

RECEIVED
06032005

5-31-05

Glenn and Ida Faye Widener
1806 S. Main Pl.
Portales, N.M. 88130

The Honorable Philip Coyle

Please reconsider the proposed closing of Cannon Air Force Base. This closure would have a devastating impact on our economy, schools and many other situations. We have felt that Cannon has contributed greatly to the defence of our country in all past conflicts and will continue to do so.

The base has an ideal location, with it's bombing range only seconds away, and air space to fly at supersonic speeds. Our weather is ideal for year-round flying, among many other benefits.

Please help us keep Cannon!

Respectfully yours,

Glenn and Ida Faye Widener

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

Re: Removing Cannon Air Force Base from the Closure List

Dear Commissioner Hansen:

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.

Clovis, Portales and surrounding communities support Cannon Air Force Base like no other community. We've done so financially, morally, spiritually and above all consistently. The continued operation of Cannon Air Force Base is extremely important to this region, and the Nation as a whole.

Respectfully, I urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

Debbie Durham

Debbie Durham
8224 N. Prince St.
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

RECEIVED
06032005

DCN: 4873

Donna Whitfield
19 Pineway Blvd
Clovis, New Mexico 88101
May 31, 2005

General James T.Hill

Dear Sir:

I am writing this letter in the hopes that you will consider taking Cannon Air Force Base off the list of bases to be closed.

Cannon is Clovis, New Mexico and Clovis is Cannon. Every since I can remember there has been a Cannon Air Force Base. I have great respect for the men and women of the armed services and try to let them know how much I appreciated their service to our country.

We have friends that were stationed at Cannon and when they retired they have chosen to make Clovis their home. Some even moved back to their "previous home" and ended up coming back to Clovis. You will not find any place on this earth that has more friendly people than Clovis, New Mexico and that is why people come here and want to stay here.

My daughter was best friends with one of the gentlemen of Cannon Air Force Base and eventually married him. I love my son in law as if he were my own. They have a fine young son of which I am very proud.

Cannon has plenty of airspace for flying. The weather here is great for flying and the bombing range is a short distance from Cannon Air Force base. It only seems logical to me that Cannon is a base that should remain open for the security of the United States.

Thank you for your consideration in removing Cannon Air Force Base from the base closing list.

Respectfully yours,

Donna Whitfield

Donna Whitfield

DCN: 4873

Donna Whitfield
19 Pineway Blvd
Clovis, New Mexico 88101
May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

The Honorable James Bilbray

Dear Sir:

I am writing this letter in the hopes that you will consider taking Cannon Air Force Base off the list of bases to be closed.

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Respectfully yours,

Donna Whitfield

Donna Whitfield

DCN: 4873

Donna Whitfield
19 Pineway Blvd
Clovis, New Mexico 88101
May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

Admiral Harold W. (Hal) Gehman, Jr.

Dear Sir:

I am writing this letter in the hopes that you will consider taking Cannon Air Force Base off the list of bases to be closed.

Cannon is Clovis, New Mexico and Clovis is Cannon. Every since I can remember there has been a Cannon Air Force Base. I have great respect for the men and women of the armed services and try to let them know how much I appreciated their service to our country.

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Thank you for your consideration in removing Cannon Air Force Base from the base closing list.

Respectfully yours,

Donna Whitfield

Donna Whitfield

DCN: 4873

ANNA MARIE CHAVEZ
1600 NORTH EDWARDS
CLOVIS, NM 88101
505-763-6651

RECEIVED
06032005

June 1, 2005

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

RE: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Commissioner Hansen:

I'm writing this letter in an attempt to change your minds about closing Cannon Air Force Base. I am 60 years old and working two jobs to support myself as I am divorced.

One of my jobs is at the CAFB Commissary Deli. The atmosphere on base is one of professionalism and pride. Please don't take that away from us. My other job is at the Wal-Mart bakery. Our bakery is very busy with both military and civilian customers. I'm concerned if I'll still be needed if the base closes and so many civilians are out of work. I'm not old enough to receive Social Security, but too young to retire. Please don't put me in a situation where I'm forced to sell my house that I worked so hard to pay off by myself to look for work and start all over again in another community. I am 100% certain that I am not the only person in this situation. Please consider us in making your decision.

Please consider not only the economic devastation that will be caused to Clovis, New Mexico by closing the base, but also consider the older community that settles here for retirement and especially those retired personnel who depend on Cannon for their retirement benefits. They served our country for 20+ years and I believe they deserve to be compensated by having a base close by for their shopping and medical. I know as I age, I would not like driving 4 hours to the closest base in Albuquerque if I needed to see a doctor or fill a prescription. Don't we owe them more than that?

I trust you'll make the right decision and I pray that decision is to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC list.

Thank you in advance,

Anna Marie Chavez

Anna Marie Chavez

DCN: 4873

RECEIVED
06032005

Donna Whitfield
19 Pineway Blvd
Clovis, New Mexico 88101
May 31, 2005

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner

Dear Brigadier General Turner:

I am writing this letter in the hopes that you will consider taking Cannon Air Force Base off the list of bases to be closed.

Cannon is Clovis, New Mexico and Clovis is Cannon. Every since I can remember there has been a Cannon Air Force Base. I have great respect for the men and women of the armed services and try to let them know how much I appreciated their service to our country.

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Donna Whitfield

Donna Whitfield

DCN: 4873

Donna Whitfield
19 Pineway Blvd
Clovis, New Mexico 88101
May 31, 2005

The Honorable Phillip Coyle

RECEIVED
06032005

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Respectfully yours,

Donna Whitfield

Donna Whitfield

DCN: 4873

Donna Whitfield
19 Pineway Blvd
Clovis, New Mexico 88101
May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner:

Dear Sir:

I am writing this letter in the hopes that you will consider taking Cannon Air Force Base off the list of bases to be closed.

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Donna Whitfield

Donna Whitfield

DCN: 4873

Donna Whitfield
19 Pineway Blvd
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi
Chairman of BRAC Commission
Dear Sir:

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Donna Whitfield

Donna Whitfield

DCN: 4873

Donna Whitfield
19 Pineway Blvd
Clovis, New Mexico 88101
May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

The Honorable James V Hansen

Dear Sir:

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Thank you for your consideration in removing Cannon Air Force Base from the base closing list.

Respectfully yours,

Donna Whitfield

Donna Whitfield

DCN: 4873

RECEIVED

June 6. 2005

From: Dale Hamlett
2104 S. Ave. H
Portales, N.M. 88130

06102005

General Lloyd W. Newton,

We hope when the BRAC committee evaluates base closings they will recommend keeping Cannon Air Force Base, near Clovis, New Mexico, our neighboring town. Quite a few base personnel live in base housing in our town, Portales. They are part of our community.

In New Mexico, at Cannon Air Force Base, there is usually fine weather for flying, making possible Cannon's ability to train year around.

In New Mexico's wide open spaces, there is less encroachment on its airspace, making for more comprehensive training.

There are new runways on the Cannon Base with ample space/ramp spaces.

Cannon Air Force Base has improved the cultural aspect of the community, as well as being a superior training facility.

Of course, our university town is greatly enhanced by having Cannon Air Force nearby and we hope our area can KEEP Cannon Air Force Base.

Please consider all the facts before making your final decision. We thank you for all you do.

Respectfully yours,

Dale Hamlett

DCN: 4873

RECEIVED

June 6. 2005

06102005

From: Dale Hamlett
2104 S. Ave. H
Portales, N.M. 88130

The Honorable James H. Bilbray,

We hope when the BRAC committee evaluates base closings they will recommend keeping Cannon Air Force Base, near Clovis, New Mexico, our neighboring town. Quite a few base personnel live in base housing in our town, Portales. They are part of our community.

In New Mexico, at Cannon Air Force Base, there is usually fine weather for flying, making possible Cannon's ability to train year around.

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Of course, our university town is greatly enhanced by having Cannon Air Force nearby and we hope our area can KEEP Cannon Air Force Base.

Please consider all the facts before making your final decision. We thank you for all you do.

Respectfully yours,

Dale Hamlett

DCN: 4873

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

0531205

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: 4873

Phone 505-742-3159

May 22, 2005

Glen M. Vienneau
2312 Country Meadows Drive
Clovis, NM 88101

0531 2005

Dear BRAC Commission,

First I would like to express my upmost appreciation and respect for the difficult task that you have been assigned as members of the Base Realignment and Closure Commission. The decision's that you make will truly affect the lives of individuals and communities of various area's that have been selected for realignment and closure, and my prayers and thoughts are with each of the committee members as you make this important decision.

I'm a retiree Master Sergeant with 21 years in the Air Force with 19 years 4 months assigned at Cannon AFB with the only exception of one other assignment at Anderson AFB, Guam for 15 months. On numerous occasions after I retired in 2003, many individuals would ask me why I stayed at Cannon AFB for such a long time and then make the decision to retire with my family in Clovis, NM along with many other retiree's? The fact is that the close relationship and support from the community of Clovis is unlike any other place in the nation, and I couldn't think of a better place to embark on my new career as a retired military member with my family, as I knew the citizens of Clovis stood behind Cannon AFB and diligently supported the base, troops, and retirees from the surrounding communities for the past 50 years.

As I look back over the years of my assignment at Cannon AFB, never was there a time when we didn't arise to the tasking assigned to us from the United States Air Force. I can still remember when the base was selected to be home to all the F111 aircraft in the USAF inventory. Cannon AFB I truly felt was chosen based on the abundance of air space, no encroachments, vast Melrose bombing range (also used by many other branches of service), but also because of the available ramp space at Cannon AFB and the excellent weather in eastern New Mexico which has always provided year round training and the required flight hours mandated by the Air Force to train our fighter pilots to be the best in the world. The F111's have long retired and we're now home to the F16 Fighter aircraft, but rest assure, with the ever changing mission of the Air Force, Cannon AFB will arise to any tasking assigned to it and exceed the Air Force's expectation!

Cannon AFB is also a valuable economic asset to the City of Clovis as well as Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) which are home to a large military retiree population including myself which rely on the base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more.

I know that the BRAC Commission will receive numerous letters along with mine expressing the need to keep Cannon AFB off the Base Realignment and Closure list and the strong facts to prove that Cannon AFB should <u>not</u> be on the closure list based on the Pentagon's criteria in which many areas were overlooked. We look forward to the BRAC Commissions regional hearing on June 24, 2005 in Clovis NM to prove our facts that Cannon AFB is simply irreplaceable!

Sincerely yours;

Glen M. Vienneau

Glen M. Vienneau

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

Ref: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Commissioner Hansen:

I feel compelled to write and ask that you re-evaluate the Department of Defense's BRAC decision to close Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, NM.

Some key reasons Cannon shouldn't be closed are listed below:

- Cannon reaps the benefits of an abundance of air space and **no encroachment issues** which make for a safer and more realistic training area for pilots.
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.
- Weather in Eastern New Mexico is not an issue and allows year round training opportunities.
- The large military retiree population in Clovis, Portales and the surrounding areas depend on Cannon Air Force Base for their healthcare, grocery shopping and more. With no other military installation close by, it would have a huge impact on this segment of the population.

Over the last 50 years, the United States Air Force and Cannon Air Force Base have benefited greatly from a strong relationship with those of us in Eastern New Mexico and vice versa. Throughout the years, community support has come in many forms not the least being consistency in our determination to support our military families and keep Cannon as well as financially as has been demonstrated in the purchase of land for military housing and the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at Cannon as well as air easements around Cannon to protect that air space from encroachment.

In closing, I urge you to vote in favor of removing Cannon Air Force Base from the closure list.

Sincerely,

Jan R. Williams
3104 Wallace
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

Ref: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Commissioner Hansen:

I was stunned and surprised to see Cannon Air Force Base on the base closure list that was released this month. As a long time resident of Clovis I just haven't been able to understand the reasoning involved in the decision to put Cannon on the list. Clovis and the surrounding area have always embraced our military community and welcomed them. We are a very patriotic and supportive Christian based community with the well being of our county at the top of the list. I believe that by closing CAFB, not only would we be doing a huge injustice to our nation, but a huge economic impact would be felt in our community.

Clovis, New Mexico is the ideal place to expand the base and remove it from the closure list. Perhaps the most important factor supporting the removal of Cannon from the closure list is the abundant of air space and the no encroachment issues. Our pilots would have the room to train realistically and safely with virtually no major airport and very little air traffic around. The New Mexico Training Initiative implementation will allow our pilots to fly at supersonic speeds during training mission also providing true to lift situation. The weather in our area averages 320 days of almost perfect flying days a year. You won't find that to be common. The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. Instead of wasting precious fuel by having to fly a long distance to train, our pilots can begin their training missions almost immediately.

Clovis has much more to offer our county and our military personal. You will find that the relationship shared between Cannon and the surrounding communities of Clovis are unique and unlike most around the country. Most businesses offer military discounts for example. There is currently a $60 million expansion of our Medical facility taking place as we speak. Our local colleges offer classes on base. New housing is being built! A new VA Clinic will be opening this year and many new businesses have been opened.

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 choose to leave Cannon open!

Thank you for your consideration!

Jason Johnson

DCN: 4873

June 1, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

RE: Cannon Air Force Base

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 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 always 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. There is always a shortage of employment opportunities in this area and many civilians will have to leave to find new jobs. Cannon is critical for our community to continue to be successful.

We look forward to your arrival to the Cannon hearing in Clovis and pray the commission reconsiders and removes CAFB from the closure list. Cannon is important to the nation's security and to our community. Please, let us KEEP CANNON!

Sincerely,

Yolanda Aguilar
3105 Mandell Circle
Clovis, NM 88101

PS. On a personal note, as a parent of school age children, I appreciate the diversity of people that are stationed here and the opportunity it provides all children to meet and form relationships with children and families from all regions of our great USA.

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06032005

Dear Admiral Gehman, Jr.:

I am a citizen of Clovis, NM and **I am proud to live in a community that supports Cannon Air Force Base.** I have lived in and around Clovis and Cannon for 30 years, so Cannon has always been a part of my life. I've read the justification given by the Pentagon for closing our air base and ask that you please reconsider the DOD's recommendation.

MILITARY NEEDS

Cannon has been home to various types of aircraft and currently houses F16's. Cannon jets have flown in multiple wars and the F111's from Cannon were instrumental in Desert Storm; not to mention they were the planes sent by President Reagan to bomb Libya. Cannon has always had a strong presence everywhere they go. Plus, there is ample base space and air space available, as well as great weather conditions that allow almost zero days lost of flight time per year. Cannon and Clovis is willing and able to accommodate growth.

Cannon is also home to the Melrose bombing range, and to unlimited air space (up to 50,000 feet in some areas) free from obstacles or hindrances found in larger metropolitan areas only seconds of flight time from Cannon. The Pecos River near Ft. Sumner also was a perfect copy of a river in Iraq providing excellent training for pilots before the invasion is only minutes from Cannon. There is limited risk here; if a jet crashes – normally it hits dirt, not housing units or schools.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Clovis will be the hardest community hit economically if you go through with this closure. We will take a -20.5% hit in job losses alone; the next closest impact is Martin County Indiana at -11.6%. Our loss represents ***4 times more (400%)*** of the current national average of the employment rate. In a town the size of Clovis, this is tragic. Clovis has built itself around the base, and much of the livelihood in Clovis relies on base personnel and/or resources.

The report says that approximately 4,780 jobs would be affected if the base were to close. While these numbers may be somewhat lower than other areas – based on the overall population of Clovis, the results will be devastating nonetheless. A large city can more easily survive a base closure (even with higher numbers than those reflected above) because of population, but with only 34,000 residents in Clovis – it would kill us. It will take years and years to rebound from a loss this great, if ever. These numbers don't take into consideration the retiree's that will move as they no longer will have access to medical and shopping facilities, families that will follow their loved ones in their new deployments, and small businesses in town that depend on military troops spending money in their stores.

Clovis is rural; there are no big businesses knocking on our door begging to come in. We cannot support a larger airport even if it is donated. How can we possibly rebound after such an enormous blow? Please reconsider the ramifications that this closure would deal us if it were to close.

DCN: 4873

SUPPORT INFRASTRUCTURES

- Cannon provides support/resources for the Melrose bombing range. The range serves the 27th FW, B1's out of Dyess (Abilene), 150th ANG (Kirtland), 550th SOS (Special Ops, Kirtland), B52's (Barksdale AFB, Louisiana), B2's (Missouri), F-117's (Alamogordo), along with occasional E3's, EC-135's, and whoever else flies within range. It is also used by the Army for air drop exercises, and both USAF and Army Forward Air Controller training. To say it is a valuable asset, would be a minor understatement. The facility consists of 66,000 acres, with 59,000 acres owned by the Air Force, and has been in use continuously since 1952 and accounts for 4800 sorties annually. They also provide an electronic counter measure facility for advanced training, as well as night-vision goggle training.

  The September 2001 Defensive Training Initiative permitted the use of chaff and flares in existing airspace contiguous to the Melrose bombing range so that combat-condition training could occur in response to available simulated ground-based and aircraft threats. Currently, pilots use defensive countermeasures to avoid these threats only in the restricted airspace over the bombing range. The 27 FW, as the proponent for this action, conducts defensive training using chaff and flares in surrounding areas. As far as I can tell by my research, Cannon Air Force Base is the only base in the United States authorized to utilize this training, thus making the bombing range in Melrose even more of a critical infrastructure that should remain in place along with the base itself. It would be costly to re-home Melrose Bombing Range as the Air Force must provide Firefighters on site at all times.

  Cannon is the closest base to PANTEX in Amarillo, Texas, which is a Nuclear weapons facility. I would consider Cannon to be a huge defensive support infrastructure to this facility, and the closest fighter jets in reach.

  Cannon is a base that is supported by the community. Clovis and the surrounding communities are proud to have the air base in our presence; we welcome the people it brings to the area, the diversity it offers us, and the security of knowing we are protected and safe.

In closing, I would like to note that Cannon believes in giving back to the community and does so through volunteer and other charitable work. With this said, I'd like to ask that you please rethink the numbers, the loss, and the impact that this closure would have on our community and the people who live here. And then reconsider the opportunities available at Cannon if kept open.

Clovis is a community that has always supported the base, its personnel, and FREEDOM. Our community will do anything necessary to accommodate the needs of the base and its personnel. We have proven this many times in the past by purchasing air easements and land around Cannon and giving them to the Air Force, not to mention lobbying for, and attaining, supersonic capability in Cannon's air space. 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.

Please consider removing Cannon Air Force Base off the list of base closures.
Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Joe Hamar
505-389-4260 or 505-683-6974

We are PROUD of our air base!
We love it and want it to remain a part of our community.

DCN: 4873

RECEIVED
06032005

May 31, 2005

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

Re: Removing Cannon Air Force Base from the Closure List

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

I just wanted to express strongly that I don't think that Cannon Air Force Base should be on the BRAC closure list. If you could come visit Clovis, NM and the surrounding towns, you would see signs of support that we have to keep Cannon from closing.

There are several reasons why Cannon should not be on the BRAC list for closure.

1. Cannon has plenty of air space, which makes it safer and allows more training for pilots.
2. The weather is also a major factor and provides year round training opportunities.
3. There are many states that are home to a large military retiree population. They rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more.
4. Our economy would be greatly affected. Cannon is critical for us. Clovis, Portales and the surrounding communities have reached out and supported Cannon Air Force Base. The continued operation of Cannon is not only extremely important for this region, but also for the Nation.

Please help us keep Cannon Air Force Base!!

Sincerely,

Evelyn Taylor

Evelyn Taylor

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

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Please help us keep Cannon Air Force Base!!

Sincerely,

Evelyn Taylor

Evelyn Taylor

DCN: 4873

ANNA MARIE CHAVEZ
1600 NORTH EDWARDS
CLOVIS, NM 88101
505-763-6651

June 1, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06032005
06032005

RE: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Commissioner Coyle:

I'm writing this letter in an attempt to change your minds about closing Cannon Air Force Base. I am 60 years old and working two jobs to support myself as I am divorced.

One of my jobs is at the CAFB Commissary Deli. The atmosphere on base is one of professionalism and pride. Please don't take that away from us. My other job is at the Wal-Mart bakery. Our bakery is very busy with both military and civilian customers. I'm concerned if I'll still be needed if the base closes and so many civilians are out of work. I'm not old enough to receive Social Security, but too young to retire. Please don't put me in a situation where I'm forced to sell my house that I worked so hard to pay off by myself to look for work and start all over again in another community. I am 100% certain that I am not the only person in this situation. Please consider us in making your decision.

Please consider not only the economic devastation that will be caused to Clovis, New Mexico by closing the base, but also consider the older community that settles here for retirement and especially those retired personnel who depend on Cannon for their retirement benefits. They served our country for 20+ years and I believe they deserve to be compensated by having a base close by for their shopping and medical. I know as I age, I would not like driving 4 hours to the closest base in Albuquerque if I needed to see a doctor or fill a prescription. Don't we owe them more than that?

I trust you'll make the right decision and I pray that decision is to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC list.

Thank you in advance,

Anna Marie Chavez

Anna Marie Chavez

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

Dear Commissioner Coyle:

This request is for your support in an appeal to the Defense Department in their recent decision to include Cannon Air Force Base on the base closure list. Cannon Air Force Base is a vital part of our community and a strategic asset to Homeland security as well.

Cannon offers unencroached airspace suitable for realistic training scenarios, provides a home, medical benefits and community support to many retired military personnel and Eastern New Mexico flying weather provides excellent opportunity for F-22, Strike Fighter and other military aircraft training missions. Melrose bombing rages offers nearby, **cost-efficient** access to training operations imperative to National Security.

The community surrounding Cannon Air Force Base has continually supported this government facility with gifted land for base expansion, housing and instrument lighting space, this community (in conjunction with the State of New Mexico) has also purchased air easements surrounding Cannon Air Force Base and gifted them to the government. Several local farmers, like myself, have experienced accidental disengagement of aircraft fuel tanks on their fields and property these people have never pursued financial retribution from the government. Incidents like these, in a more populated area or a less-tolerant community could result in a considerate financial burden for the Nation.

In reviewing the BRAC list, please keep in mind that this community has supported Cannon Air Force Base financially, morally, spiritually and continually for over 50 years, the area offers ideal training opportunity for our Nations' Armed Forces.

I appreciate your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Anita Boliver

Anita and Danny Boliver

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

Dear Commissioner Coyle:

I strongly urge you to reconsider the Department of Defense's recommendation that Cannon Air Force Base should be closed. Cannon Air Force Base should be removed from the BRAC closure list for many reasons. I have listed some of these reasons below:

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.
- 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 Air Force Base brings people of all cultures into our community. Because of this our community is more diversified, and we are able to share in the knowledge of people from all over the United States.
- Closing Cannon will have a devastating impact on our economy. It has been estimated that our area will lose at least 20% of its workforce, a percentage out of line with the effect of base closings in other communities. Cannon is critical to our community.
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, and West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These 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.

The Clovis, Portales and surrounding communities have reached out and supported Cannon Air Force Base like no other community over the last 50 years. The following are some examples of how the community has shown its support of Cannon Air Force Base:

- 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, Cannon Air Force Base is very important to our community! I ask you to please come to the Cannon hearing in Clovis, and reconsider Cannon's importance to my community and to the nation as a whole. Please, let us KEEP CANNON!

Sincerely,

Sheila Mehl

Sheila Mehl
113 Lockwood Dr.
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

REC
06032005

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

Ref: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

I feel compelled to write and ask that you re-evaluate the Department of Defense's BRAC decision to close Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, NM.

Some key reasons Cannon shouldn't be closed are listed below:

- Cannon reaps the benefits of an abundance of air space and **no encroachment issues** which make for a safer and more realistic training area for pilots.
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.
- Weather in Eastern New Mexico is not an issue and allows year round training opportunities.
- The large military retiree population in Clovis, Portales and the surrounding areas depend on Cannon Air Force Base for their healthcare, grocery shopping and more. With no other military installation close by, it would have a huge impact on this segment of the population.

Over the last 50 years, the United States Air Force and Cannon Air Force Base have benefited greatly from a strong relationship with those of us in Eastern New Mexico and vice versa. Throughout the years, community support has come in many forms not the least being consistency in our determination to support our military families and keep Cannon as well as financially as has been demonstrated in the purchase of land for military housing and the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at Cannon as well as air easements around Cannon to protect that air space from encroachment.

In closing, I urge you to vote in favor of removing Cannon Air Force Base from the closure list.

Sincerely,

Jan R. Williams

Jan R. Williams
3104 Wallace
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

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

06032005
RECEIVED

Dear Chairman Principi:

This request is for your support in an appeal to the Defense Department in their recent decision to include Cannon Air Force Base on the base closure list. Cannon Air Force Base is a vital part of our community and a strategic asset to Homeland security as well.

Cannon offers unencroached airspace suitable for realistic training scenarios, provides a home, medical benefits and community support to many retired military personnel and Eastern New Mexico flying weather provides excellent opportunity for F-22, Strike Fighter and other military aircraft training missions. Melrose bombing rages offers nearby, **cost-efficient** access to training operations imperative to National Security.

The community surrounding Cannon Air Force Base has continually supported this government facility with gifted land for base expansion, housing and instrument lighting space, this community (in conjunction with the State of New Mexico) has also purchased air easements surrounding Cannon Air Force Base and gifted them to the government. Several local farmers, like myself, have experienced accidental disengagement of aircraft fuel tanks on their fields and property these people have never pursued financial retribution from the government. Incidents like these, in a more populated area or a less-tolerant community could result in a considerate financial burden for the Nation.

In reviewing the BRAC list, please keep in mind that this community has supported Cannon Air Force Base financially, morally, spiritually and continually for over 50 years, the area offers ideal training opportunity for our Nations' Armed Forces.

I appreciate your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Anita & Danny Boliver

Anita and Danny Boliver

DCN: 4873

May 28, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As a former military child and now a non-military member of the community, I'd like to share with you a little about our town, Clovis, New Mexico. The servicemen and women stationed here are welcomed and looked after in a way I never experienced. We love them in our churches, watch over and assist the families while their loved ones are deployed (which sometimes is several homes on the block at once), and maintain the highest standards in our schools that draw from the base housing.

As a local pharmacist I have seen the changes the community has made to increase the quality and accessibility of healthcare. Our veterans are enjoying a brand new VA clinic, the hospital is in the middle of a sixty million dollar expansion and the community has attracted many new physicians and surgeons (the goal being sixty or more). I am honored to serve the military families that frequent my pharmacy.

The weather and blue skies that we enjoy in eastern New Mexico make for excellent flying conditions. What a patriotic experience it is to see the jets overhead in formation. I am proud to fly The Flag in tribute to our servicemen and women.

I respectfully ask that you consider Cannon AFB, Clovis, New Mexico to be removed from the base closure list.

Sincerely,

Amy K. Kelley

Amy K. Kelley
2320 Fairway Terrace
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4873

May 28, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06 03 2005

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06032005

Ladies and Gentlemen,

As a former military child and now a non-military member of the community, I'd like to share with you a little about our town, Clovis, New Mexico. The servicemen and women stationed here are welcomed and looked after in a way I never experienced. We love them in our churches, watch over and assist the families while their loved ones are deployed (which sometimes is several homes on the block at once), and maintain the highest standards in our schools that draw from the base housing.

As a local pharmacist I have seen the changes the community has made to increase the quality and accessibility of healthcare. Our veterans are enjoying a brand new VA clinic, the hospital is in the middle of a sixty million dollar expansion and the community has attracted many new physicians and surgeons (the goal being sixty or more). I am honored to serve the military families that frequent my pharmacy.

The weather and blue skies that we enjoy in eastern New Mexico make for excellent flying conditions. What a patriotic experience it is to see the jets overhead in formation. I am proud to fly The Flag in tribute to our servicemen and women.

I respectfully ask that you consider Cannon AFB, Clovis, New Mexico to be removed from the base closure list.

Sincerely,

Amy K. Kelley

Amy K. Kelley
2320 Fairway Terrace
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4873

May 28, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06 03 2005

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Sincerely,

Amy K Kelley

Amy K. Kelley
2320 Fairway Terrace
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4873

27 May 2005

Subject: Keeping Cannon A.F,B.

To: Samuel Knox Skinner

RECEIVED
06032005

I was the Base Commander that closed Hancock Field, Syracuse, N.Y. in 1984. I understood that as one winter we had 161 inches of snow and one fall 37 straight days of rain.

Cannon averages 320 days of flying weather for its 70 F-16's (or replacement aircraft) from its main 10,000 foot runway, which was repaired and lengthened by May 2001 at a cost of $7.065,000.00. After take-off the aircraft are only seconds from the expanded Melrose Bombing Range (21 surface miles). Approval for the Range to be used for supersonic missions is pending with the FAA.

Cannon has no encroachments and an abundance of airspace. It has ample space and ramp space for surge force requirements. It can support training missions for F-22, Joint Strike Force Fighters, etc.

Cannon has a new Control Tower built at the cost of $5,600,000.00.

Cannon also has a state of the art, anti-terrorist Main Gate opened on 30 August 2004. At a cost of $1,356,000.00.

Cannon has one new dormitory and a recently rehabed one at a cost of $1,356,000.00.

In recent years the base constructed 711 new housing units. 200 in Clovis at a cost of $12,985,000.00, 150 in Portales, N. M. at a cost of $9,738,534.00, and 361 on Base in Chavez Manor West at a cost of $32,474,925.00. Thus helping insure the quality of life for Cannon personnel.

Cannon annually pumps $212,000,000.00 into the local economy.

Iserved 24 years in the Air Force and never have I been in a more caring and welcoming community than Clovis and Portales, N.M.

DON'T CLOSE CANNON

Gerald L. Radcliff

GERALD L. RADCLIFF
LT COL, USAF (Retired)

The above figures were supplied by the USAF.

DCN: 4873

27 May 2005

Subject: Keeping Cannon A.F,B.

To: Gen. Sue Ellen Turner (Retired)

RECEIVED
06032005

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LT COL, USAF (Retired)

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DCN: 4873

27 May 2005

Subject: Keeping Cannon A.F,B.

To: Phillip Coyle

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06032005

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DCN: 4873

27 May 2005

Subject: Keeping Cannon A.F,B.

To: Adm. Harold W. Gehman, Jr. (Retired)

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06032005

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DCN: 4873

27 May 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

Subject: Keeping Cannon A.F,B.

To: James V. Hansen

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LT COL, USAF (Retired)

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DCN: 4873

27 May 2005

Subject: Keeping Cannon A.F,B.

To: Gen. James T. Hill (Retired)

RECEIVED 06032005

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DCN: 4873

27 May 2005

Subject: Keeping Cannon A.F,B.

To: Gen. Lloyd Newton (Retired)

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LT COL, USAF (Retired)

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DCN: 4873

27 May 2005

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06032005

Subject: Keeping Cannon A.F,B.

To: James H. Bilbray

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LT COL, USAF (Retired)

The above figures were supplied by the USAF.

DCN: 4873

27 May 2005

Subject: Keeping Cannon A.F,B.

To: Chairman, Anthony J. Principi

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06032005

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Gerald L. Radcliff

GERALD L. RADCLIFF
LT COL, USAF (Retired)

The above figures were supplied by the USAF.

DCN: 4873

ANNA MARIE CHAVEZ
1600 NORTH EDWARDS
CLOVIS, NM 88101
505-763-6651

June 1, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

RE: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Chairman Principi:

I'm writing this letter in an attempt to change your minds about closing Cannon Air Force Base. I am 60 years old and working two jobs to support myself as I am divorced.

One of my jobs is at the CAFB Commissary Deli. The atmosphere on base is one of professionalism and pride. Please don't take that away from us. My other job is at the Wal-Mart bakery. Our bakery is very busy with both military and civilian customers. I'm concerned if I'll still be needed if the base closes and so many civilians are out of work. I'm not old enough to receive Social Security, but too young to retire. Please don't put me in a situation where I'm forced to sell my house that I worked so hard to pay off by myself to look for work and start all over again in another community. I am 100% certain that I am not the only person in this situation. Please consider us in making your decision.

Please consider not only the economic devastation that will be caused to Clovis, New Mexico by closing the base, but also consider the older community that settles here for retirement and especially those retired personnel who depend on Cannon for their retirement benefits. They served our country for 20+ years and I believe they deserve to be compensated by having a base close by for their shopping and medical. I know as I age, I would not like driving 4 hours to the closest base in Albuquerque if I needed to see a doctor or fill a prescription. Don't we owe them more than that?

I trust you'll make the right decision and I pray that decision is to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC list.

Thank you in advance,

Anna Marie Chavez

Anna Marie Chavez

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06032005

Ref: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

I was stunned and surprised to see Cannon Air Force Base on the base closure list that was released this month. As a long time resident of Clovis I just haven't been able to understand the reasoning involved in the decision to put Cannon on the list. Clovis and the surrounding area have always embraced our military community and welcomed them. We are a very patriotic and supportive Christian based community with the well being of our county at the top of the list. I believe that by closing CAFB, not only would we be doing a huge injustice to our nation, but a huge economic impact would be felt in our community.

Clovis, New Mexico is the ideal place to expand the base and remove it from the closure list. Perhaps the most important factor supporting the removal of Cannon from the closure list is the abundant of air space and the no encroachment issues. Our pilots would have the room to train realistically and safely with virtually no major airport and very little air traffic around. The New Mexico Training Initiative implementation will allow our pilots to fly at supersonic speeds during training mission also providing true to lift situation. The weather in our area averages 320 days of almost perfect flying days a year. You won't find that to be common. The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. Instead of wasting precious fuel by having to fly a long distance to train, our pilots can begin their training missions almost immediately.

Clovis has much more to offer our county and our military personal. You will find that the relationship shared between Cannon and the surrounding communities of Clovis are unique and unlike most around the country. Most businesses offer military discounts for example. There is currently a $60 million expansion of our Medical facility taking place as we speak. Our local colleges offer classes on base. New housing is being built! A new VA Clinic will be opening this year and many new businesses have been opened.

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 choose to leave Cannon open!

Thank you for your consideration!

Jason Johnson

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

Re: Removing Cannon Air Force Base from the Closure List

Dear Chairman Principi:

I just wanted to express strongly that I don't think that Cannon Air Force Base should be on the BRAC closure list. If you could come visit Clovis, NM and the surrounding towns, you would see signs of support that we have to keep Cannon from closing.

There are several reasons why Cannon should not be on the BRAC list for closure.

1. Cannon has plenty of air space, which makes it safer and allows more training for pilots.
2. The weather is also a major factor and provides year round training opportunities.
3. There are many states that are home to a large military retiree population. They rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more.
4. Our economy would be greatly affected. Cannon is critical for us. Clovis, Portales and the surrounding communities have reached out and supported Cannon Air Force Base. The continued operation of Cannon is not only extremely important for this region, but also for the Nation.

Please help us keep Cannon Air Force Base!!

Sincerely,

Evelyn Taylor

Evelyn Taylor

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

Dear Chairman Principi:

I strongly urge you to reconsider the Department of Defense's recommendation that Cannon Air Force Base should be closed. Cannon Air Force Base should be removed from the BRAC closure list for many reasons. I have listed some of these reasons below:

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.
- 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 Air Force Base brings people of all cultures into our community. Because of this our community is more diversified, and we are able to share in the knowledge of people from all over the United States.
- Closing Cannon will have a devastating impact on our economy. It has been estimated that our area will lose at least *20% of its workforce*, a percentage out of line with the effect of base closings in other communities. Cannon is critical to our community.
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, and West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These 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.

The Clovis, Portales and surrounding communities have reached out and supported Cannon Air Force Base like no other community over the last 50 years. The following are some examples of how the community has shown its support of Cannon Air Force Base:

- 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, Cannon Air Force Base is very important to our community! I ask you to please come to the Cannon hearing in Clovis, and reconsider Cannon's importance to my community and to the nation as a whole. Please, let us KEEP CANNON!

Sincerely,

Sheila Mehl

Sheila Mehl
113 Lockwood Dr.
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

Ref: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Commissioner Coyle:

I feel compelled to write and ask that you re-evaluate the Department of Defense's BRAC decision to close Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, NM.

Some key reasons Cannon shouldn't be closed are listed below:

- Cannon reaps the benefits of an abundance of air space and **no encroachment issues** which make for a safer and more realistic training area for pilots.
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.
- Weather in Eastern New Mexico is not an issue and allows year round training opportunities.
- The large military retiree population in Clovis, Portales and the surrounding areas depend on Cannon Air Force Base for their healthcare, grocery shopping and more. With no other military installation close by, it would have a huge impact on this segment of the population.

Over the last 50 years, the United States Air Force and Cannon Air Force Base have benefited greatly from a strong relationship with those of us in Eastern New Mexico and vice versa. Throughout the years, community support has come in many forms not the least being consistency in our determination to support our military families and keep Cannon as well as financially as has been demonstrated in the purchase of land for military housing and the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at Cannon as well as air easements around Cannon to protect that air space from encroachment.

In closing, I urge you to vote in favor of removing Cannon Air Force Base from the closure list.

Sincerely,

Jan R. Williams

Jan R. Williams
3104 Wallace
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06032005

Re: Removing Cannon Air Force Base from the Closure List

Dear Commissioner Coyle:

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.

- 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.

Respectfully, I urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

Mike Tweedy
2205 Putnam Dr.
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

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

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Ref: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Commissioner Coyle:

I was stunned and surprised to see Cannon Air Force Base on the base closure list that was released this month. As a long time resident of Clovis I just haven't been able to understand the reasoning involved in the decision to put Cannon on the list. Clovis and the surrounding area have always embraced our military community and welcomed them. We are a very patriotic and supportive Christian based community with the well being of our county at the top of the list. I believe that by closing CAFB, not only would we be doing a huge injustice to our nation, but a huge economic impact would be felt in our community.

Clovis, New Mexico is the ideal place to expand the base and remove it from the closure list. Perhaps the most important factor supporting the removal of Cannon from the closure list is the abundant of air space and the no encroachment issues. Our pilots would have the room to train realistically and safely with virtually no major airport and very little air traffic around. The New Mexico Training Initiative implementation will allow our pilots to fly at supersonic speeds during training mission also providing true to lift situation. The weather in our area averages 320 days of almost perfect flying days a year. You won't find that to be common. The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. Instead of wasting precious fuel by having to fly a long distance to train, our pilots can begin their training missions almost immediately.

Clovis has much more to offer our county and our military personal. You will find that the relationship shared between Cannon and the surrounding communities of Clovis are unique and unlike most around the country. Most businesses offer military discounts for example. There is currently a $60 million expansion of our Medical facility taking place as we speak. Our local colleges offer classes on base. New housing is being built! A new VA Clinic will be opening this year and many new businesses have been opened.

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 choose to leave Cannon open!

Thank you for your consideration!

Jason Johnson

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

Re: Removing Cannon Air Force Base from the Closure List

Dear Commissioner Coyle:

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,

Mrs. Judith Encinias

Mrs. Judith Encinias
8340 La Linda Ln
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

I am writing today to voice my concern for Clovis and Cannon Air Force Base. I have lived in Clovis for 26 of my 33 years and never known Clovis without Cannon. It is my understanding that many years ago it was closed for a short time but was reopened and has stayed open since then. Do I take Cannon for granted? Maybe I did but the events of 9/11 changed my feelings and my dependency on Cannon. I remember how quite the air ways were on that day due to air traffic being stopped. We have gotten accustomed to the jets flying day in and day out. That was a very eerie feeling. I hope and pray that situations like that never happen to our country again. Even now hearing the sound of the jets from the base, I just feel safer for my family and myself.

I remember back when I was in school, a lot of my friends came from military families. Some of my friends now are either military dependents or the base brought them here and they have retired in Clovis because they like it so much. Yes, I have had friends that have left and we do try to stay in touch. But that is just part of living in a military town.

Clovis is a great town to live in. The weather is great pretty much all the time. Our winters are never very bad. This would allow training throughout the year. But not only the weather the schools and teachers are top notch with a variety of activities and backgrounds for the students.

I just ask and pray that you re-evaluate your decision on closing Cannon. You will see that keeping Cannon open would be best for our community and our country.

Sincerely,

Denise Johnson
2205 Belair Rd.
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06 03 2005

Ref: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Chairman Principi:

I feel compelled to write and ask that you re-evaluate the Department of Defense's BRAC decision to close Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, NM.

Some key reasons Cannon shouldn't be closed are listed below:

- Cannon reaps the benefits of an abundance of air space and **no encroachment issues** which make for a safer and more realistic training area for pilots.
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.
- Weather in Eastern New Mexico is not an issue and allows year round training opportunities.
- The large military retiree population in Clovis, Portales and the surrounding areas depend on Cannon Air Force Base for their healthcare, grocery shopping and more. With no other military installation close by, it would have a huge impact on this segment of the population.

Over the last 50 years, the United States Air Force and Cannon Air Force Base have benefited greatly from a strong relationship with those of us in Eastern New Mexico and vice versa. Throughout the years, community support has come in many forms not the least being consistency in our determination to support our military families and keep Cannon as well as financially as has been demonstrated in the purchase of land for military housing and the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at Cannon as well as air easements around Cannon to protect that air space from encroachment.

In closing, I urge you to vote in favor of removing Cannon Air Force Base from the closure list.

Sincerely,

Jan R. Williams
3104 Wallace
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

Re: Removing Cannon Air Force Base from the Closure List

Dear Chairman Principi:

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.

- 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.

Respectfully, I urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

Mike Tweedy
2205 Putnam Dr.
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

Dear Chairman Principi:

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I just ask and pray that you re-evaluate your decision on closing Cannon. You will see that keeping Cannon open would be best for our community and our country.

Sincerely,

Denise Johnson
2205 Belair Rd.
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06 03 2005

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

Re: Removing Cannon Air Force Base from the Closure List

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

Please remove Cannon Air Force Base from the Closure List.

Cannon Air Force Base should not be on the closure list for these reasons.

- Cannon Air Force Base is great contribution to the community.
- Cannon Air Force Base is the only tactical fighter wing on this side of the country.
- Cannon Air Force Base has its own Bombing Range and unlimited airspace.
- Cannon Air Force Base will create a financial burden for retired personal and dependants with no commissary or medical facilities.
- Cannon Air Force is home to many Friends and Family that are here to help protect our country and our homes. .

In closing, Cannon Air Force Base is part of our community and we feel that it would hurt all of its members and communities if it were closed and made people leave the place they call home, children having to find new friends in new schools and new towns because they were forced to move and leave friends and family behind. During times of need and war all of the communities pulled together to support our troops and the families that they left behind. 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,

Victor Sandoval Jr.
313 Reid Street
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

Ref: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Chairman Principi:

I was stunned and surprised to see Cannon Air Force Base on the base closure list that was released this month. As a long time resident of Clovis I just haven't been able to understand the reasoning involved in the decision to put Cannon on the list. Clovis and the surrounding area have always embraced our military community and welcomed them. We are a very patriotic and supportive Christian based community with the well being of our county at the top of the list. I believe that by closing CAFB, not only would we be doing a huge injustice to our nation, but a huge economic impact would be felt in our community.

Clovis, New Mexico is the ideal place to expand the base and remove it from the closure list. Perhaps the most important factor supporting the removal of Cannon from the closure list is the abundant of air space and the no encroachment issues. Our pilots would have the room to train realistically and safely with virtually no major airport and very little air traffic around. The New Mexico Training Initiative implementation will allow our pilots to fly at supersonic speeds during training mission also providing true to lift situation. The weather in our area averages 320 days of almost perfect flying days a year. You won't find that to be common. The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. Instead of wasting precious fuel by having to fly a long distance to train, our pilots can begin their training missions almost immediately.

Clovis has much more to offer our county and our military personal. You will find that the relationship shared between Cannon and the surrounding communities of Clovis are unique and unlike most around the country. Most businesses offer military discounts for example. There is currently a $60 million expansion of our Medical facility taking place as we speak. Our local colleges offer classes on base. New housing is being built! A new VA Clinic will be opening this year and many new businesses have been opened.

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 choose to leave Cannon open!

Thank you for your consideration!

Jason Johnson

DCN: 4873

ANNA MARIE CHAVEZ
1600 NORTH EDWARDS
CLOVIS, NM 88101
505-763-6651

June 1, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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'm writing this letter in an attempt to change your minds about closing Cannon Air Force Base. I am 60 years old and working two jobs to support myself as I am divorced.

One of my jobs is at the CAFB Commissary Deli. The atmosphere on base is one of professionalism and pride. Please don't take that away from us. My other job is at the Wal-Mart bakery. Our bakery is very busy with both military and civilian customers. I'm concerned if I'll still be needed if the base closes and so many civilians are out of work. I'm not old enough to receive Social Security, but too young to retire. Please don't put me in a situation where I'm forced to sell my house that I worked so hard to pay off by myself to look for work and start all over again in another community. I am 100% certain that I am not the only person in this situation. Please consider us in making your decision.

Please consider not only the economic devastation that will be caused to Clovis, New Mexico by closing the base, but also consider the older community that settles here for retirement and especially those retired personnel who depend on Cannon for their retirement benefits. They served our country for 20+ years and I believe they deserve to be compensated by having a base close by for their shopping and medical. I know as I age, I would not like driving 4 hours to the closest base in Albuquerque if I needed to see a doctor or fill a prescription. Don't we owe them more than that?

I trust you'll make the right decision and I pray that decision is to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC list.

Thank you in advance,

Anna Marie Chavez

Anna Marie Chavez

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

I am a citizen of Clovis, NM and **I am proud to live in a community that supports Cannon Air Force Base.** I have lived in and around Clovis and Cannon for 30 years, so Cannon has always been a part of my life. I've read the justification given by the Pentagon for closing our air base and ask that you please reconsider the DOD's recommendation.

MILITARY NEEDS

Cannon has been home to various types of aircraft and currently houses F16's. Cannon jets have flown in multiple wars and the F111's from Cannon were instrumental in Desert Storm; not to mention they were the planes sent by President Reagan to bomb Libya. Cannon has always had a strong presence everywhere they go. Plus, there is ample base space and air space available, as well as great weather conditions that allow almost zero days lost of flight time per year. Cannon and Clovis is willing and able to accommodate growth.

Cannon is also home to the Melrose bombing range, and to unlimited air space (up to 50,000 feet in some areas) free from obstacles or hindrances found in larger metropolitan areas only seconds of flight time from Cannon. The Pecos River near Ft. Sumner also was a perfect copy of a river in Iraq providing excellent training for pilots before the invasion is only minutes from Cannon. There is limited risk here; if a jet crashes – normally it hits dirt, not housing units or schools.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Clovis will be the hardest community hit economically if you go through with this closure. We will take a -20.5% hit in job losses alone; the next closest impact is Martin County Indiana at -11.6%. Our loss represents ***4 times more (400%)*** of the current national average of the employment rate. In a town the size of Clovis, this is tragic. Clovis has built itself around the base, and much of the livelihood in Clovis relies on base personnel and/or resources.

The report says that approximately 4,780 jobs would be affected if the base were to close. While these numbers may be somewhat lower than other areas – based on the overall population of Clovis, the results will be devastating nonetheless. A large city can more easily survive a base closure (even with higher numbers than those reflected above) because of population, but with only 34,000 residents in Clovis – it would kill us. It will take years and years to rebound from a loss this great, if ever. These numbers don't take into consideration the retiree's that will move as they no longer will have access to medical and shopping facilities, families that will follow their loved ones in their new deployments, and small businesses in town that depend on military troops spending money in their stores.

Clovis is rural; there are no big businesses knocking on our door begging to come in. We cannot support a larger airport even if it is donated. How can we possibly rebound after such an enormous blow? Please reconsider the ramifications that this closure would deal us if it were to close.

DCN: 4873

SUPPORT INFRASTRUCTURES

Cannon provides support/resources for the Melrose bombing range. The range serves the 27th FW, B1's out of Dyess (Abilene), 150th ANG (Kirtland), 550th SOS (Special Ops, Kirtland), B52's (Barksdale AFB, Louisiana), B2's (Missouri), F-117's (Alamogordo), along with occasional E3's, EC-135's, and whoever else flies within range. It is also used by the Army for air drop exercises, and both USAF and Army Forward Air Controller training. To say it is a valuable asset, would be a minor understatement. The facility consists of 66,000 acres, with 59,000 acres owned by the Air Force, and has been in use continuously since 1952 and accounts for 4800 sorties annually. They also provide an electronic counter measure facility for advanced training, as well as night-vision goggle training.

The September 2001 Defensive Training Initiative permitted the use of chaff and flares in existing airspace contiguous to the Melrose bombing range so that combat-condition training could occur in response to available simulated ground-based and aircraft threats. Currently, pilots use defensive countermeasures to avoid these threats only in the restricted airspace over the bombing range. The 27 FW, as the proponent for this action, conducts defensive training using chaff and flares in surrounding areas. As far as I can tell by my research, Cannon Air Force Base is the only base in the United States authorized to utilize this training, thus making the bombing range in Melrose even more of a critical infrastructure that should remain in place along with the base itself. It would be costly to re-home Melrose Bombing Range as the Air Force must provide Firefighters on site at all times.

Cannon is the closest base to PANTEX in Amarillo, Texas, which is a Nuclear weapons facility. I would consider Cannon to be a huge defensive support infrastructure to this facility, and the closest fighter jets in reach.

Cannon is a base that is supported by the community. Clovis and the surrounding communities are proud to have the air base in our presence; we welcome the people it brings to the area, the diversity it offers us, and the security of knowing we are protected and safe.

In closing, I would like to note that Cannon believes in giving back to the community and does so through volunteer and other charitable work. With this said, I'd like to ask that you please rethink the numbers, the loss, and the impact that this closure would have on our community and the people who live here. And then reconsider the opportunities available at Cannon if kept open.

Clovis is a community that has always supported the base, its personnel, and FREEDOM. Our community will do anything necessary to accommodate the needs of the base and its personnel. We have proven this many times in the past by purchasing air easements and land around Cannon and giving them to the Air Force, not to mention lobbying for, and attaining, supersonic capability in Cannon's air space. 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.

Please consider removing Cannon Air Force Base off the list of base closures.
Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Joe Hamar
505-389-4260 or 505-683-6974

We are PROUD of our air base!
We love it and want it to remain a part of our community.

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

Re: Removing Cannon Air Force Base from the Closure List

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

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.
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- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training opportunities.
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- 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.

Clovis, Portales and surrounding communities support Cannon Air Force Base like no other community. We've done so financially, morally, spiritually and above all consistently. The continued operation of Cannon Air Force Base is extremely important to this region, and the Nation as a whole.

Respectfully, I urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

Debbie Durham

Debbie Durham
8224 N. Prince St.
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4873

June 1, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06032005

RE: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Chairman Principi:

I am very concerned about the Department of Defense's recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base.

Cannon Air Force Base should not be on the list for the following reasons:

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 weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training ability.

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 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 does not fit the criteria provided for base closure,

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

Please, let us KEEP CANNON!

Sincerely,

Jeanette Replogle

Jeanette Replogle
2233 Country Meadows
Clovis, N. Mexico 88101

DCN: 4873

June 1, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

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Please, let us KEEP CANNON!

Sincerely,

Jeanette Replogle
2233 Country Meadows
Clovis, N. Mexico 88101

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

I strongly urge you to reconsider the Department of Defense's recommendation that Cannon Air Force Base should be closed. Cannon Air Force Base should be removed from the BRAC closure list for many reasons. I have listed some of these reasons below:

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.
- 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 Air Force Base brings people of all cultures into our community. Because of this our community is more diversified, and we are able to share in the knowledge of people from all over the United States.
- Closing Cannon will have a devastating impact on our economy. It has been estimated that our area will lose at least *20% of its workforce*, a percentage out of line with the effect of base closings in other communities. Cannon is critical to our community.
- Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, and West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to a large military retiree population. These 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.

The Clovis, Portales and surrounding communities have reached out and supported Cannon Air Force Base like no other community over the last 50 years. The following are some examples of how the community has shown its support of Cannon Air Force Base:

- 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, Cannon Air Force Base is very important to our community! I ask you to please come to the Cannon hearing in Clovis, and reconsider Cannon's importance to my community and to the nation as a whole. Please, let us KEEP CANNON!

Sincerely,

Sheila Mehl

Sheila Mehl
113 Lockwood Dr.
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06032005

Ref: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Admiral Gehman, Jr.:

I feel compelled to write and ask that you re-evaluate the Department of Defense's BRAC decision to close Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, NM.

Some key reasons Cannon shouldn't be closed are listed below:

- Cannon reaps the benefits of an abundance of air space and **no encroachment issues** which make for a safer and more realistic training area for pilots.
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.
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- The large military retiree population in Clovis, Portales and the surrounding areas depend on Cannon Air Force Base for their healthcare, grocery shopping and more. With no other military installation close by, it would have a huge impact on this segment of the population.

Over the last 50 years, the United States Air Force and Cannon Air Force Base have benefited greatly from a strong relationship with those of us in Eastern New Mexico and vice versa. Throughout the years, community support has come in many forms not the least being consistency in our determination to support our military families and keep Cannon as well as financially as has been demonstrated in the purchase of land for military housing and the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at Cannon as well as air easements around Cannon to protect that air space from encroachment.

In closing, I urge you to vote in favor of removing Cannon Air Force Base from the closure list.

Sincerely,

Jan R. Williams
3104 Wallace
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4873

June 1, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06032005

RE: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Admiral Gehman, Jr.:

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 always 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. There is always a shortage of employment opportunities in this area and many civilians will have to leave to find new jobs. Cannon is critical for our community to continue to be successful.

We look forward to your arrival to the Cannon hearing in Clovis and pray the commission reconsiders and removes CAFB from the closure list. Cannon is important to the nation's security and to our community. Please, let us KEEP CANNON!

Sincerely,

Yolanda Aguilar
3105 Mandell Circle
Clovis, NM 88101

PS. On a personal note, as a parent of school age children, I appreciate the diversity of people that are stationed here and the opportunity it provides all children to meet and form relationships with children and families from all regions of our great USA.

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

Ref: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Admiral Gehman, Jr.:

I was stunned and surprised to see Cannon Air Force Base on the base closure list that was released this month. As a long time resident of Clovis I just haven't been able to understand the reasoning involved in the decision to put Cannon on the list. Clovis and the surrounding area have always embraced our military community and welcomed them. We are a very patriotic and supportive Christian based community with the well being of our county at the top of the list. I believe that by closing CAFB, not only would we be doing a huge injustice to our nation, but a huge economic impact would be felt in our community.

Clovis, New Mexico is the ideal place to expand the base and remove it from the closure list. Perhaps the most important factor supporting the removal of Cannon from the closure list is the abundant of air space and the no encroachment issues. Our pilots would have the room to train realistically and safely with virtually no major airport and very little air traffic around. The New Mexico Training Initiative implementation will allow our pilots to fly at supersonic speeds during training mission also providing true to lift situation. The weather in our area averages 320 days of almost perfect flying days a year. You won't find that to be common. The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. Instead of wasting precious fuel by having to fly a long distance to train, our pilots can begin their training missions almost immediately.

Clovis has much more to offer our county and our military personal. You will find that the relationship shared between Cannon and the surrounding communities of Clovis are unique and unlike most around the country. Most businesses offer military discounts for example. There is currently a $60 million expansion of our Medical facility taking place as we speak. Our local colleges offer classes on base. New housing is being built! A new VA Clinic will be opening this year and many new businesses have been opened.

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 choose to leave Cannon open!

Thank you for your consideration!

Jason Johnson

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06 03 2005

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

Re: Removing Cannon Air Force Base from the Closure List

Dear Admiral Gehman, Jr.:

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.

- 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.

Respectfully, I urge you to vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

Mike Tweedy
2205 Putnam Dr.
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

Dear Admiral Gehman, Jr.:

I am writing today to voice my concern for Clovis and Cannon Air Force Base. I have lived in Clovis for 26 of my 33 years and never known Clovis without Cannon. It is my understanding that many years ago it was closed for a short time but was reopened and has stayed open since then. Do I take Cannon for granted? Maybe I did but the events of 9/11 changed my feelings and my dependency on Cannon. I remember how quite the air ways were on that day due to air traffic being stopped. We have gotten accustomed to the jets flying day in and day out. That was a very eerie feeling. I hope and pray that situations like that never happen to our country again. Even now hearing the sound of the jets from the base, I just feel safer for my family and myself.

I remember back when I was in school, a lot of my friends came from military families. Some of my friends now are either military dependents or the base brought them here and they have retired in Clovis because they like it so much. Yes, I have had friends that have left and we do try to stay in touch. But that is just part of living in a military town.

Clovis is a great town to live in. The weather is great pretty much all the time. Our winters are never very bad. This would allow training throughout the year. But not only the weather the schools and teachers are top notch with a variety of activities and backgrounds for the students.

I just ask and pray that you re-evaluate your decision on closing Cannon. You will see that keeping Cannon open would be best for our community and our country.

Sincerely,

Denise Johnson
2205 Belair Rd.
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

Dear Commissioner Coyle:

I am a citizen of Clovis, NM and **I am proud to live in a community that supports Cannon Air Force Base.** I have lived in and around Clovis and Cannon for 30 years, so Cannon has always been a part of my life. I've read the justification given by the Pentagon for closing our air base and ask that you please reconsider the DOD's recommendation.

MILITARY NEEDS

Cannon has been home to various types of aircraft and currently houses F16's. Cannon jets have flown in multiple wars and the F111's from Cannon were instrumental in Desert Storm; not to mention they were the planes sent by President Reagan to bomb Libya. Cannon has always had a strong presence everywhere they go. Plus, there is ample base space and air space available, as well as great weather conditions that allow almost zero days lost of flight time per year. Cannon and Clovis is willing and able to accommodate growth.

Cannon is also home to the Melrose bombing range, and to unlimited air space (up to 50,000 feet in some areas) free from obstacles or hindrances found in larger metropolitan areas only seconds of flight time from Cannon. The Pecos River near Ft. Sumner also was a perfect copy of a river in Iraq providing excellent training for pilots before the invasion is only minutes from Cannon. There is limited risk here; if a jet crashes – normally it hits dirt, not housing units or schools.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Clovis will be the hardest community hit economically if you go through with this closure. We will take a -20.5% hit in job losses alone; the next closest impact is Martin County Indiana at -11.6%. Our loss represents ***4 times more (400%)*** of the current national average of the employment rate. In a town the size of Clovis, this is tragic. Clovis has built itself around the base, and much of the livelihood in Clovis relies on base personnel and/or resources.

The report says that approximately 4,780 jobs would be affected if the base were to close. While these numbers may be somewhat lower than other areas – based on the overall population of Clovis, the results will be devastating nonetheless. A large city can more easily survive a base closure (even with higher numbers than those reflected above) because of population, but with only 34,000 residents in Clovis – it would kill us. It will take years and years to rebound from a loss this great, if ever. These numbers don't take into consideration the retiree's that will move as they no longer will have access to medical and shopping facilities, families that will follow their loved ones in their new deployments, and small businesses in town that depend on military troops spending money in their stores.

Clovis is rural; there are no big businesses knocking on our door begging to come in. We cannot support a larger airport even if it is donated. How can we possibly rebound after such an enormous blow? Please reconsider the ramifications that this closure would deal us if it were to close.

DCN: 4873

SUPPORT INFRASTRUCTURES

Cannon provides support/resources for the Melrose bombing range. The range serves the 27th FW, B1's out of Dyess (Abilene), 150th ANG (Kirtland), 550th SOS (Special Ops, Kirtland), B52's (Barksdale AFB, Louisiana), B2's (Missouri), F-117's (Alamogordo), along with occasional E3's, EC-135's, and whoever else flies within range. It is also used by the Army for air drop exercises, and both USAF and Army Forward Air Controller training. To say it is a valuable asset, would be a minor understatement. The facility consists of 66,000 acres, with 59,000 acres owned by the Air Force, and has been in use continuously since 1952 and accounts for 4800 sorties annually. They also provide an electronic counter measure facility for advanced training, as well as night-vision goggle training.

The September 2001 Defensive Training Initiative permitted the use of chaff and flares in existing airspace contiguous to the Melrose bombing range so that combat-condition training could occur in response to available simulated ground-based and aircraft threats. Currently, pilots use defensive countermeasures to avoid these threats only in the restricted airspace over the bombing range. The 27 FW, as the proponent for this action, conducts defensive training using chaff and flares in surrounding areas. As far as I can tell by my research, Cannon Air Force Base is the only base in the United States authorized to utilize this training, thus making the bombing range in Melrose even more of a critical infrastructure that should remain in place along with the base itself. It would be costly to re-home Melrose Bombing Range as the Air Force must provide Firefighters on site at all times.

Cannon is the closest base to PANTEX in Amarillo, Texas, which is a Nuclear weapons facility. I would consider Cannon to be a huge defensive support infrastructure to this facility, and the closest fighter jets in reach.

Cannon is a base that is supported by the community. Clovis and the surrounding communities are proud to have the air base in our presence; we welcome the people it brings to the area, the diversity it offers us, and the security of knowing we are protected and safe.

In closing, I would like to note that Cannon believes in giving back to the community and does so through volunteer and other charitable work. With this said, I'd like to ask that you please rethink the numbers, the loss, and the impact that this closure would have on our community and the people who live here. And then reconsider the opportunities available at Cannon if kept open.

Clovis is a community that has always supported the base, its personnel, and FREEDOM. Our community will do anything necessary to accommodate the needs of the base and its personnel. We have proven this many times in the past by purchasing air easements and land around Cannon and giving them to the Air Force, not to mention lobbying for, and attaining, supersonic capability in Cannon's air space. 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.

Please consider removing Cannon Air Force Base off the list of base closures.
Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Joe Hamar
505-389-4260 or 505-683-6974

We are PROUD of our air base!
We love it and want it to remain a part of our community.

DCN: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

Dear Commissioner Coyle:

I am writing today to voice my concern for Clovis and Cannon Air Force Base. I have lived in Clovis for 26 of my 33 years and never known Clovis without Cannon. It is my understanding that many years ago it was closed for a short time but was reopened and has stayed open since then. Do I take Cannon for granted? Maybe I did but the events of 9/11 changed my feelings and my dependency on Cannon. I remember how quite the air ways were on that day due to air traffic being stopped. We have gotten accustomed to the jets flying day in and day out. That was a very eerie feeling. I hope and pray that situations like that never happen to our country again. Even now hearing the sound of the jets from the base, I just feel safer for my family and myself.

I remember back when I was in school, a lot of my friends came from military families. Some of my friends now are either military dependents or the base brought them here and they have retired in Clovis because they like it so much. Yes, I have had friends that have left and we do try to stay in touch. But that is just part of living in a military town.

Clovis is a great town to live in. The weather is great pretty much all the time. Our winters are never very bad. This would allow training throughout the year. But not only the weather the schools and teachers are top notch with a variety of activities and backgrounds for the students.

I just ask and pray that you re-evaluate your decision on closing Cannon. You will see that keeping Cannon open would be best for our community and our country.

Sincerely,

Denise Johnson
2205 Belair Rd.
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4873

ANNA MARIE CHAVEZ
1600 NORTH EDWARDS
CLOVIS, NM 88101
505-763-6651

June 1, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

RE: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Admiral Gehman, Jr.:

I'm writing this letter in an attempt to change your minds about closing Cannon Air Force Base. I am 60 years old and working two jobs to support myself as I am divorced.

One of my jobs is at the CAFB Commissary Deli. The atmosphere on base is one of professionalism and pride. Please don't take that away from us. My other job is at the Wal-Mart bakery. Our bakery is very busy with both military and civilian customers. I'm concerned if I'll still be needed if the base closes and so many civilians are out of work. I'm not old enough to receive Social Security, but too young to retire. Please don't put me in a situation where I'm forced to sell my house that I worked so hard to pay off by myself to look for work and start all over again in another community. I am 100% certain that I am not the only person in this situation. Please consider us in making your decision.

Please consider not only the economic devastation that will be caused to Clovis, New Mexico by closing the base, but also consider the older community that settles here for retirement and especially those retired personnel who depend on Cannon for their retirement benefits. They served our country for 20+ years and I believe they deserve to be compensated by having a base close by for their shopping and medical. I know as I age, I would not like driving 4 hours to the closest base in Albuquerque if I needed to see a doctor or fill a prescription. Don't we owe them more than that?

I trust you'll make the right decision and I pray that decision is to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC list.

Thank you in advance,

Anna Marie Chavez

Anna Marie Chavez

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

RECD
06032005

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

Re: Removing Cannon Air Force Base from the Closure List

Dear Admiral Gehman, Jr.:

Please remove Cannon Air Force Base from the Closure List.

Cannon Air Force Base should not be on the closure list for these reasons.

- Cannon Air Force Base is great contribution to the community.
- Cannon Air Force Base is the only tactical fighter wing on this side of the country.
- Cannon Air Force Base has its own Bombing Range and unlimited airspace.
- Cannon Air Force Base will create a financial burden for retired personal and dependants with no commissary or medical facilities.
- Cannon Air Force is home to many Friends and Family that are here to help protect our country and our homes. .

In closing, Cannon Air Force Base is part of our community and we feel that it would hurt all of its members and communities if it were closed and made people leave the place they call home, children having to find new friends in new schools and new towns because they were forced to move and leave friends and family behind. During times of need and war all of the communities pulled together to support our troops and the families that they left behind. 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,

Victor Sandoval Jr.
313 Reid Street
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

Re: Removing Cannon Air Force Base from the Closure List

Dear Admiral Gehman, Jr.:

I just wanted to express strongly that I don't think that Cannon Air Force Base should be on the BRAC closure list. If you could come visit Clovis, NM and the surrounding towns, you would see signs of support that we have to keep Cannon from closing.

There are several reasons why Cannon should not be on the BRAC list for closure.

1. Cannon has plenty of air space, which makes it safer and allows more training for pilots.
2. The weather is also a major factor and provides year round training opportunities.
3. There are many states that are home to a large military retiree population. They rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and more.
4. Our economy would be greatly affected. Cannon is critical for us. Clovis, Portales and the surrounding communities have reached out and supported Cannon Air Force Base. The continued operation of Cannon is not only extremely important for this region, but also for the Nation.

Please help us keep Cannon Air Force Base!!

Sincerely,

Evelyn Taylor

Evelyn Taylor

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

Re: Removing Cannon Air Force Base from the Closure List

Dear Admiral Gehman, Jr.:

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,

Stella Chavez

Stella Chavez
1044 York Dr.
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

Dear Admiral Gehman, Jr.:

This request is for your support in an appeal to the Defense Department in their recent decision to include Cannon Air Force Base on the base closure list. Cannon Air Force Base is a vital part of our community and a strategic asset to Homeland security as well.

Cannon offers unencroached airspace suitable for realistic training scenarios, provides a home, medical benefits and community support to many retired military personnel and Eastern New Mexico flying weather provides excellent opportunity for F-22, Strike Fighter and other military aircraft training missions. Melrose bombing rages offers nearby, **cost-efficient** access to training operations imperative to National Security.

The community surrounding Cannon Air Force Base has continually supported this government facility with gifted land for base expansion, housing and instrument lighting space, this community (in conjunction with the State of New Mexico) has also purchased air easements surrounding Cannon Air Force Base and gifted them to the government. Several local farmers, like myself, have experienced accidental disengagement of aircraft fuel tanks on their fields and property these people have never pursued financial retribution from the government. Incidents like these, in a more populated area or a less-tolerant community could result in a considerate financial burden for the Nation.

In reviewing the BRAC list, please keep in mind that this community has supported Cannon Air Force Base financially, morally, spiritually and continually for over 50 years, the area offers ideal training opportunity for our Nations' Armed Forces.

I appreciate your time and consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Anita Boliver

Anita and Danny Boliver

DCN: 4873

June 1, 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

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

RE: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear General Hill:

I am very concerned about the Department of Defense's recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base.

Cannon Air Force Base should not be on the list for the following reasons:

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 weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training ability.

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 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 does not fit the criteria provided for base closure,

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

Please, let us KEEP CANNON!

Sincerely,

Jeanette Replogle

Jeanette Replogle
2233 Country Meadows
Clovis, N. Mexico 88101

DCN: 4873

To whom it may concern:

Hello! To close cannon is not the right thing to do. There are several reasons. Some of them are: cannon is capable of joint war fighting, as well as training. In case you didn't know cannon has won countless awards, both on ACC level, Air Force and Nat'l levels, and National and STAT levels. Clovis (cannon) has a good relationship with Portales, Clovis, and West Texas. We have several retirees that rely and depend on the base for healthcare, grocery shopping, & more. The community has supported the base & the base has supported the community.

About 2 christmases ago my house burned and the wonderful people of Clovis pulled together to help my son & myself. People in Clovis depend on the base! They are blessed with my own design.

The base closing would not only affect people loosing jobs & it would also effect schools.

Please re-think your decision.

Sincerely,
Ruth Davis

we need cannon!

RECEIVED
06032005

DCN: 4873

May 25, 2005

RECEIVED
06022005

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

Regarding: Removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list

Dear Honorable Hansen

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: 4873

May 25, 2005

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

Regarding: Removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list

Dear Admiral Gehman

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.
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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.

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: 4873

May 25, 2005

RECEIVED

06022005

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

Regarding: Removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list

Dear Honorable Principi,

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

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311 Bolling Dr., Goldsboro, NC 27534

DCN: 4873

May 25, 2005

RECEIVED

06022005

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 Hill

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Sincerely,

Robin Fogerty

Robin Fogerty

311 Bolling Dr., Goldsboro, NC 27534

DCN: 4873

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

William R. Poole, III
2113 Country Meadows Drive
Clovis, NM 88101

RECEIVED
06022005

Subject: Removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list

Dear Sirs:

I am a retired, 21 year veteran of the United States Air Force and am very concerned about the Department of Defense's recommendation that Cannon Air Force Base should be closed. After reading the criteria for base closure and measuring that criteria against Cannon AFB, I am wondering how you came to your conclusion.

I recently heard Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld explain that the BRAC was supposed to modernize our force be purging the remaining "Cold War" elements of our military which have become obsolete. I want to help make the Commission fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our "modern day" national defense. The 27th Fighter Wing, called the "Go To Wing" was one of the first to see action during operation "Iraqi Freedom." This hardly seems "obsolete." Other attributes include airspace with no encroachment issues that is suitable for training at supersonic speeds, weather conditions which provide year round training ability, many new and existing facilities suitable for joint training exercises, and a low-cost environment that promotes cost-efficient training. Cannon is a viable asset to this country's modern day armed forces.

Whether or not Cannon's military value has been recognized yet in Washington, D.C., out here we really appreciate the base. The local community has been uniquely supportive, donating time and land to promote the base's needs. Clovis and Portales have also welcomed the personnel. The many veterans in the area make it clear that we feel at home here. Eastern New Mexico considers Cannon and its retirees a part of its 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 personally to come to the Cannon BRAC hearings in Clovis.
I ask you please to reconsider Cannon's importance to the nation and to our community.

Sincerely,

William R. Poole, III
MSgt, USAF Ret.

DCN: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED

06 02 2005

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

Dear Commissioner Coyle:

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: 4873

RECEIVED

06 022005

May 27, 2005

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

Dear Commissioner Coyle:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED
06022005

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

Dear Chairman Principi:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED
06022005

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

Dear Chairman Principi:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED

06022005

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

Dear Chairman Principi:

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: 4873

May 20, 2005

Dear Honorable James V. Hansen,

I understand you are on the commission to shut down Cannon Air force base in Clovis, New Mexico. I am writing to you in hopes that this will not happen. I attend Eastern New Mexico University in Portales, New Mexico. The closing of Cannon Air Force Base will greatly affect Clovis, Portales, and even into West Texas. I know many students that attend Eastern that are military wives, and I know there are many, many more that I do not know. Cannon Air force base has won numerous awards on the ACC level, Air force and NAF levels, and national and STAT levels. There are three key points that I will be discussing: Air space and weather conditions, Melrose bombing range, and How beneficial Cannon Air Force Base is to retired military personnel.

Eastern New Mexico has a key ingredient in the Air force and that is wide-open space for flying. Having this provides for safer and realistic training scenarios. Cannon also has ample space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations. The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides for year round training ability. The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate, not for closure, but to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.

The Melrose bombing range is within seconds of the runway the pilots use for training. Because the bombing range is within seconds of the runway, our pilots do not have to waste gas to get to the bombing range, train, and go back to the base. Now how many Air Force bases can you say has that kind of accommodations?

Around Clovis, Portales, and even Western Texas (this including Amarillo and Lubbock), there are many retired military personnel. These people rely on Cannon Air force base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and much more. There is not another installation close by to serve our beloved retired military personnel.

I appreciate your consideration to keep Cannon Air Force Base open. If you close Cannon down, you are not only affecting those on the base, but you are also affecting the towns of Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, and Western Texas. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Lia Romero y Vigil

Lia Romero y Vigil

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4873

May 20, 2005

Dear General Lloyd W. Newton,

I understand you are on the commission to shut down Cannon Air force base in Clovis, New Mexico. I am writing to you in hopes that this will not happen. I attend Eastern New Mexico University in Portales, New Mexico. The closing of Cannon Air Force Base will greatly affect Clovis, Portales, and even into West Texas. I know many students that attend Eastern that are military wives, and I know there are many, many more that I do not know. Cannon Air force base has won numerous awards on the ACC level, Air force and NAF levels, and national and STAT levels. There are three key points that I will be discussing: Air space and weather conditions, Melrose bombing range, and How beneficial Cannon Air Force Base is to retired military personnel.

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Sincerely,

Lia Romero y Vigil

Lia Romero y Vigil

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4873

May 20, 2005

Dear Brigadier General Sue E. Turner,

I understand you are on the commission to shut down Cannon Air force base in Clovis, New Mexico. I am writing to you in hopes that this will not happen. I attend Eastern New Mexico University in Portales, New Mexico. The closing of Cannon Air Force Base will greatly affect Clovis, Portales, and even into West Texas. I know many students that attend Eastern that are military wives, and I know there are many, many more that I do not know. Cannon Air force base has won numerous awards on the ACC level, Air force and NAF levels, and national and STAT levels. There are three key points that I will be discussing: Air space and weather conditions, Melrose bombing range, and How beneficial Cannon Air Force Base is to retired military personnel.

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Sincerely,

Lia Romero y Vigil

Lia Romero y Vigil

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4873

5-19-05

Philly Baca
519 E 2nd St.
Portales ~~NM~~ New Mexico.

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner.

I am writing to you regarding the closure of Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico. Closure of Cannon will have a negative impact on our community. I am a operate B&M Auto Sales in Portales, New Mexico - a small rural community near Cannon. The many men & women from Cannon aid in keeping our small community alive. Should Cannon close, many of our small businesses

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4873

5-19-05

Phillip Baca
519 E 2nd
Portales NM 88130

admiral Harold W. Gehman, Jr.

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

I own & operate B&M Auto Sales in Portales, New Mexico - a small rural community located near Cannon. Closure of Cannon would mean certain closure of my business & many others. The many service men & women from Cannon greatly aid in our economy & closure of Cannon will have a negative impact

RECEIVED 6/2/05

DCN: 4873

May 19, 2005

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

Dear Honorable Philip Coyle:

We are deeply disheartened and concerned with the fact that the possibility exists that we may lose Cannon Air Force Base. We have been living in Portales, NM for five years and have come to enjoy watching the jet planes fly over our house and listening to the cheering from our three-year-old son as he watches the planes with such admiration in his eyes.

Cannon plays a vital role in our small town both economically and for security reasons. In our current state of well-being with respect to all the terrorism acts taking place, it's a comfort to know that Cannon is here. We know there are too many people in our town and the surrounding areas that take this for granted but we can assure you that our family does not.

After having sat through so many meetings pondering the impact that this base closure would have on our society, we figured it's time to voice our opinions. We just can't see how Cannon fits the criteria for base closure. There are so many elements that ought to make it stand out above the other bases considered. We realize that at the time the pros and cons were weighted and many thousands of questions were asked and answered, the New Mexico Training Range Initiative was not considered. We believe that now is the time to take this into consideration. With the expansion of the military operating area our base can increase their training capabilities by going supersonic. Can the same be said for the other air bases? After all, this makes the potential for training to become more "realistic."

The fact also exists that our community is home to many retired military that currently have the ability to take advantage of the services provided at Cannon (healthcare, shopping, etc.). Unfortunately this is something not easily replaced due to the fact that the air bases in Roswell, NM and in Lubbock, TX were shut down in the past. This would require our retired military to travel to Albuquerque which is a fair distance away!

The effect this closure would have on our local (Portales) school district is severe. It is my understanding that 118 currently enrolled students are military dependents. The impact of losing this many students would be detrimental to approximately eight to nine school teachers as their services could not be justifiably cost effective. The impact financially on our school system would result in a loss of $400,000!

Many facts will come across your desk in the days to come and many probably already have from the many concerned citizens of our community. We can only plea with you that you open your hearts and your minds to comprehend the extent of damage that this is going to cause our community.

We appreciate your time and hope you can understand our concern.

Sincerely,

Antonio R. Sanchez, Jr. & Layle L. Sanchez

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4873

May 19, 2005

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

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Antonio R. Sanchez, Jr. & Layle L. Sanchez

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4873

May 19, 2005

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

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Sincerely,

Antonio R. Sanchez, Jr. & Layle L. Sanchez

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4873

May 19, 2005

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

Dear General James T. Hill:

We are deeply disheartened and concerned with the fact that the possibility exists that we may lose Cannon Air Force Base. We have been living in Portales, NM for five years and have come to enjoy watching the jet planes fly over our house and listening to the cheering from our three-year-old son as he watches the planes with such admiration in his eyes.

Cannon plays a vital role in our small town both economically and for security reasons. In our current state of well-being with respect to all the terrorism acts taking place, it's a comfort to know that Cannon is here. We know there are too many people in our town and the surrounding areas that take this for granted but we can assure you that our family does not.

After having sat through so many meetings pondering the impact that this base closure would have on our society, we figured it's time to voice our opinions. We just can't see how Cannon fits the criteria for base closure. There are so many elements that ought to make it stand out above the other bases considered. We realize that at the time the pros and cons were weighted and many thousands of questions were asked and answered, the New Mexico Training Range Initiative was not considered. We believe that now is the time to take this into consideration. With the expansion of the military operating area our base can increase their training capabilities by going supersonic. Can the same be said for the other air bases? After all, this makes the potential for training to become more "realistic."

The fact also exists that our community is home to many retired military that currently have the ability to take advantage of the services provided at Cannon (healthcare, shopping, etc.). Unfortunately this is something not easily replaced due to the fact that the air bases in Roswell, NM and in Lubbock, TX were shut down in the past. This would require our retired military to travel to Albuquerque which is a fair distance away!

The effect this closure would have on our local (Portales) school district is severe. It is my understanding that 118 currently enrolled students are military dependents. The impact of losing this many students would be detrimental to approximately eight to nine school teachers as their services could not be justifiably cost effective. The impact financially on our school system would result in a loss of $400,000!

Many facts will come across your desk in the days to come and many probably already have from the many concerned citizens of our community. We can only plea with you that you open your hearts and your minds to comprehend the extent of damage that this is going to cause our community.

We appreciate your time and hope you can understand our concern.

Sincerely,

Antonio R. Sanchez, Jr. & Layle L. Sanchez

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May 19, 2005

General Lloyd W. Newton
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5-19-05

Phillip Baca
519 E 2nd
Portales New Mexico

General Lloyd W. Newton

I am writing to you in regard to the closure of Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis New Mexico.

Closing Cannon will have a negative impact on our community. I own & operate B&M Auto Sales in Portales New Mexico - a small rural community near Cannon. Closing Cannon would mean closure of my business & closure of ~~many~~ many other

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5-19-05

Phillip Baca
519 E 2nd St.
Portales NM 88130

The Honorable Phillip Coyle

I am writing to you in regard to closure of Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico.

I own & operate B & M Auto Sales in Portales, New Mexico, a small rural town located near Cannon. Closure of Cannon will have a negative impact on my business and several other small businesses in our community. Should Cannon close, certain closure is inevitable for my business as well. The many men

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4873

5-19-05

Phillip Baca
519 E 2nd St.
Portales NM 88130

The Honorable James V. Hansen

I am writing to you regarding the Closure of Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis New Mexico.

I own & operate B&M Auto Sales in Portales, New Mexico. Closure of Cannon would mean certain closure of my business & many other small businesses in Portales. The many men & women from Cannon greatly aid me & others in keeping ~~my~~ our businesses open.

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5-19-05

Phillip Baca
519 E. 2nd St.
Portales ~~NM~~ New Mexico

The Honorable Samuel K. ~~Stimmer~~ Skinner

I am writing to you regarding closure of Cannon ~~AF~~ Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico. I live in Portales New Mexico & operate B&M Auto Sales in Portales - a small rural community near Cannon. Closure of Cannon would mean closure of many small businesses in Portales & the surrounding communities - including my business.

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4873

5-20-05

Ms. Lilah Gainey
412 East 18th St..
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 in Clovis New Mexico. I believe the commission should reconsider this decision

Cannon offers unique services not only to our area, but also to our national defense. These services include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range (previously owned by local private citizens) that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly supersonic speeds, and ideal year-round training weather, among many others.

The interaction between Cannon AFB and the communities of Portales and Clovis is very positive. Citizens in both towns and counties have great pride in Cannon and the service it provides for our nation's defense. Land in Curry and Roosevelt Counties was purchased by the communities and given back to the Air Force for additional housing and installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at the base. Additionally, the interaction of Cannon personnel with the community as a whole, the schools, service clubs, etc. gives opportunities to instill pride and respect in the hearts of our youth for our nation and our military. These positive values cannot be reinforced by civilians to the extent that the presence and interaction with the military provides..

The entire area, including towns 100 miles in every direction, 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 the retired military who were stationed at Cannon and felt the active support provided by Portales and Clovis enough to want to spend the rest of their lives in the area.

As a professional employee of Eastern New Mexico Universtiy, I know that the closure of Cannon Air Force Base will adversely affect the education of the local citizens, including the public schools, Clovis Community College and ENMU. The negative economic impact is not even able to be calculated at this point in time, but it will be considerable.

Please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully yours,

Lilah Gainey

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Dear Sir:

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On a more practical note, Eastern New Mexico, with its wide-open spaces, surely must be a perfect place for a sprawling air base. The Melrose bombing range is in the immediate vicinity for the pilots in training and in practice. We have beautiful flying weather 12 months a year, and bountiful air space.

Cannon has won countless awards. We are very proud of the base, and have a great relationship with its people. Naturally, we are concerned, too, that without the base, our little community will wither and die. Please do not close Cannon Air Force Base.

Sincerely,

Lois Nichols

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114 East 17th Lane
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The Base Realignment and Closure Commission
Gen. (Ret) Lloyd "Fig" Newton, USAF
2521 S. Clark St.
Arlington, VA 22202

18 May, 2005

Dear Sir:

I am asking you to reconsider the BRAC decision to close Cannon Air Force Base near the eastern New Mexico towns of Clovis and Portales. Some of the reasons are as follows:

1.Cannon's active role in training and participation in the defense of our Nation for over 50 years.
2. The potential supersonic air space and average 360 flying days a year weather-wise.
3. The combat readiness of the Wing.
4. The top status award winning Maintenance Unit.
5. The lack of encroachment upon and by the civilian community.
6. The recent extension of the runways and the security beefing up of the overpass and guard entrance to the Base.
7. The many Base facilities offering support to the Service Men and their families:
   Excellent recreational facilities.
   Family Support services.
   Medical and pharmaceutical availability.
   A well supplied and appointed commissary and Base Exchange
   All of which are frequented and used by the active duty military and their families and the thousands of military retirees for hundreds of miles around.
8. The educational availability of Eastern New Mexico University and Clovis Community College
9. The economic impact will be devastating to many of the local businesses and industries.
   -20.50% Micropolitan statistical area, the largest loss of any of the listed closures.
10. Our local schools receive badly needed federal monetary support based on the number of military children enrolled.
11. The reasonable cost of living is a distinct factor in this area and the real-estate industry will be severely impacted, taking a major hit with present and proposed housing starts.
12. The loss of several thousand civil service jobs to the communities of Clovis and Portales

On a personal note, my late husband served 28 ½ years in the USAF; a tour in Korea and two tours in Viet Nam. He was shot down on his second tour in 1971, miraculously found and picked up by the Army. We have had many duty stations and have lived in many places in the world with two tours at Cannon AFB. We decided to retire in Clovis partly because of the receptiveness, hospitality and the spirit of the community. (One of the communities we once lived near had signs on property stating "Military Keep Off Grass"). Our three children graduated from Clovis High School, are all successful, and the eldest is currently on active duty with the AF having just returned from a deployment to Afghanistan.

Unlike many communities having a running battle with military installations over noise and encroachment, the communities of Clovis and Portales want the base, and feel that the sound of the jets is the sound of freedom.

Please reconsider the decision to close Cannon AFB and increase its mission. It has the capacity and infrastructure to grow.

Sincerely,
Lyn M. Henderson

Lyn M. Henderson,
Widow of Lt. Col. (Ret.) Warren L. Henderson
1613 Fairway Terrace,
Clovis, NM 88101

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5/25/05

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The Base Realignment and Closure Commission
General James T. Hill (USA Ret.)
2521 S. Clark St.
Arlington, VA 22202

18 May, 2005

Dear Sir:

I am asking you to reconsider the BRAC decision to close Cannon Air Force Base near the eastern New Mexico towns of Clovis and Portales. Some of the reasons are as follows:

1. Cannon's active role in training and participation in the defense of our Nation for over 50 years.
2. The potential supersonic air space and average 360 flying days a year weather-wise.
3. The combat readiness of the Wing.
4. The top status award winning Maintenance Unit.
5. The lack of encroachment upon and by the civilian community.
6. The recent extension of the runways, the new tower, the security beefing up of the overpass and guard entrance to the Base, and the hundreds of dollars allocated for other improvements which will be spent..
7. The many Base facilities offering support to the Service Men and their families:
   Excellent recreational facilities.
   Family Support services.
   Medical and pharmaceutical availability.
   A well supplied and appointed commissary and Base Exchange
   All of which are frequented and used by the active duty military and their families and the thousands of military retirees for hundreds of miles around.
8. The educational availability of Eastern New Mexico University and Clovis Community College
9. The economic impact will be devastating to many of the local businesses and industries.
   -20.50% Micropolitan statistical area, the largest loss of any of the listed closures.
10. Our local schools receive badly needed federal monetary support based on the number of military children enrolled.
11. The reasonable cost of living is a distinct factor in this area and benefit to enlistees, and the real-estate industry will be severely impacted, taking a major hit with present and proposed housing starts.
12. The loss of several thousand civil service jobs to the communities of Clovis and Portales

On a personal note, my late husband served 28 ½ years in the USAF; a tour in Korea and two tours in Viet Nam. He was shot down on his second tour in 1971, miraculously found and picked up by the Army. We have had many duty stations and have lived in many places in the world with two tours at Cannon AFB. We decided to retire in Clovis partly because of the receptiveness, hospitality and the spirit of the community. (One of the communities we once lived near had signs on property stating "Military Keep Off Grass"). Our three children graduated from Clovis High School, are all successful, and the eldest is currently on active duty with the AF having just returned from a deployment to Afghanistan.

Unlike many communities having a running battle with military installations over noise and encroachment, the communities of Clovis and Portales want the base, and feel that the sound of the jets is the sound of freedom.

Please reconsider the decision to close Cannon AFB and increase its mission. It has the capacity and infrastructure to grow.

Sincerely,

Lyn Henderson

Lyn M. Henderson,
Widow of Lt. Col. (Ret.) Warren L. Henderson
1613 Fairway Terrace,
Clovis, NM 88101

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4873

The Base Realignment and Closure Commission
Commissioner Samuel Knox Skinner
2521 S. Clark St.
Arlington, VA 22202

18 May, 2005

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The Honorable James V. Hansen
2521 S. Clark St.
Arlington, VA 22202

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DCN: 4873

May 19, 2005

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

Dear Brigadier General Sue E. Turner:

We are deeply disheartened and concerned with the fact that the possibility exists that we may lose Cannon Air Force Base. We have been living in Portales, NM for five years and have come to enjoy watching the jet planes fly over our house and listening to the cheering from our three-year-old son as he watches the planes with such admiration in his eyes.

Cannon plays a vital role in our small town both economically and for security reasons. In our current state of well-being with respect to all the terrorism acts taking place, it's a comfort to know that Cannon is here. We know there are too many people in our town and the surrounding areas that take this for granted but we can assure you that our family does not.

After having sat through so many meetings pondering the impact that this base closure would have on our society, we figured it's time to voice our opinions. We just can't see how Cannon fits the criteria for base closure. There are so many elements that ought to make it stand out above the other bases considered. We realize that at the time the pros and cons were weighted and many thousands of questions were asked and answered, the New Mexico Training Range Initiative was not considered. We believe that now is the time to take this into consideration. With the expansion of the military operating area our base can increase their training capabilities by going supersonic. Can the same be said for the other air bases? After all, this makes the potential for training to become more "realistic."

The fact also exists that our community is home to many retired military that currently have the ability to take advantage of the services provided at Cannon (healthcare, shopping, etc.). Unfortunately this is something not easily replaced due to the fact that the air bases in Roswell, NM and in Lubbock, TX were shut down in the past. This would require our retired military to travel to Albuquerque which is a fair distance away!

The effect this closure would have on our local (Portales) school district is severe. It is my understanding that 118 currently enrolled students are military dependents. The impact of losing this many students would be detrimental to approximately eight to nine school teachers as their services could not be justifiably cost effective. The impact financially on our school system would result in a loss of $400,000!

Many facts will come across your desk in the days to come and many probably already have from the many concerned citizens of our community. We can only plea with you that you open your hearts and your minds to comprehend the extent of damage that this is going to cause our community.

We appreciate your time and hope you can understand our concern.

Sincerely,

Antonio R. Sanchez, Jr. & Layle L. Sanchez

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4873

May 19, 2005

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2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
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RECEIVED 5/23/05

DCN: 4873

5-19-05

Phillip Baca
519 E 2nd St.
Portales New Mexico

General James T. Hill

I am writing to you regarding closure of Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico.

I own & operate B+M Auto Sales in Portales New Mexico - a small rural community near Cannon. Closing Cannon would have a negative impact on my business, other small businesses in Portales + our community.

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4873

May 20, 2005

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

Dear Madam:

I want to be one of many community members voicing my plea for Cannon Air Force Base.

Our nation's defense against those that would do us harm is much more important than our community, though, and I feel if you study the pros and cons you will see the benefit of leaving Cannon Air Force Base as is.

Please consider this very serious situation, and thanking you in advance. We need security for our people.

I am 95 years of age and have lost loved ones in wars, and I know I'm not alone. Let us do all possible to keep our defense strong.

Sincerely,

Ruth Morin

Ruth Morin
114 East 17th Lane
Portales, NM 88130

RECEIVED
5/25/05

DCN: 4873

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

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner
Dear Sir,

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

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

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

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

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

Sincerely,

Sharon Davis

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RECEIVED 5/23/05

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507 East Second
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May 19, 2005

General Lloyd W. Newton
Dear General,

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Admiral Harold W. Gehman Jr.
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May 19, 2005

The Honorable Philip Coyle
Dear Mr. Coyle

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507 East 2nd
Portales, NM 88130
May 20, 2005

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner
Dear Ms. Turner

I am a business owner in Portales, New Mexico. Our community relies on Cannon Air Force Base. The impact here will be devastating and we will not recover in my lifetime. My son in law is a fantastic young dentist and his practice will be diminished by approximately 30% if Cannon is closed. He came here as a young Airman just out of high school and finished growing up here, learning to love our blue skies, the respect afforded military personnel, and the opportunity to attend Eastern New Mexico University, an affordable, quality education that many members of the Cannon community have enjoyed. If the BRAC closes Cannon, he will have to leave this area.

Eastern New Mexico is not a place that Four Star Generals love to vacation, but it is a wonderful place to live, work, and raise a family. The young people of our communities are polite and goal oriented. Our schools are calm learning centers and crime is very low.

Cannon's attributes have been overlooked in the BRAC formula. Cannon does not fit the criteria for base closure. We will soon have supersonic capabilities, an ability that very few bases have and one that the Air Force has sought diligently. The bombing range is just seconds away from the run way at Cannon. We have affordable housing and the dream of owning a home is realistic for service personnel even below the officer rank. Our base is located without encroachment with clear blue skies overhead. We have much to offer and many military families return to Portales and Clovis to retire.

We were promised a fair BRAC and we are relying on the Commission to fairly examine the evidence. Cannon should remain open. I trust you will examine the evidence. The business community around Cannon has never asked for favors, we do not like relying on the decisions of others, but we find ourselves in this position. We are thousands of people with faces and lives. Please do not discount the effect you have on the lives of our community.

Sincerely,

Sharon Davis

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RECEIVED 5/25/05

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May 20, 2005

Dear Admiral Harold W. Gehman Jr.,

I understand you are on the commission to shut down Cannon Air force base in Clovis, New Mexico. I am writing to you in hopes that this will not happen. I attend Eastern New Mexico University in Portales, New Mexico. The closing of Cannon Air Force Base will greatly affect Clovis, Portales, and even into West Texas. I know many students that attend Eastern that are military wives, and I know there are many, many more that I do not know. Cannon Air force base has won numerous awards on the ACC level, Air force and NAF levels, and national and STAT levels. There are three key points that I will be discussing: Air space and weather conditions, Melrose bombing range, and How beneficial Cannon Air Force Base is to retired military personnel.

Eastern New Mexico has a key ingredient in the Air force and that is wide-open space for flying. Having this provides for safer and realistic training scenarios. Cannon also has ample space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations. The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides for year round training ability. The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate, not for closure, but to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.

The Melrose bombing range is within seconds of the runway the pilots use for training. Because the bombing range is within seconds of the runway, our pilots do not have to waste gas to get to the bombing range, train, and go back to the base. Now how many Air Force bases can you say has that kind of accommodations?

Around Clovis, Portales, and even Western Texas (this including Amarillo and Lubbock), there are many retired military personnel. These people rely on Cannon Air force base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and much more. There is not another installation close by to serve our beloved retired military personnel.

I appreciate your consideration to keep Cannon Air Force Base open. If you close Cannon down, you are not only affecting those on the base, but you are also affecting the towns of Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, and Western Texas. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Lia Romero y Vigil

Lia Romero y Vigil

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The Melrose bombing range is within seconds of the runway the pilots use for training. Because the bombing range is within seconds of the runway, our pilots do not have to waste gas to get to the bombing range, train, and go back to the base. Now how many Air Force bases can you say has that kind of accommodations?

Around Clovis, Portales, and even Western Texas (this including Amarillo and Lubbock), there are many retired military personnel. These people rely on Cannon Air force base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and much more. There is not another installation close by to serve our beloved retired military personnel.

I appreciate your consideration to keep Cannon Air Force Base open. If you close Cannon down, you are not only affecting those on the base, but you are also affecting the towns of Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, and Western Texas. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Lia Romero y Vigil

Lia Romero y Vigil

RECEIVED 5/25/05

DCN: 4873

BRAC Commission
Received
6/17/2005

Larry and I, like thousands of other good folks, look forward to seeing the BRAC Commission in Clovis on June 24th. You will see that the people of Clovis and surrounding areas want Cannon Air Force Base here, and you will also see that Cannon Air Force Base should remain here for the good of our country because Cannon is really the base for the future.

Sincerely,

Donna J. Looney

Donna J. Looney

DCN: 4873

BRAC Commission
Received
6/17/2005

June 13, 2005

Ref: Brac list – Cannon Air Force Base

Dear BRAC Commission,

I was devastated to hear of the possible closing of CAFB. Cannon is a vital part of our community.

Please note the following points:

- The church I attend, First Church of the Nazarene, has many base pilots and personnel in our congregation. When they move in, we literally adopt them and give them the family support that they miss from their own families. My husband and I have stood beside them through deaths of fathers, Bell's palsy, childbirth, cancer, as well as the celebration of life. We treasure our extended families.

- The weather in eastern New Mexico is conducive to year round training and our wide open air space should be a great benefit to the military training.

- Clovis has a large military retiree population who are dependent on CAFB for healthcare, grocery shopping, and other services.

- The leadership of Clovis is VERY supportive of CAFB and its efforts. We have had a very strong relationship with the base and desire to continue that relationship.

Thank you so much for taking the time to read this letter. !

Sincerely,

Joyce Burch

Joyce Burch

DCN: 4873

BRAC Commission
Received
6/17/2005

Donna J. Looney
1921 Enloe Drive
Clovis, NM 88101-8681
505-769-2770

June 13, 2005

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

Subject: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Sirs and Brig. General Turner:

My name is Donna J. Looney. I am the wife of Larry D. Looney, who is now retired from the Air Force. My husband was stationed at Cannon AFB at the end of his military career. We made the decision to stay in this area due to the fact that we could use the base facilities once Larry retired. We are just one family among many that made the same decision for the same reason. There is not another installation close by that would serve us or any of the many retirees and their families if Cannon AFB is closed. The relationship between Cannon AFB and the surrounding towns is unlike any other. The hometown people treat the military members as if they are hometown people.

Larry retired as I've said from Cannon AFB, later graduated from Clovis Community College, and then began working...16 years ago, for the U.S. Government again at Cannon AFB, Civil Engineers. We have been in the Clovis area now for 26 years. Larry and I are not young anymore, we don't want to be uprooted and looking for new jobs at 60 years of age. So many lifes, so many futures are hanging in the balance. Many of our volunteer agencies will be hard hit, so many good people from Cannon volunteer their time. The economic impact on this area has been underestimated.

From all the meetings I've attended in connection with the Cannon closure, articles that I've read, news reports I've listened to, television broadcasts I've tuned into, etc., everyone seems to agree that Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure. It's been said over and over that the base has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. Once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is implemented, pilots will have the ability to fly at supersonic speeds during training missions. The weather in this area of the country provides year round training ability. The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. Isn't that cost effective...saving money on fuel, etc.? Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war fighting, training, and readiness. The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the base of the future for training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft. Cannon has won countless awards at many different levels. Cannon Air Force Base is the base of the future. Cannon has military value and the potential to expand into whatever kind of training base that is needed for the future of this country.

The timing seems off, closing military bases during a time of war? The message this sends to our military members seems negative. Why are bases being closed here at home and being built overseas?

DCN: 4873

RECEIVED
06162005

Dear Sue Ellen Turner,

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

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

If Cannon goes so does the support from the area citizens for the bombing range and the supersonic flying in this area.

Sales will decrease – Unemployment will increase.

The Impact to schools is projected to close 3 Grade Schools and 1 Junior High. High School 30% reduction, ENMU (Portales) 25-30% reduction, also CCC (Clovis) 28-35% reduction. This affects classes offered on Base for CCC and ENMU as well.

The government will reimburse any military personnel for homes they own, or will buy and absorb any remaining homes. (1000 homes @ $95,000 each = $95 million tax dollars). Causing all homes to devalue.

We estimate that there are approximately 12,000 homes and apartments valued at $95,000 each = 1 Billion 140 million. If Cannon closes, real estate will drop 25-30% in value = $285 million in losses.

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

Sincerely,

Carl Coslett

operation KEEP CANNON

DCN: 4873

BRAC Commission
Received
6/23/2005

June 13, 2005

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

Dear Mr. Coyle:

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

I believe that Cannon offers many unique attributes 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.

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.

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.

I am very glad to hear you plan to personally come to the Cannon hearing later this month in Clovis. I ask you to please reconsider Cannon's importance to the nation and to my community. Please, let us KEEP CANNON!

Sincerely,

Todd Spencer

Todd M. Spencer

PS. On a personal note, I am a military dependent. My step-father retired from Cannon in 1973 to open a business in Clovis. Many of my friends are military dependents. We chose to stay in Clovis where we operate businesses and raise our families.

DCN: 4873

BRAC Commission
Received
6/23/2005

June 13, 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 believe that Cannon offers many unique attributes 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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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.

I am very glad to hear you plan to personally come to the Cannon hearing later this month in Clovis. I ask you to please reconsider Cannon's importance to the nation and to my community. Please, let us KEEP CANNON!

Sincerely,

Todd Spencer

Todd M. Spencer

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DCN: 4873

Justin Liles
505 S Ave G
Portales, NM 88130-6345

BRAC Commission
Received
6/23/2005

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 the following:

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

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.

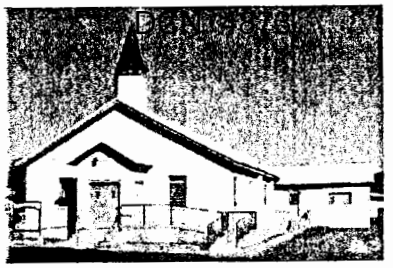
Please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision. Thank you for you time and attention to this matter.

Respectfully Yours,

Justin Liles

Justin Liles

Ancho Community Presbyterian Church
Corona United Presbyterian Church



Terry Aiello, Pastor 505-648-2024

P. O. Box 281 Corona, NM 88318

RECEIVED

06272005

June 22, 2005

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

Dear Sir,

Our church, while not in the immediate vicinity of Cannon AFB, knows that Cannon AFB has many qualities that were not looked at by the DOD. There are few bases in this country that have the unencumbered flying space that Cannon has at its disposal. The relationship that Cannon has with its surrounding communities is legendary throughout the military. And we are not just talking about Clovis and Portales, but also our Village of Corona.

We ask that you and your fellow commissioners please consider <u>all</u> the facts before making your final list.

Respectfully,

Janell Kane

Janell Kane
Clerk of Session

ORDER OF DAEDALIANS

Americas Premier Fraternal Organization of Military Pilots

JOHN K. CANNON FLIGHT 88

Celebrating 103 Years of Flight

The John K. Cannon Flight 88 was chartered in 1984 at Cannon Air Force Base. "The Flight's goal is to encourage young people to choose military aviation as a career." They do that by awarding scholarships to eligible military career oriented airspace or aviation students. Each Flight's monetary award is matched by the national Order of Daedalians.

Present membership in the J.K. Cannon Flight consists of retired and active duty Military Pilots. We have members who flew combat in WW II, Korea, Viet Nam, Bosnia and both Gulf Wars. The John K. Cannon is Flight number 88 in the world wide Order of Daedalians and has it's home base in the Daedalian Room of the Cannon Consolidated Club.

History of the Order of Daedalians

When war broke our in Europe in 1 9 1 4, the airplane was hardly more than a dangerous plaything employed at fairs and circuses. Its potential was regarded lightly, when not contemptuously dismissed. Yet, in less than three years, it had gained such a measure of military respectability on the fighting front that when the United States entered the war, the Allies requested the Untied States furnish five thousand combat pilots on the Western Front by early spring of 1918!

This was a gigantic order. In military aviation, the United States had lagged far behind. Only forty military pilots had been trained in this country and eleven of those had been killed. Twenty-eight airplanes had been purchased by the government of which sixteen had been wrecked. In the then recent Mexican operations, the entire equipment of the Air Unit of the Army, which consisted of the I st Aero Squadron, had been almost completely demolished. From this very meager nucleus of military airmen, five thousand pilots had to be trained in one year!

The call for volunteers went out, for then as now, no one would be required to fly against his will. From all walks of life and all parts of the country, some 40,000 young men answered our country's call for pilots. By the time the Armistice was signed, some eleven thousand had received their wings in the Army and another two thousand in the Navy and Marine Corps. All were motivated by a patriotic desire to serve their country in its hour of need.

After the Armistice, many attempts were made to form organizations to solidify the bonds of aerial comradeship that had been molded in crisis during WWI. Several groups were formed by those whose foundations were purely social and retrospective gradually faded into obscurity. In 1 92 1 , while speaking to WW I pilots, who had just flown for him to sink the Ostfriesland off the Virginia coast. Gen. Billy Mitchell urged the creation of an organization that would honor the WW I military pilots as the first to fly their country's airplanes in time of war.

Concurrently, in the military establishment, small groups of officers informally discussed the formation of similar organizations, but seldom was any sizable number stationed in the same locality to take action. Nevertheless, at some of the larger based, organizations were established but they soon expired. This mass demise was due not to any erosion of friendship but rather to the inevitable transfers which overwhelmed organizational unity. Additionally, for the military pilots dedicated to building a military air arm of the future, it was not enough to gather together for the principal purpose of reliving the past.

In 1 932, new impetus was given to the idea of establishing a formal organization of WW I military pilots. War clouds had begun to gather in Asia and Europe as nations began their retreat from powerful aggressors. The fear that apparently guided their decisions seemed to penetrate our own national psychology. What was needed was some sort of standard, some solid beacon that would remind us all and proclaim to the world that in the United States there was unity, patriotism, courage, and the spirit of self-sacrifice that placed service to the Nation above personal safety. Furthermore, there was also in this country, in the form of our growing air power, the means to preserve the freedoms which our forebears had established.

In October 1933, a representative group of WW I military pilots stationed at Maxwell Field, AL consolidated these ideas which had long been forming. The result was that on 26 March 1934, there was formally instituted the Order of Daedalians composed of those commissioned officers who, no later than the Armistice of 1918 held ratings as pilots of heavier-than-air powered aircraft. These WW I military pilots, in the preamble to the constitution of the Order, stated as their purpose: "... to perpetuate the spirit of patriotism and love of country . . . and the high ideals of self-sacrifice which placed service to the nation above personal safety and position, and to further cement the ties of comradeship which bound us together at that critical hour of our nation's need . . . "

Since, according to legend, Daedalus was the first person ever to accomplish heavier-than-air flight, it was considered the name "Order of Daedalians" was both fitting and proper for an organization composed of those who were the first to fly their country's airplanes in time of war.

The Charter Members who organized the Order of Daedalians on 26 March 1 934 are:

Capt Banfill, Charles Y.
Capt Barker, John D.
Capt Beau Lucus V.
IstLtBirnn, Roland
1st Lt Blackbum, Lloyd C.
Capt Carter, Warren R.
Capt Curry, James T. Jr.
IstLtDawson, Leo H.
Capt Eaton, Samuel C. Jr.
Capt Eglin, Frederick I.
Capt Gardner, John H.
1 st Lt Gates, Byron E.
Capt George, Harold Lee
Capt Gothin, Oliver P.
Capt Hamilton, Arthur G.
1st Lt Horton Clarence F.
1st Lt Howard, Charles H.
Capt Kenny, Cornelius J.
Capt Kiel, Emil C.
1st Lt Landers, Sigmund
Capt Ligget, Arthur G.
Capt Martenstein, Austin W.
1st Lt McGregor, Kenneth C.
Capt McMullen Clements
1 st Lt McReynolds, Edwin R.
Capt Meloy, Vincent J.
Capt Moon, Odas
Capt Moore, John I.
Capt Palmer, George M.
Capt Patrick, John B.
Capt Ramey, Howard K.
Capt Skow, Charles T.
Capt Sweeley, William R.
Capt Thompson, Bernard S.
1st Lt Whitten, Lyman P.

ORDER OF DAEDALIANS
Americas Premier Fraternal Organization of Military Pilots

DCN: 4873

JOHN K. CANNON FLIGHT #88
Celebrating 103 Years of Flight

RECEIVED

06272005

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

22 June 2005

Dear Chairman Principi,

Please consider this as a personal plea from an Air Force retiree who spent three plus years of very significant and formative active duty stationed at Cannon AFB as well as nine years as the first civilian Airspace Manager for the 27th Fighter Wing. My family and I would certainly consider it a waste and a shame to see Cannon closed.

In January 1970 I transferred here from a combat tour flying F-4Ds (Igloo White Operations) out of Ubon Thailand. Mrs. Harner (Roberta) had kept our little family together in Illinois while dad was in SEA. We bought a little house on the NW side of Clovis which Roberta and I still occupy. Our son and daughter both started elementary school in Clovis and graduated High School here.

When we arrived at Cannon there was one remaining F-100 Squadron, a couple F-111 Squadrons and the 4429th CCTS in AT-33s (FAC/ALO Introductory Training). (One of the old AT "war horses" is parked by the main gate. I instructed air-to-ground in the AT-Bird armed with 4-2.75" FFAR rockets, 4-BDU-33 practice bombs and 100 rounds (two guns) 50 cal. In those days, we would take off with partial tip tank fuel (tips had to be empty to start air to ground gunnery), fly to Melrose range, a scant 20 NM away, in a flight of 4 and commence weapons training passes once we got there. In a thirty minute range period, a good sharp flight of 4 could each get *17* passes around the range. Each could get 7 strafe passes; firing on 6, 5 Rocket passes, shooting on 4 and 5 dive bomb passes, dropping on 4. Then it was time to head back to the patch. The close-by Melrose range has always been the jettison area for the controlled jettison of ordinance or external stores. .

In 1972 the AT-33s were being phased out and the FAC/ALO indoctrination training moved to Holloman AFB and picked up AT/T-38s. In July of '72 I went to Nellis for F-111 transition training. Upon returning to Cannon, I instructed in the F-111D, 4427th CCRS "Purple Aardvarks". The Aardvark experience was the first really low level/high speed operations I had the pleasure to perfect. We had ten Military Training Routes (MTR). Eight of those routes either started at or ended at Melrose Bombing Range. In those days, GAF, ANG, USN, Marines, SAC, other USAF, used our low levels to Melrose. Our wide selection of MTRs also served numerous Military Operations Areas (MOA). Years later the B-1 and still later the B-2 dropped their first inert weapons on Melrose Range.

In October of 1973 we left Cannon for a NATO tour at Ramstein Ger. When we returned to the CONUS we went to the 31st TFW at Homestead Fla. I maintained liaison with Miami ARTCC as the 31st Wing Airspace Manager and became recurrent in the F-4, the E model this time. The Airspace Office managed the Training Airspace maintained by the 31st Wing, liaison with DEA and their radar blimp on one of the Florida Keys. I didn't know it at the time but this would be valuable training for my second career at Cannon. .

With 25 years service, I retired from the AF and we moved back to our little house in Clovis.

Our son would have liked to be a military aviator but his eyes were not good enough. His next choice was electronics. He had an aptitude for that. After 8 years of AF retired life, I put my blue suit on and swore our son into the Navy. He is a Plank Owner on LSD USS Tortuga and Plank Owner aboard LHD USS Bataan. He recently returned to Norfolk from sea duty in the mid east aboard the carrier USS Harry S. Truman. He and our daughter from Dallas are looking forward to returning to Clovis for Mrs. Harner's and my 50th Wedding Anniversary later this year.

The Clovis schools were good for both of our kids. Both did kindergarten, elementary and graduated High School in Clovis. Our daughter graduated from WTSU and is a neurodiagnostician for three hospitals in Dallas.

In July of 1988 Tactical Air Command established positions for a civilian Airspace Manager in their Fighter Wings. With my previous Air Space Management experience, I applied and was readily accepted. I became the first TAC Civil Service Airspace Managers at Cannon. I gained intimate familiarity with our 10 MTRs while visually surveying them in a light airplane. The annual survey was to spot and chart newly erected obstructions to flight. I had direct contact with, first 12th AF Hq and then ACC Hq Airspace Management Offices. I personally designed and charted the Mt Dora MOA as well as other training area modifications and refinements. When Reese AFB closed, I designed, submitted "Bronco MOA" sub sectors in the most of the areas previously Reese MOAs. I retired from Wing Airspace Manager and Civil Service, leaving behind a better array of Military Training airspace tailored to the needs of modern military aircraft from then and into the future.

In 1984 the John K. Cannon Flight 88 in the *Order of Daedalians*, was chartered at Cannon AFB. The J.K. Cannon Flight varies with active duty transfers but the retiree membership remains fairly constant. I am a Life Member in the *Order of Daedalians* and hope to live the rest of my years as a member of the John K. Cannon Flight 88, here on active Cannon AFB. You may be a member in *The Order* but if you are not familiar, the history of the Order is attached.

My family and I are proud of our years of association with Cannon AFB. As Air Force retirees we would like to continue taking advantage of the facilities of this modern Air Force Base. Please coordinate a "Negative Closure" for very historic but very modern Cannon Air Force Base.

Very Sincerely,

Dale

Everett (Dale) Harner Lt.Col. USAF (Ret)
301 Cactus Drive
Clovis, NM 88101

RECEIVED
DCN: 13763
06272005

To BRAC Commission, June 24, 2005

Hello. My name is Marie Olmsted. I have been working at Cannon for 6½ years.

I first started out as a Summer hire at 17 yrs old working at the ~~Building~~ Base housing office ~~office~~ delivering papers to peoples houses and cleaning up weeds around base housing. The people were so nice to me there at the office.

My second job was at Anthony's Pizza. for about 2 months. and I helped out by making pizza's

Now my 3rd job is at the Cannon Main Store where ~~at~~ I work as a cashier for Part time 34 hrs. I have seen people come and go. where they come from all over the world Egypt. Italy. Germany and Phillipens even Singapore. I love to hear their different languges and dilects.

Nevertheless I have my special customers who always ask when I not there either I'm off or on vacation somewhere, ~~and~~ "Where is she we missed you the other day. we would hate to see you go. Then I always see that happy smile ~~on their~~

DCN: 4878 RECEIVED

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

30 May, 2005 06272005

Commission Chairman,
Anthony J. Principi

I am a 62 year old, married, grandmother of seven, mother of three. I just filed for Social Security for my first time. I'll state up front, I have no military involvement with CANNON in any personal way. I have been on CANNON twice, once for a Christmas Fair and our Credit Union had a banquet there.

I do drive for the Meal on Wheels Program and I know several of those families have ties to CANNON and would have a very difficult time without CANNON's privileges being available to them. Most are elderly and physically not able to do much. They are too old to move again and too tired to even contemplate where that might be. Several are widows who have put down roots here and love this community and are very happy here.

Our church is privileged to have many of the military families attend and they add so much to our church, and hopefully, we add to their lives. They have been invaluable in raising our awareness of our countries role in the world and making this present war very real as our concerns grow with our members being sent to Iraq and Afghanistan. We make a point to honor them frequently. We know their time with us is special and their time with God is more vital than ever. They are always in our prayers and thoughts.

I am a CASA volunteer (Court Appointed Special Advocate). I know that there are several military volunteers also. It has been an honor to serve with these people and the community needs more help with these children, who suffer often at the hands of their own parents. The participation of military has been so helpful for these children.

We are a growing community. A community which has more churches than bars, which can be a very positive point, for even the military. A community which cares about CANNON and its personnel. Knowing some of the history, the community has been most generous in providing more land than what was required for CANNON. Having purchased two major portions of lands and ***freely*** given them for both base house and

gunnery range access. Our history with CANNON has been one of cooperation and eagerness to work with and support the needs of CANNON. We also seem to have an enlarging populace, which once was stationed here, and returning after retiring to the community which pleased them, while on active duty. We just have really nice people living here.

Needless to say the impact of closure for not only Clovis, but Portales, Texico, Farwell, Melrose, Amarillo and Lubbock as well as all the other small towns in between, would be tremendous. The economic impact would cause a severe crippling effect for a significant time. The loss of incomes for this area would be devastating. There is little that could compensate for the loss of CANNON.

Since we lived in Sacramento during the closure of both Mather and Mc Clellan AFBs, I do see a number of items, which make closure of CANNON seem unwise.

1. Both Mather and Mc Clellan were land locked with communities growing around them and choking them off in access and land expansion.

CANNON is out in the middle of nowhere and has plenty of room, not only for the base as it is now, but also has plenty of room for further expansion. It could handle more Fighter Wings and a larger repair facility.

2. Mather and Mc Clellan had areas that did impact on residential living areas and were a constant source of annoyance to adjacent communities. There was strife between the bases and the populace.

Clovis is proud to have, and eager to have, CANNON stay and continue in this area for decades. CANNON has been a good neighbor and Clovis continues to work with CANNON to accomplish what is best for both of them. We also have exceptional weather which allows year round training.

3. Mather and Mc Clellan both were due to be closed because they were out of room and out of time for those communities. They did not fit the area and the areas were out of step with the bases and their needs. It was tough for a short while there, but it was right and good that they closed.

Clovis does not want CANNON to leave. Clovis provides a great community for CANNON to reside. Clovis has a great, retired military

community to draw on for skilled help. Clovis has lots of room for expansion of CANNON and its territory. Clovis has lots of room for more FighterWings and greater maintenance facilities. The area has great shooting ranges and as I understand it, that is hard to find in other areas. The range is close to the field and does not require extensive use of fuel to for training.

We are proud and pleased that CANNON is a part of our community and that they play a vital role in our lives. Our world is enhanced by them and we are better for them being with us. I ask that you not only allow them to continue here but enhance their role in this area and bring a larger number of Fighter Wings in to enlarge their role in our country's strength. Our community welcomes and applauds their role in our defense.

We are proud to serve our military and offer a wonderful community and its resources at CANNON's disposal. We have been there for CANNON, financially, emotionally, morally and spiritually..... consistently. We do offer more than most of the areas of the country and hope you will continue to allow us to serve CANNON. Thank You.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Doty
205 Prairieview Drive
Clovis, NM 88101-4235
505-762-3181

CC:
Nevada Rep. James Bilbray (former)

Phillip Coyle

Ret. Navy Adm. Harold W. Gehman JR.

Utah Rep. James V. Hansen (former)

Ret. Army Gen. James T. Hill

Ret. Air Force Gen. Lloyd "Fig" Newton

Samuel Knox Skinner

Ret. Air Force Brig. Gen. Sue Ellen Turner

Phyllis Dorough

...Artist at Large...
• Trompe L'oeil
• Murals
Residential & Commercial

DCN: 4873

RECEIVED

06272005

Honorable Anthony J. Principi:

Please keep Cannon AFB in Clovis, N.M. open. Consider the many reasons it is in the best interest of everyone to expand this facility.

Many retirees have chosen to retire in that wonderful location.

Sincerely,

Phyllis

4800 Moon NE • Albuquerque, NM 87111 • (505) 294-3684
NMCRS # 01-808632-002

DCN: 4876
RECEIVED
06 07 2005

Base Realignment and Closure Commission,

I am writing this letter in response to the recent decision to close Cannon AFB, NM. One of the criteria used in evaluating bases for potential closure is economic impact. It seems it does not get the credence it deserves!

In this particular instance it is obvious the importance of economic impact concerning the Clovis Community was over looked in the decision to close Cannon AFB. As I have read about the desired results the United States Government is trying to achieve by realigning and closing bases, I cannot help but wonder why more consideration hasn't been given to the economic impact a base closure has on a community.

There are obviously many ways to achieve an end result that strengthens the military and reduces military spending over time so as to acquire better, more technologically advanced war fighting assets. Taking in account location, capability and speculating the future needs of the military, a number of combinations of base closures could take place to meet the desired end result. An example of this would be Luke AFB, Arizona.

Because of the location of Luke in relation to the city of Phoenix, it is a matter of time before it is so encroached upon that the base will have to close. Furthermore flying high performance jet aircraft in a highly populated area is not good/smart business. Additionally, I don't think it would be unfair to say that the economic impact to the city of Phoenix would be minimal if Luke were to close. It pales in comparison to the impact the Cannon closure will have on the Clovis community.

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

Looking at Luke 30 years ago, although Phoenix was a large metropolitan area already, the city had not yet encroached the base as it has now. Looking at the future, if Cannon was expanded to accommodate both Luke's current training mission and the current mission of Cannon, in comparison, based on the size of Clovis, the city would never encroach the base! Regardless if it is the F-16 or any other fighter, Cannon would provide a long-term solution for providing war fighting capability, a realistic training environment with room for expansion and would not compromise the economy of this community.

When decisions are made that have no impact to the decision makers, they don't have to suffer the consequences of their actions. Those affected are people who are trying to live the American dream, prosper in a wonderful community and provide a wholesome lifestyle for their families. Clovis is in the midst of community growth that will eventually make the community even a better place to live than it already is. By closing Cannon, your decision will have a devastating impact on this community, including

potentially closing schools, loss of jobs, loss of government funding and ending the growth recently experienced. All of which lead to a large economic impact for the community. Those who have chosen to live in and around Clovis are farmers, retirees, and people trying to provide for their families in a small town. The people of Phoenix, even retirees, have a much larger resource base in terms of where to seek medical care, shopping, and social activities. The people of Clovis are much more dependent upon the base. Clovis deserves the opportunity to grow and prosper just like any other city in our great nation and the decision to close the base has jeopardized that.

Our elected representatives have the responsibility to ensure that our military remains strong and capable and our nation prospers. It is a time to remove politics from the BRAC process and do what is right, remove Cannon for base closure and find an alternative that has less far less impact but achieves the same intended results. Invest now in the Clovis Community and Cannon AFB and secure a future for this wonderful town that will continue to support the base now and for years to come.

Sincerely,
Gary L. Foster Jr,
MSGT, USAF, Ret

DCN: 4873
RECEIVED
06272005

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Sincerely,
Gary L. Foster Jr,
MSGT, USAF, Ret

DCN: 4873

RECEIVED

06272005

Grace K. Quigg
517 E. TurnerAve.
Tucumcari, NM 88401

June 23. 2005

Operation !! KEEP CANNON !!

and... what about our schools &
" " " children's
education?

Grace Kneider Quigg

Thanks! ☺

DCN: 4873

RECEIVED

06272005

June 17, 2005

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

Re: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Commission:

I urge the Commission to reconsider the closing of Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico. I can honestly tell you that the data was not complete in making a decision to include this location on the military closing list.

If the reported data was incorrect on the number of runways, having only one, when actually there are two and one of those runways has supersonic capabilities, and the distance to the missile training range that was reported to be over 44 miles when in reality is 20 miles away, I just cannot help but wonder what other critical, crucial facts regarding Cannon Air Force Base military value were not available to the Commission!

Cannon should never have been up for consideration as it does not fit the criteria that I reviewed on the BRAC website.

The City of Clovis and surrounding communities has continually reached out to Cannon Air Force Base. A few examples are:

1) Curry County and the state of New Mexico purchased air easements almost 15 years ago around Cannon and GAVE it to the Air Force as it would resolve an issue that Cannon had about encroachment air space;
2) Local communities purchased land and GAVE the land to Cannon for additional homes for their military personnel and families. It is known as Chavez Manor and I have seen these homes and families that live there.
3) Once again, the community purchased land later on and GAVE it to the Air Force Base for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway.

The citizens have a vested interest and care about this facility.

DCN: 4873

I grew up in Clovis and I have enjoyed the relationship and bond forged by many different peoples that made not only a cohesive, caring community but also an award winning Air Force Base.

This base is vital in military value not only to the community but as a training facility for joint war fighting, training, and readiness amongst our other armed service branches. A base facility that has resolved air easements issues, has space for growth, and a climate that is favorable year round for such training.

I no longer live in Clovis, but I have experienced and witnessed first hand how Cannon has been there for Clovis and Clovis is there to support our Air Base. Whether civilian or military, we have served proudly together through thick and thin.

There are other sites that do not have one-tenth the military value of Cannon Air Force Base but none of these locations were on the list.

Please review all your data and reconsider by doing the right thing and removing Cannon Air Force Base from the closure list.

Our country needs more communities like the one we have forged between Clovis, New Mexico and Cannon Air Force Base. A military facility with REAL value!

Pamela Black
1910 Pinecrest Dr.
Dallas, Texas 75010
214-668-0135

DCN 1873
RECEIVED
06272005

June 21, 2005

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi, Chairman
BRAC Commission
2521 Clark Street
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Honorable Chairman:

The purpose of this letter is one of support and clarity regarding one BRAC choice for closure from our most recent round of base realignment and closure selections. The base I refer to is Cannon Air Force Base in eastern central New Mexico. I believe including Cannon AFB as a candidate for closure constitutes a travesty of sorts, most particularly for the people of the area. I am not a military strategy expert and as such I am not qualified to label the inclusion of Cannon Air Force Base on the closure list as "flawed reasoning;" the choice of so many who are proponents of removing the base from the closure list. I am, however, and economist, and I believe I can shed additional insight into the impact of the closure on the local economy in ways that were not adequately explored.

First, and perhaps foremost, Cannon Air Force Base is located in one of the poorest states in our nation, and as such the dependency ratio on government spending is very high in our state when compared to other states in our nation. Therefore, any loss of a source of government spending tends to become magnified in terms of multiplier effect loss when this occurs. While I believe analysts projections of 25% initial job losses in the Clovis area from initial impact are accurate, multiplier effect losses and poor economic replenishment were ignored, and in this case, these reverberating after effects will be more damaging than the initial closure impact. Please allow me to clarify with a simple example. Each dollar migrating into this region from an outside source becomes multiplied several times over, usually at least seven times, and that multiplier value directly drives demand, and indirectly supply in the local economy. During instances of occurrences such as a base closure, the removal of this spending stream is reversed over time, and the local economy goes into long-term contraction further devastating the money supply in the local economy. In the instances of many base closures, this loss of government spending is quickly replaced with economic replenishment in that the local economy is robust to the extent that capital goods such as abandoned real property are quickly employed and replenishment jobs are created as the bases leave. Unfortunately,

eastern central New Mexico, and western states in general have historically very poor economic replenishment profiles.

The only vague model we have to follow in this regard is the loss of Walker Air Force Base in nearby Roswell in 1966. The economy of Roswell listed and property values were devastated for over a decade in the area during a time of substantial national economic growth and moderate inflation, both variables profoundly effecting real property values nationwide over this same time period in the remainder of the nation. Statisticians would generally conclude that the economy of Roswell was impacted significantly for at least twenty-five years, and perhaps is still impacted today.

Although I haven't been able to employ an econometrics model to support these predictions, I believe my rule of thumb estimates will be mostly accurate in that I project the long-term job loss prospects for the Clovis/Portales area to be 40%, and economic replenishment may never occur in this region due to the fact that replenishment in this area is contingent upon another sector of our national economy that is in job contraction status; agriculture.

I wish to reiterate the fact that I have very little knowledge of military strategy and I hold your knowledge and wisdom in high regard. In addition, I am deeply appreciative of your efforts yielding the strongest military in the history of the world. I do, however, know economics to the extent that I have committed my life work to understanding and sharing this knowledge with others in an effort to make life more rewarding for all citizens in our nation. The basic fact of the matter is that there are closure choices that will have insignificant impacts on local economies. One such base that comes to mind is Luke Air Force Base near Phoenix, AZ. The economic replenishment effect of that area is so active that the loss of government spending in the region would scarcely be felt at all, and quite frankly I believe many businesses would relish the opportunity to employ real property forfeited as a result of the base closure.

In the event it were critical for New Mexico to make a military base sacrifice, a far better choice than Cannon AFB would be Kirtland AFB in Albuquerque. The city of Albuquerque is bordered on three sides by Native American Reservations, and the fourth by the Sandia Mountains, thus constraining the possibilities for expansion. The greater Albuquerque area actually needs the space for continued city growth. In addition, the economic growth rates in their area are so robust that the long-term impact would be insignificant even given worst-case scenario.

In conclusion, I must admit that it is also very difficult for me not to be nostalgic about the possibility of the closure of Cannon AFB, too. I live on land in the region homesteaded by my grandparents over 100 years ago and although I am almost one-half a century old, Cannon Air Force Base has been here since I was born. An F-100 (lead sled) plane crashed 100 yards behind the house I live in today when I was five years old and I've been actively engaged in interacting with active duty personnel stationed at Cannon AFB since that day. I have met an inordinate number of fine people such as MSGT. Patrick Nino, one of my closest friends currently serving as flight engineer on the Gulf

Stream fleet for our Commander in Chief, and numerous others who were stationed at the military installation through the years. I will miss the opportunity to continue doing so greatly should the base close. In addition, I will mourn the loss of culture the people of the military have brought to my life. These were the gem stones in my life resulting from the presence of Cannon AFB in this area.

Finally, I ask that you make clean, quick, and permanent changes if it is deemed that the installation must be closed. Please give back the air space of the area and close the Melrose Bombing Range, too, thus allowing the people of eastern New Mexico the use of as many of the remaining economic infrastructure components as possible to salvage the local economies. I thank you for your time and consideration and wish you my very best as you ponder these very critical decisions.

Sincerely,

Terry L. Christesson

Terry L. Christesson, B.B.A., M.B.A., Ed. D., A.B.D.

DCN: 4876 RECEIVED

06272005

June 21, 2005

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

Dear General Newton:

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Sincerely,

Terry L. Christesson, B.B.A., M.B.A., Ed. D., A.B.D.

DCN: 4873

07132005

David L.Limbert
P.O.Box 488
Jal N.M. 88252

The Base Realignment & Closure Commission
2521 So. Clark Street ,suite 600
Arlington ,Va. 22202

Re: Removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list

Dear Commissioner,

I am very concerned about the DoD's recommendation that Cannon AFB should be closed.

I want to make the commisson fully aware of the uniqueattributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include year round flyoing conditions, unencroached airspacethat will soon be availablefor training at supersonic speeds,many new and existing facilities suitable for joint training exercises ,and a low cost enviornment that promotes cost-efficient training.Cannon is a real asset to the coutry's armed forces.

Whether or not Cannon's military value has been noted yet in Washington, out here we really appreciate the base . The regioinal community has been uniquely supportive, making important concessions to the Air Forces needs. Specifically, New Mexico is in the process of enacting the *STRI* (Strategic Training Range Initiative) to provide more super sonic training space at lower altitudes at Cannon. Air force personel are welcomed and many Veterans have made themselves a home here. Many disabled and retired veterans depend to a great extent on Cannon and we consider these people a part of the family here .

I am myself a disabled *Marine* and consider Cannon vital.

DCN: 4873

The closure of Cannon will also have a devastating impact on our local and state economies. It has been estimated that the Clovis area will lose some 20% of its work force, quite out of line compared to the closings in other communities. I, *personally* , see that 20% as a very conservative estimate, because it doesn't include the subsiquent drop in the economy because oe the number of businesses that will no longer be viable in the aftermath of such a drastic drop in the workforce.

I, personally, invite you to attend the Cannon hearings in Clovis . I further ask that you reconsider keeping Cannon open, based on the importance of this facility to our community and our nation .

Sincerely;
David L.

Limbert

BRAC Commission
DCN: 4873
JUL 13 2005
Received

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

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The closure of Cannon will also have a devastating impact on our economy. It has been estimated that the Clovis area will lose at least 20 percent of its workforce, a percentage out of line with the effect of base closings in other communities. Moreover, an economic impact like that will hurt the entire region, well beyond the immediate Cannon area. Cannon Air Force Base is critical for all of us.

I invite each of 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,
(name and address)

Amelia Trevino
Box 571
Jal NM 88252

DCN: 4873

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

BRAC Commission

JUL 13 2005

Received

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Sincerely,
(name and address)

Mary Ruth Rhett
PO Box 826
Jal NM 88252

DCN: 4873

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

BRAC Commission

JUL 13 2005

Received

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Sincerely,
(name and address)

Jack Hedgpeth
Box 1045
Jal, N.M. 88252

DCN: 4873

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

BRAC Commission

JUL 13 2005

Received

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Sincerely,
(name and address)

Adus L. Kelley
P.O. Box 132
Jal, N. 88252

DCN: 4873

BRAC Commission

JUL 13 2005

Received

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

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Sincerely,
(name and address)

Linda Allen
P.O. Box 723
JAL, NM 88252

DCN: 4873

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

BRAC Commission

JUL 13 2005

Received

Re: Removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list

Dear Commissioners,

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

I want to help make the Commission fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include year-round flying conditions, unencroached airspace that will soon be available for training at supersonic speeds, 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 regional community has been uniquely supportive, making important concessions to the Air Force's needs. Specifically, New Mexico is in the process of enacting the Strategic Training Range Initiative which will provide more supersonic training space and allow it at lower altitudes at Cannon. We have also welcomed the Air Force personnel. The many veterans in the area make it clear that they feel at home here. We consider Cannon and its retiree a part of our family.

The closure of Cannon will also have a devastating impact on our economy. It has been estimated that the Clovis area will lose at least 20 percent of its workforce, a percentage out of line with the effect of base closings in other communities. Moreover, an economic impact like that will hurt the entire region, well beyond the immediate Cannon area. Cannon Air Force Base is critical for all of us.

I invite each of 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,
(name and address)

G Parker
804 Mesquite
Box 151
Jul. NM 88252

DCN: 4873

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

BRAC Commission

JUL 13 2005

Received

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Sincerely,
(name and address)

Geneva Anderson
Box 453
Jal, NM 88252

DCN: 4873

BRAC Commission

JUL 13 2005

Received

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

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Sincerely,
(name and address)

Audrey M. Cooper
P.O. Box 24
Gal, N.M. 88252

DCN: 4873

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

BRAC Commission

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Sincerely,
(name and address)

John R. Cooper
P.O. Box 24
Jal, N.M. 88252

5-20-05

DCN: 4873

Dear Brac Commission,

05312005

I am writing to you concerning the closure of Cannon Air Force Base (CAFB) in Clovis, NM. I don't believe that all of the positive qualities for keeping CAFB open were looked at in detail by the BRAC Commission.

CAFB is a very appealing base for joint training missions. The base has the facility and capability to do missions other than F-16's. Later this year, Cannon will have unfettered air space allowing for super sonic flying. The base is already used for training by other countries, such as Singapore and Germany. CAFB also has a bombing range. And CAFB doesn't have to worry about encroachment from any direction. Clovis is not the home of any major airline, therefore flying congestion isn't an issue. The weather should also be a major consideration as the number of days for flying averages

well over 300. Even presidents of our country have used the base when visiting the area. The government has already put a lot of money into runway improvements, not to mention buildings. Why let all that go to waste?

CAFB could do the training missions of other bases, such as Luke AFB. My son-in-law was stationed at Luke recently. He said that Phoenix doesn't even want the base. The city has encroached up to the base and would like to continue westward. And air traffic congestion is terrible. The same goes for Tinker AFB in Oklahoma City. Yet these two bases were left alone.

As for economic impact on the community... The hit on Clovis would be a 20% to 25% loss on the economy for a town of only 30,000. There is no way the government will make up that kind of impact. That figure is more than double

of that for anyone else on the BRAC list. My understanding was that the impact on the community was supposed to be considered by BRAC. I think they skipped this point and went to the next.

On a more personal note... Clovis goes the extra mile for military personel. Businesses offer military discounts to enlisted and their families. We have friends from the base who say they've never been stationed at a base where the community actually wanted them here.

CAFB is a vital part of our community and a vital asset to our national defense. Please reconsider the closure of CAFB. Please look at all of the positive reasons for keeping CAFB open.

Thank you,

Kerry Parks
1621 N. Lea
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4873

BRAC Commission:

05312005

I believe closing Cannon AFB would be a huge mistake. The home of the most Lethal fighter wing, our troops deserve the best our country can give, and I believe that is what our community has always supported. Complete support is one of the most important resource our base can receive.

Our air space and training conditions is second to none along with the quality of life.

Please don't take away our sound of freedom.

Joe C. Camero
1201 Ross
Clovis N.M. 88101

DCN: 4873

M L CONSTRUCTION LLC.
AND INSULATION
DEVON COCKRELL
GENERAL CONTRACTOR
GB 98 LIC # 91468
763-4850 • 693-3442

05312005

6-22-05

Brac Commission,

As a 48-year resident of Clovis New Mexico I write this letter in support of keeping Cannon Air Force Base open.

I don't believe that Cannon fits the criteria provided for base closures not to mention all the expansion capabilities slated for the near future. The availability of air space, the ability to fly supersonic and the close proximity to a bombing range seems to me to be valuable assets that an 'air' operation should want to take advantage of!

Clovis has always supported Cannon and the fact that so many servicemen and their families retire and stay in Clovis or the surrounding area is an attribute to the safe and friendly environment that this small town has to offer.

I don't know what a full closure will do to the Clovis community but I can tell you what has happened since Cannon Air Force Base appeared on the list.

DCN: 4873

My husband is in construction, a home builder. Clovis has grown tremendously during the last 5 years and we have enjoyed being the excitement in the community and many families looking forward to new homes and businesses being built. Since the Friday that the BRAC list came out new construction on homes is being stopped all over town. 2 large developers out of California slated to build some 500 homes has stopped construction until a decision is made about Cannon.

25 custom homes in various processes of being built have had cancelled contracts by military people.

We currently have one home under construction. If it sells at all (in time we will take a loss. We considered stopping construction but decided to continue in hopes Cannon stays open.

Our thriving growing excited community has suffered a tremendous set back already. The damage that has been done by the BRAC list has been felt in many businesses that were growing and caring about Clovis as a community for kids as well as military families.

I ask that you consider not only the assets that the High Plains has to offer Cannon but also the economic consequences that will be and have already been placed on a community that has supported the military facility for so many years.

Thanks!
Cindy Cockrell

DCN: 4873

Tony Romero
101 Rosewood Drive
Clovis, NM 88101

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

0531 2005

Dear BRAC Commission,

I have been a resident of Clovis New Mexico for approximately 10 years and I have witnessed how Cannon Air Force Base has been vital to this community. I have also seen how this community has catered to the needs of the military men and women stationed here. My hope and prayers are that you consider taking Cannon AFB off the closure list.

I feel it is a mistake to close Cannon AFB for 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.
- 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 reconsider the Penatgons decision to close Cannon Air Force Base. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Tony Romero

Tony Romero

DCN: 4873

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

May 27, 2005

05 31 2005

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

RE: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Commissioner Hansen:

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: 4873

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

May 27, 2005

05312005

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

RE: Cannon Air Force Base

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Gina Gutierrez

DCN: 4873

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

May 27, 2005

05312005

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

RE: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Admiral Gehman, Jr.:

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: 4873

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

May 27, 2005

0531 2005

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

RE: Cannon Air Force Base

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CLOVIS, NM 88101
505-799-1881

May 27, 2005

05312005

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2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

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Gina Gutierrez

DCN: 4873

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

May 27, 2005

0531 2005

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

RE: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear Commissioner Coyle:

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Sincerely,

Gina Gutierrez

Gina Gutierrez

To The BRAC Commission:

0531 2005 DCN: 4873

This is just a note to ask you to please remove our Cannon Air Force Base here in Clovis, new Mexico from your closure list. We as a community feel we were put on this list by mistake. There are lots of reasons to keep Cannon operational. Cannon has lots of air space which means no encroachment issues. Cannon is very close to the bombing range so there is not a waste of fuel and time spent to get there and back. We have great weather here and plenty of sunshine, which is important to training missions. We have a whole school in Ranchvale that is 90% Cannon students. If the base closes, the school may very well close as well. We have a large number of military retirees that call this area home. Not only here in Clovis, but Amarillo, Lubbock, Portales, and surrounding areas. They rely on Cannon Air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping, entertainment, etc. This would make a huge impact on the Eastern New Mexico and West Texas economy. And most importantly, the reason to keep Cannon is the community support. People from other bases get transferred to Cannon and can feel just like they came home. This is important to the military families because when they get here that they will be well welcomed and taken care of. That is one less thing they have to worry about. So in closing I am asking you to KEEP CANNON OPEN.

Thank you,
Chrise Stroud

DCN: 4873

May 23, 2005

RECEIVED
05 31 2005

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

Dear Sir or Madame,

As a resident of Clovis, NM and the wife of a retired E-7 from the USAF, I do not understand your reasoning for placing Cannon AFB on the BRAC list. Reviewing your criteria for bases placed on the list, Cannon AFB does not meet any of you requirements.

My husband was deployed on several peacetime and wartime mission from Cannon so I know the important of this base and the surrounding air space. Cannon has supported numerous peace and wartime mission demonstrating the effectiveness of the base and the tremendous support the surrounding community.

Cannon Air Force Base should not be on the list 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, 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.
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- 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 review your criteria for base closures and you will agree with Cannon and the community that Cannon AFB is an asset to the American People. THANKS!

Corazon Bynum

Corazon Bynum
Clovis Resident

#

DCN: 4873

0531 2005

My career in the AF ended here at Cannon AFB ~~on~~ June 1974 and I can tell you first hand that as a career MSgt and a retired family who is still here that this community deserves to have the Base stay open and active the people of Clovis and surrounding area really support the Base and are open and friendly as anybody in this country. This town is a wonderful place to bring up a family and whole heartily deserves to have ~~an~~ AF Base nearby to ensure their safety and well being.

Andrew W. Gingrich
Clovis New Mexico

DCN: 4873

DATE: May 21, 2005

TO: BRAC

FROM: Lila Lucero

05 31 2005

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: 4873

May 22, 2005

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

RECEIVED
05 31 2005

Laurie Byrd
3733 Sam Snead
Clovis, NM 88101

Ref: Cannon Air Force Base

To Whom It May Concern:

I was highly disappointed to discover Cannon Air Force Base on the BRAC closure list. As I have been a resident of Clovis most of my life, I have always known the town to be very supportive of Cannon Air Force Base and our military in general. I'm sure you will see, by public outcry, we are very concerned over the possible closure of the base.

The closure of Cannon Air Force base in my opinion would be an extremely detrimental mistake for a variety of reason.

Clovis has so much to offer our military. For example Clovis presents more then enough room for expanding the base and its needs in which the community is enthusiastic to assist with. Most importantly, Clovis and the surrounding area have no major airports encroaching air space needed by the military. The climate offers virtually perfect flying weather most of the year allowing for training missions. We also have access to the bombing range that can be reached within 5 minutes of Cannon, which is huge incentive considering fuel conservation.

I have heard of military personal that are unhappy here in Clovis because the lack of scenery of the lack of activities offered by the community. It is funny to see how those people who initially did not like Clovis, come back either to live after their military careers or to visit life long friends they have made. I grew up just a couple miles west of the air base on a farm and had the opportunity of meeting and becoming friends with many who I'll cherish forever. People end up coming back because the type of community we are and the fact that we welcome all from every part of our great county. We have enjoyed and valued relationships with our military families and wish to continue to support them as we always have. I do not believe that those who

have decided to retire in Clovis should be forced to choose another area to have the same benefits of the base that they now receive.

I also have many friends who have joined the military after graduating high school. I think that by seeing the military life growing up around those who are in the military has encouraged many of our "Clovisites" to join and serve our county as well.

By closing Cannon Air Force Base, our community would be loosing approximately one hundred million dollars in payroll. We will be facing a huge economic disaster. The community of Clovis has worked hard to attract new restaurants, businesses and activities to accommodate Clovis citizens as well as our military families. Clovis is rapidly growing and has so much to offer an even bigger population.

Please allow us to continue to support our military and our country and grow our community by removing Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list. We would be happy to have you visit our community and see what we are all talking about when we say Clovis is a keeper.

Your time and consideration are greatly appreciated!

Thank you,

Laurie Byrd

Laurie Byrd

DCN: 4873

05312005

May 21, 2005

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

Dear Sirs:

I am writing with concerns about your recent realignment recommendations made to close Cannon Air Force Base, Clovis, New Mexico.

I have been a resident of Clovis for eleven years and am a former military dependent, my husband having been honorably discharged from the United States Navy in 1994 after six years of service.

It is concerning to me at these uncertain times that the commission has decided to close and realign such a great number of facilities. Many of our troops are still deployed overseas, new enlistment numbers are down according to many recruiters and aggressive factions in other countries are engaging in more disturbing behavior. One of the reasons why my husband did not complete his military career was that he acted upon the advanced directive from former President Clinton's administration for military downsizing and since he was able to obtain gainful employment in the civilian workforce processed out of the United States Navy.

Additionally I am concerned as to whether the potential uses of bases such as Cannon Air Force Base were considered during the compilation of this list. Although Cannon has some older buildings at its facility, they are still quite functional. There are also some newer facilities that would benefit the Department of Defense/Air Force to consider using. Cannon has an abundance of air space available and there are no encroachment issues. The land underlying the air space is not overly developed, if at all developed, which would provide for both pilot and civilian safety. There is an adjacent bombing range approximately 20 miles west of Cannon in Melrose, New Mexico which would allow pilots and their crew realistic training opportunities. Once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is implemented, we will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions; thus allowing the Air Force and other branches of service the opportunity to better train for real-life situations. Our weather in Eastern New Mexico is very conducive to year round flying, affording year round training capabilities. 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 also has the ability to work with other foreign military entities to afford them the opportunity to train at this base, such as the Singaporean military has.

I believe with the realignment of several bases, because of its many positive attributes, Cannon could be considered for realignment to support the future training missions of alternative aircraft such as the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, helicopter squadrons, etc. During the last round of BRAC implementations NAS Miramar was realigned. It is now home to MCAS Miramar and is home for eight F/A-18C & F/A-18D Hornet jet squadrons, four CH-46 Sea Knight helicopter squadrons, four CH-53E Super Stallion helicopter squadrons, one KC-130 transport and refueling squadron, and nine station support aircraft for a total of about 257 aircraft. When the move was completed, 12,200 Marines, Sailors and civilians called Miramar home. Clovis and Eastern New Mexico has the opportunity to become as viable as MCAS Miramar due to the availability of air space, ideal flying weather, affordability and great expanse of land. Cannon could be a perfect candidate to support future training missions and to evolve for other uses. Additionally, expanding the available air space through the New Mexico Training Range Initiative will allow Cannon Air Force Base to be one of, if not the only base with the largest available free air space in this region if not the country.

Curry county and the state of New Mexico have always maintained a strong, supportive relationship with Cannon Air Force Base and the United States Military. 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 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. Local merchants have always supported the DoD and military personnel by offering discounts, construction assistance, quality workers, excellent schools and friendly attitudes welcoming personnel to our community. We have not looked upon the base as a hindrance as many communities do with regard to military facilities; but rather as an asset to the vitality of our nation and our community.

In conclusion, I strongly request that the commission reconsider their decisions to place Cannon on their closure list at this time. Cannon is a viable contributor to the United States Air Force that has the potential to become something superb, if given the opportunity.

Sincerely,

Sharon Sanders

Sharon Sanders

DCN: 4873

LOUISA MAESTAS

412 Heaslet
Clovis,NewmMexico 88101

May 21, 2005

RECEIVED
05 31 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,

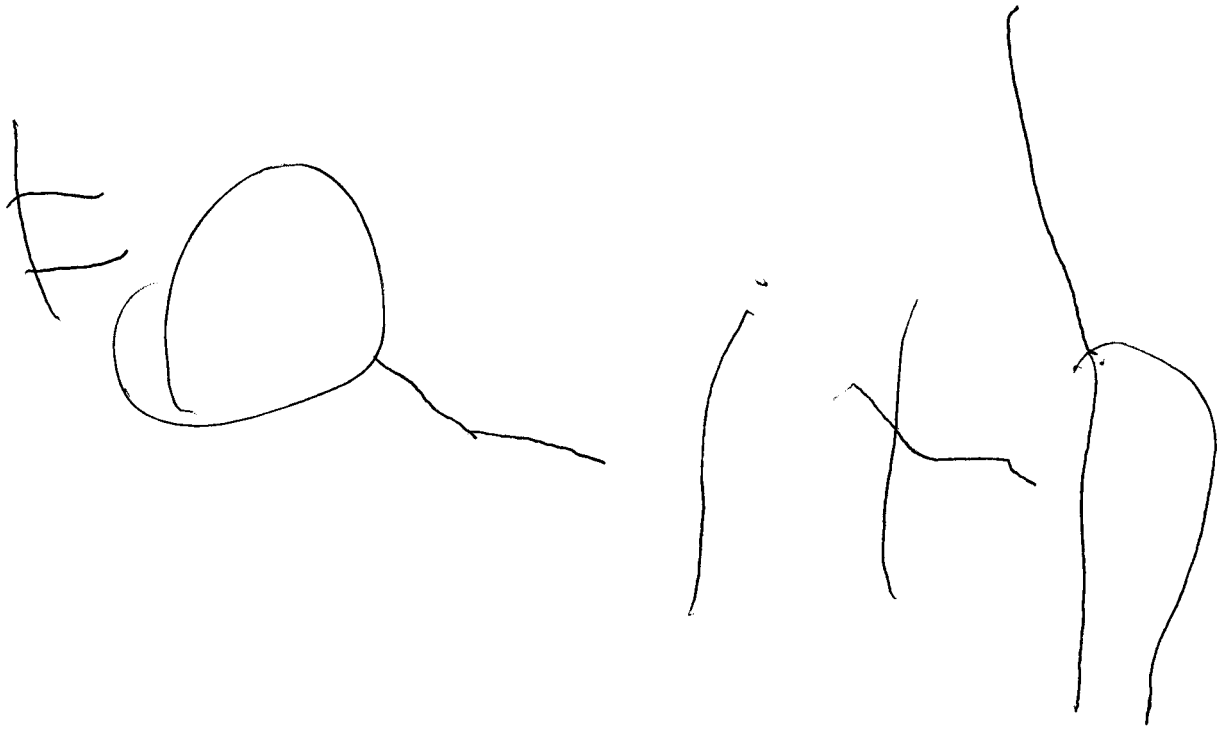
Louisa Maestas

DCN: 4873

BRAC,

05312005

Please do not take my jets. I love them.



DCN: 4873

LISA HOLT

[illegible]
[illegible]

May 21, 2005

RECEIVED
05 31 2005

Dear BRAC Commission

My name is Lisa Holt, I am a business owner in Clovis NM. I am writing in regards to your proposed base closure list. I think it would be a great injustice to close Cannon. The residents in Clovis have formed a close bond with Cannon and its military personnel. We are very proud of Cannons numerous accomplishments and many awards that our base has recieved. Cannon is used by many retired military personnel from the surrounding areas including west Texas. We are not a community that complains about the aircraft noise or the many new people in town. We love cannon and love having it in our community. I have made many life long friends thanks to Cannon. My grandfather was the fire chief out there for 30 years, Cannon means a lot to the people of Clovis, please reconsider closing our base.

Sincerely,

Signature

DCN: 4873

M L CONSTRUCTION LLC.
AND INSULATION
DEVON COCKRELL
GENERAL CONTRACTOR
GB 98 LIC # 91468
763-4850 • 693-3442

RECEIVED
05 31 2005

BRAC COMMISSION,

I AM IN SUPPORT OF CANNON AIR FORCE BASE IN CLOVIS, NM. OUR ECONOMY HAS FINALLY STARTED TO PICK UP IN THE LAST YEAR AND A HALF, AND JUST SINCE 5/13/05 AT 7:30 AM MYSELF AND MANY OTHER HOME BUILDERS AND CONTRACTORS HAVE ALREADY FELT THE EFFECT OF THE BRAC LIST. IF CAFB SHUTS DOWN IT WILL DEVESTATE OUR ECONOMY AND HAS ALREADY STARTED. I AM AFRAID THAT IF THE BASE SHUTS DOWN WE ARE LOOKING AT A VERY TOUGH NEXT FIFTEEN YEARS.

SINCERELY

Devon Cockrell

5/23/05 DCN: 4873

BRAC Commission,

0531 2005

I am writing this letter in response to the recomendation to close Cannon AFB.

I moved to the Clovis / Portales, NM area just 3 years ago. No, I'm not afilliated with CAFB in any way except by having friends both stationed there and civillians that work there.

Our small communities work hand + hand with CAFB so well that recently we voted to expand + convert the air space to supersonic capability through the New Mexico Training Range Initiative.

Our community LOVES this base + the wonderful Peoplee of CAFB so much that we purchase neighboring land and GIVE it to CAFB for new housing + an installation of new lighting for an alternate runway.

No, our communities will NOT Blow away without CAFB, but our hearts will be greatly touched to lose these wonderful folks + their families.

I am a planning committee member for the American Cancer Society's Relay for life and CAFB backs our effort each + every year. This year 75 teams registered + out of that 20 teams were from CAFB. We work so well - hand in hand to support each other. Please Do Not Close CAFB

Sincerely,

L Bumgarner

Leslie Bumgarner

DCN: 4873

05312005

BRAC Commission

I feel Cannon doesn't meet the criteria for closure due to the weather in Eastern New Mexico allows for year round training. Availability of of air space will support future training missions.

I was born & raised in Clovis and attended school with many base children, which is when I became aware that not every town is welcoming to the base families. City of Clovis welcomes military families & the families love Clovis. Isn't this the type of community you would want your military loved ones to be stationed at.

Please Don't close Cannon

Maria D. Amaro
1201 Ross
Clovis NM 88101

DCN: 4873

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

May 26, 2005

RECEIVED
05 31 2005

James V. Hansen
BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark St., Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

RE: Cannon Air Force Base scheduled closure

Dear Mr. Hansen:

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

DCN: 4873

BRAC!

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05 3 12 005

please don't take myjets connor

DCN: 4873

May 23, 2005

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

05312005

Joyce Reeves
801 Collins
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.
- 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.

Thank you for your consideration!

Joyce Reeves

Joyce Reeves

DCN: 4873

RECEIVED
05 31 2005

May 31, 2005

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

Dear Honorable Hansen:

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

DCN: 4873

May 27, 2005

0531 2005

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 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: 4873

May 27, 2005

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

05 31 2005

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 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: 4873

May 27, 2005

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

05312005

Dear General Newton:

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: 4873

RECEIVED
06 10 2005

May 26, 2005

Dear James H. Bilbray,

I am writing this letter in reference to Cannon Air Force Base being on the BRAC closure list. The area where the base is located is prime air space and the pilots can see for many miles and can fly here almost every day of the year.

Cannon and Clovis, New Mexico are on the grow together. It would be sad to see this wonderful relationship end. I also think there are a lot of retirees living in this area that rely on Cannon for their health needs and food products. I'm sure that Cannon offers the retirees many more things that would maybe make the retirees leave this area if Cannon closed.

Please reconsider Cannon Air Force Base being targeted for closure. Clovis needs Cannon and I think Cannon needs Clovis.

I would appreciate your help in this matter.

Thanks,

Fran Phillips

Fran Phillips
813 Jeanie Dr.
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

2716 Putnam Drive
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

07132005

July 7, 2005

07132005
BRAC Commission

JUL 13 2005
Received

The Honorable Sue Ellen Turner
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Regarding: BRAC regional hearing in Clovis, New Mexico

Dear Commissioner Turner,

I would like to thank you for taking the time to come to the BRAC regional hearing in Clovis, New Mexico on June 24. I appreciate you making the time to come out to this remote part of the country. Clovis is a long way from anywhere, and your schedule is clearly very busy. Your attention means so much to this community.

Since your schedule is so full of hearings, I imagine they all must begin to blur. If you don't mind, I would like to be so bold as to send you my notes on the proceedings in Clovis as they pertained to Cannon. Naturally you have the extensive briefing book prepared by Clovis' delegation. I hope my notes will merely help you separate in your memory the arguments made here versus those made at other venues and regarding other sites.

If you will indulge me further, I would like to try to explain something about New Mexico that the delegation did not include. I believe you will see in your briefing book that in the past, eastern New Mexico has donated air and land rights to the Air Force to help the Air Force in its presence here. Similarly, the state is pursuing the New Mexico Training Range Initiative, and the New Mexico Military Base Planning Commission is seeking ways to promote the Air Force's "Concept Development and Experimentation" pillar of its transformation strategy. People here have worked to assist the Air Force, and this is one instance where it is not unreasonable to believe that past developments *are* an indication of future performance.

New Mexico is a land of many charms but also of many shortages. Residents here have long known that scarce resources must be carefully nurtured and protected to avoid calamity. We have learned to be good stewards of what we have. Most precious to us are water and jobs. We have done what we could in the past to nurture the military jobs we have. Now, we are fighting tooth and nail to protect them. If they remain, we will continue to treat them with honor and gratitude for the lifeblood they provide to our community. It is a responsibility we do not have the luxury of taking lightly nor is it conceivable we ever will.

In taking on this difficult and onerous job, you have agreed to be our steward. Please ask the Pentagon's analysts the questions we cannot ask them ourselves. Please recognize that the case against Cannon does not stand up to the facts nor does it meet the legal requirements. Please understand that it is in the nation's interest as well as this community's that you Keep Cannon open.

Thank you for your time and your dedication.

Sincerely,

Kara Fulcher

Dr. Kara Stibora Fulcher, Ph.D.

enc.

The Base Realignment and Closure Commission hearing began just after 8:30 the morning of June 24 in the auditorium of Marshall Junior High School. Commissioners Sue Ellen Turner, Lloyd Newton, James Hansen, James Hill, Philip Coyle and James Bilbray were in attendance. In his opening comments, Chairman James Hansen explained that the purpose of the Commission is to measure the recommendations made by the Department of Defense against the legal criteria established for the BRAC process. Military value and community impact are of primary consideration. Chairman Hansen thanked those who have been involved in writing letters to the Commission. He said these letters were appreciated and their sentiments were taken into consideration; they will be make part of the Commission's permanent record. Hansen noted that more commissioners have come to Clovis than anywhere else, and this shows the importance they place on the case of Cannon.

Senator Pete Domenici was the first of the New Mexico delegation to speak. On behalf of Curry county, Roosevelt county and the state of New Mexico, the senator expressed his thanks to the Commission for coming to Clovis. He said that this is one of the most important events in the history of the region. Domenici pointed out that the Commission has an "onerous" job, but felt that Clovis' future is in good hands. Having been forced by the BRAC process to examine closely just what kind of job CAFB has been doing for the nation, the Senator is more convinced than ever that Cannon is a valuable an asset to the nation. Although the Department of Defense does a great job, it cannot get every decision right. A mistake was made in this case; Cannon should remain open.

After his comments, Senator Domenici introduced Senator Jeff Bingaman. Senator Bingaman similarly thanked the Commissioners for taking on this duty. The law requires them to consider the economic impact of this closure on the community, and he argued that the impact was underestimated by the Department of Defense. Analysis done by local teams predicts that one in three jobs will be lost as a result of Cannon closing, not one in five as the Department of Defense claims in its report. The characteristics of this area that make this a great home for the Air Force are the very same characteristics that will make it very difficult for the community to recover if the Air Force leaves. Forty years after Walker Air Force Base closed, the city of Roswell has not entirely recovered. To lose another base in eastern New Mexico would have a devastating effect on the region. Senator Bingaman urged the Commission to reject the Pentagon's recommendation to close Cannon.

Following Senator Bingaman at the podium was New Mexico Representative Tom Udall. Congressman Udall welcomed the Commission and expressed his appreciation of their willingness to hold the regional hearing in Clovis. He was also appreciative of the fact that so many Commissioners were willing to travel to Clovis to attend the hearing. Udall noted that the fighter wing here has won numerous awards. That wing has been successful because of the realistic training available here as well as the welcome given the airmen and women by the local community. Cannon is valuable to national defense, and it is valuable to the local community. He closed by asking the Commissioners reject the recommendation to close Cannon.

Congresswoman Heather Wilson was the last member of the Congressional delegation to welcome the Commission. She focussed on high military value of Cannon. She explained that when the wing commander told state authorities the Air Force's mission had changed, New Mexico took it upon itself to work with the Air Force to formulate the New Mexico Training Range Initiative (NMTRI). Bases with large ocean training ranges may look good on paper, but they have less real value than land training ranges where targets can be sought and ordnance dropped. It is not reasonable to expect the training range to remain if Cannon closes, and that would be a material loss to the Air Force's ability to provide realistic training. Cannon she said is too valuable to close.

Finally, Lieutenant Governor Diane Denish told the Commission that the level of support for the base is unequaled anywhere in the country. The local and statewide communities support the supersonic training here as well as the protection of this airspace from encroachment. She noted that New Mexico is a small, rural state, and the bases are important to the community here. In closing, the Lieutenant Governor thanked the Commissioners for coming to New Mexico to hear our story.

After all of the welcomes, Randy Harris of the Committee of Fifty began laying out Clovis' case to keep Cannon. In his twenty-five minute presentation, Harris explained that the Department of Defense had made the wrong decision for the future of national defense, that Cannon is a superior aviation base, good for all kinds of aircraft, and that the Department of Defense had deviated from the BRAC criteria by ignoring irreplaceable assets and using data that was incomplete, out of date or simply wrong. He began pointing out problems:

- CAFB controls its own airspace with no restrictions and no commercial traffic, yet it did not get maximum points for that.
- Clovis has 329 days per year of flying weather, yet got the same score as bases in parts of the country with weather problems.
- Only about half of Cannon's airspace was taken into consideration for the scoring
- The hours of operation were underscored.
- The Melrose Bombing Range did not get credit for being a full capability bombing range.
- Cannon was underscored for access to low level flight routes.
- The soon-to-be complete extension of the Clovis municipal runway was not taken into consideration as an auxiliary airfield in support of Cannon.
- Eastern New Mexico has never had a problem whereby the next three closest airfields -- Lubbock, Amarillo, and Roswell -- were too far away to handle the situation.
- Upgrades to the Cannon runway and infrastructure have been completed since the Air Force data was collected five years ago.
- Access to supersonic training space is always available, but it was not counted as such.
- Not all supersonic training areas were counted.
- NMTRI was not included in the Department of Defense analysis.
- The number of acres available for expansion is thirty times higher than the figure given by the Department of Defense.

- Cannon offers the lowest cost per flying hour of any ACC base, yet the Pentagon is proposing to move the F-16s to higher cost bases.
In summation, Harris said that airspace is only as valuable as it is usable, and Cannon has the least restricted airspace in the nation. Moreover, the community has actively worked to increase airspace. This kind of quality airspace and community cooperation cannot be found anywhere else in the nation. Cannon is the ideal base for today and the future.

Hanson Scott, of the New Mexico State Military Base Planning Commission, spoke next and focussed on quality of life issues for servicemen and women, on cost savings, and on Cannon's role in an overall strategic plan. He noted that the Air Force's planned base closures will require service people connected with the F-16 to spend considerably more time at overseas bases. This will reduce quality of life for those service people and reduce retention rates. Moreover, once you account for the cost of supporting people at different bases, there is no cost savings to the Air Force by closing Cannon. Finally, the Department of Defense narrowly considered Cannon as a home for the F-16. It did not consider it as a potential home for any other aircraft, and it is in fact well suited to supporting any number of other craft. It is also ideal for hosting a wide range of joint training opportunities in conjunction with the other military installations in New Mexico and Texas.

Chad Lydick was the final speaker for eastern New Mexico. His presentation focussed on the economic impact of the projected closure. He said that the human dimension of this closure would be "painful." Curry County growth in recent years has been basically flat, and the projected 28.5% job loss in this county alone would be the most damaging economic event in New Mexico history. The additional losses in neighboring counties would only exacerbate the damage. The hospital would have to downsize. Three elementary schools would probably close and 15% of the public school staff would be fired. The housing market would likely be severely damaged for as long as the next 26 years. The local economic impact would be approximately three times that of any other community on the BRAC list.

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07 13 2005

2716 Putnam Drive
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

BRAC Commission

July 7, 2005

JUL 13 2005
Received

The Honorable James Hill
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Regarding: BRAC regional hearing in Clovis, New Mexico

Dear Commissioner Hill,

I would like to thank you for taking the time to come to the BRAC regional hearing in Clovis, New Mexico on June 24. I appreciate you making the time to come out to this remote part of the country. Clovis is a long way from anywhere, and your schedule is clearly very busy. Your attention means so much to this community.

Since your schedule is so full of hearings, I imagine they all must begin to blur. If you don't mind, I would like to be so bold as to send you my notes on the proceedings in Clovis as they pertained to Cannon. Naturally you have the extensive briefing book prepared by Clovis' delegation. I hope my notes will merely help you separate in your memory the arguments made here versus those made at other venues and regarding other sites.

If you will indulge me further, I would like to try to explain something about New Mexico that the delegation did not include. I believe you will see in your briefing book that in the past, eastern New Mexico has donated air and land rights to the Air Force to help the Air Force in its presence here. Similarly, the state is pursuing the New Mexico Training Range Initiative, and the New Mexico Military Base Planning Commission is seeking ways to promote the Air Force's "Concept Development and Experimentation" pillar of its transformation strategy. People here have worked to assist the Air Force, and this is one instance where it is not unreasonable to believe that past developments *are* an indication of future performance.

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Senator Pete Domenici was the first of the New Mexico delegation to speak. On behalf of Curry county, Roosevelt county and the state of New Mexico, the senator expressed his thanks to the Commission for coming to Clovis. He said that this is one of the most important events in the history of the region. Domenici pointed out that the Commission has an "onerous" job, but felt that Clovis' future is in good hands. Having been forced by the BRAC process to examine closely just what kind of job CAFB has been doing for the nation, the Senator is more convinced than ever that Cannon is a valuable an asset to the nation. Although the Department of Defense does a great job, it cannot get every decision right. A mistake was made in this case; Cannon should remain open.

After his comments, Senator Domenici introduced Senator Jeff Bingaman. Senator Bingaman similarly thanked the Commissioners for taking on this duty. The law requires them to consider the economic impact of this closure on the community, and he argured that the impact was underestimated by the Department of Defense. Analysis done by local teams predicts that one in three jobs will be lost as a result of Cannon closing, not one in five as the Department of Defense claims in its report. The characteristics of this area that make this a great home for the Air Force are the very same characteristics that will make it very difficult for the community to recover if the Air Force leaves. Forty years after Walker Air Force Base closed, the city of Roswell has not entirely recovered. To lose another base in eastern New Mexico would have a devastating effect on the region. Senator Bingaman urged the Commission to reject the Pentagon's recommendation to close Cannon.

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2716 Putnam Drive
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

July 7, 2005

BRAC Commission
JUL 1 2 2005
Received

The Honorable Harold W. Gehman, Jr.
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Regarding: BRAC regional hearing in Clovis, New Mexico

Dear Commissioner Gehman,

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BRAC Commission

July 7, 2005

JUL 13 2005
Received

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BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
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BRAC Commission

July 7, 2005

JUL 13 2005

Received

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

Regarding: BRAC regional hearing in Clovis, New Mexico

Dear Commissioner Hansen,

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Since your schedule is so full of hearings, I imagine they all must begin to blur. If you will tolerate yet a bit more bumptious behavior, I would like to be so bold as to send you my notes on the proceedings in Clovis as they pertained to Cannon. Naturally you have the extensive briefing book prepared by Clovis' delegation. I hope my notes will merely help you separate in your memory the arguments made here versus those made at other venues and regarding other sites.

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After his comments, Senator Domenici introduced Senator Jeff Bingaman. Senator Bingaman similarly thanked the Commissioners for taking on this duty. The law requires them to consider the economic impact of this closure on the community, and he argured that the impact was underestimated by the Department of Defense. Analysis done by local teams predicts that one in three jobs will be lost as a result of Cannon closing, not one in five as the Department of Defense claims in its report. The characteristics of this area that make this a great home for the Air Force are the very same characteristics that will make it very difficult for the community to recover if the Air Force leaves. Forty years after Walker Air Force Base closed, the city of Roswell has not entirely recovered. To lose another base in eastern New Mexico would have a devastating effect on the region. Senator Bingaman urged the Commission to reject the Pentagon's recommendation to close Cannon.

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2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
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Commissioner Philip Coyle praised the local delegation for the quality of its presentation and had two questions. First he asked Randy Harris about the source of the inaccurate data and whether the Department of Defense's conclusions were reasonable based on that inaccurate data. Harris said he did not know where the inaccuracies began, but because of the obvious nature of

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2716 Putnam Drive
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

BRAC Commission

JUL 2005

Received
BRAC Commission

July 7, 2005

JUL 13 2005

Received

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

Regarding: BRAC regional hearing in Clovis, New Mexico

Dear Commissioner Coyle,

I would like to thank you for taking the time to come to the BRAC regional hearing in Clovis, New Mexico on June 24. I appreciate you making the time to come out to this remote part of the country. Clovis is a long way from anywhere, and your schedule is clearly very busy. I would particularly like to express my gratitude for the fact that you were clearly here in mind as well as body. Your question of Mr. Harris regarding the source of the incorrect data as well as that of Mr. Scott regarding the lack of cost savings made apparent that you were truly listening. Your attention means so much to this community.

Since your schedule is so full of hearings, I imagine they all must begin to blur. If you don't mind, I would like to be so bold as to send you my notes on the proceedings in Clovis as they pertained to Cannon. Naturally you have the extensive briefing book prepared by Clovis' delegation. I hope my notes will merely help you separate in your memory the arguments made here versus those made at other venues and regarding other sites.

If you will indulge me further, I would like to try to explain something about New Mexico that the delegation did not include. I believe you will see in your briefing book that in the past, eastern New Mexico has donated air and land rights to the Air Force to help the Air Force in its presence here. Similarly, the state is pursuing the New Mexico Training Range Initiative, and the New Mexico Military Base Planning Commission is seeking ways to promote the Air Force's "Concept Development and Experimentation" pillar of its transformation strategy. People here have worked to assist the Air Force, and this is one instance where it is not unreasonable to believe that past developments *are* an indication of future performance.

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July 7, 2005

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

Regarding: BRAC regional hearing in Clovis, New Mexico

Dear Chairman Principi,

I would like to thank you for taking the time to come to the Cannon Air Force Base site visit near Clovis, New Mexico on June 23. I appreciate you making the time to come out to this remote part of the country. Clovis is a long way from anywhere, and your schedule is clearly very busy. Thank you for going out of your way to give our case your attention.

Since you were unable to attend the hearing, I would like to be so bold as to send you my notes on the proceedings as they pertained to Cannon. Naturally you have the briefing book prepared by Clovis' delegation. I hope my notes will help you identify the highlights of the tomes in front of you and give you a flavor of what you missed. I know Clovis was sorry not to have had the opportunity to welcome you here or to show you our appreciation for the job you are doing.

If you will indulge me further, I would like to try to explain something about New Mexico that the delegation did not include. I believe you will see in your briefing book that in the past, eastern New Mexico has donated air and land rights to the Air Force to help the Air Force in its presence here. Similarly, the state is pursuing the New Mexico Training Range Initiative, and the New Mexico Military Base Planning Commission is seeking ways to promote the Air Force's "Concept Development and Experimentation" pillar of its transformation strategy. People here have worked to assist the Air Force, and this is one instance where it is not unreasonable to believe that past developments *are* an indication of future performance.

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BRAC Commission

JUL 12 2005

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July 6, 2005

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

Honorable Commissioner,

This is not another letter telling of the woe and misery that will befall the land, if Cannon Air Force Base is closed. When I drive up to CAFB for groceries, I do so because I feel comfortable in the surroundings that was my home for many years. Since the price of gasoline has gone up past two dollars a gallon, it is a slight economic loss to make the trip. I now seldom go to Cannon AFB to enjoy any of the many fine services it has to offer.

In the last couple of years I have served on the Base Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) and try to keep up the major things on Base.

Attached is a document that I hope will bring into full view two items that have been mentioned before the commission, i.e., the Melrose Bombing Range and the proposed super-sonic Fly-Way.

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July 6, 2005

Commissioner James T. Hill, General, USA (Retired)
The BRAC Commission
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Commissioner Lloyd W. Newton, General, USAF (Retired)
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BRAC Commission

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255 Floyd Golden Circle.
Portales, New Mexico 88130
(505) 356-2099

BRAC Commission
DCN: 4873

JUL 12 2005

Received

Commissioner Harold W. Gehman, Jr. Admiral, USN, (Retired)
The BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark St.
Arlington , VA 22202

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255 Floyd Golden Circle.
Portales, New Mexico 88130
(505) 356-2099

DCN: 4873
BRAC Commission

JUL 12 2005
Received

July 6, 2005

Commissioner Sue E. Turner, Brigadier General, USAF (Retired)
The BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark St.
Arlington , VA 22202

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DCN: 4873

BRAC Commission

JUL 12 2005

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July 6, 2005

Commissioner Samuel K. Skinner
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BRAC Commission

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Lt. Col. USAF, (Retired)

HERE IS THE REAL REASON THAT YOU MUST NOT CLOSE CANNON AFB

About 20 miles west and a little south of Cannon Air Force Base is the Melrose Bombing Range. It is part and parcel tied to Cannon Air Force Base. CAFB supplies the man power, the supplies and all support to the Range. They pay the personnel operating the range, get replacements if needed. The fifty seven employees on the range keep the fences up, stray livestock and people out, and operate the various targeting systems, including the newest, that tell the pilot if his bomb's electronics are homed in on the target. It's a modern range supporting modern munitions as well as a range to score the old "dumb" bombs. The range has some fire fighting capability however if a grass fire get out of control a call to CAFB will bring immediate help, even beaters for the grass fire if necessary. CAFB also monitors the ground water, just to check on possibe contamination. The range cannot function without the support of nearby Cannon Air Force Base.

So you say "We will close the range also." That won't be easy. The Melrose Bombing Range is about as old as CAFB - about 60 years. Although most of the bombs dropped were the sand filled practice bombs with a five pound black powder charge, which if unexploded could still be dangerous. The old style, sheet metal blue practice bombs used in WWII do not fly well dropped by a supersonic jet. Therefore new designs, and new techniques are now used.

I've been told that some real bombs were dropped particularly during and just after World War II. I know from personal experience that there are going to be some that did not explode when they hit for various reasons,

The Range covers a little more than thirty one (!!1) square miles, more than 19,840 acres, that is more than 864,230,400 square feet. Certainly not every square foot has a item of explosive ordnance, but some have been buried so long that evidence of it's entry has been covered by wind, rain and vegetation. That does not mean that the bomb is no longer dangerous. I've read that shells fired in WW I, injure or kill French farmers even in recent times. It follows that if you shut the gate, put a lock on it and go away, we loose control and some person or animal might be injured, even fatally. The only option that we have is to search every square foot of the range before it is turned over to BLM or whatever agency that takes control.

Is it not better to use it for what it has been used for, it is still a very good bombing range.

While almost all of the bombs are concentrated near designated targets, some will have gone far off course, and might be found at the distant edges of the range. Who would want to go onto such a hazardous area? The list is longer than you might think; curiosity seekers, souvenir hunters, game hunters that think the hunting is better inside the fence, scrap metal dealers, and probably ranchers trying to retrieve his strayed livestock let in by the guys just mentioned. Perhaps even terrorists or those that would sell to them. A five hundred or a thousand pound bomb in the back seat of a car or in a pick-up might not be a re-run of Oklahoma City, but this time it probably would be in the nations capital. It would make an awful threat or if detonated near the White House or the Senate Office Building it would likely bring about a catastrophic change of life in the Capitol City.

The range is used by more than one Air Force unit. I'm told that B-1s from Dyess AFB and F-117s from Holloman AFB have used the range, There may be more. It may be an old range but it has been modernized and should be able serve our nation now and far into this century.

Should the decision be made to close the range along with Cannon Air Force base, the decision makers should be made aware of the terrific costs and the length of time it will take. In that case the only option is to remove all unexploded munitions and other hazardous materiels, as well as everything of value because when the people are gone, what is left even if of small value, will probably be on it's way Mexico in just a couple of days. Then we must "clear" the range. It is not going to be easy or inexpensive. I would think that the low bid would be about one dollar per square foot. That means the 31+ square miles of the range could be turned over to civilian use for in the neighborhood of $865,000,000. That is Eight hundred, sixty five million dollars. To this country boy, that sounds like an awful, lot of money. Are you sure that locking the gate to Cannon Air Force Base and loosing all of it's good facities as well as paying out that great sum of money is the right thing to do?

What about transfering the range to some other organization? That would not be a problem if the new owner furnished the same kind of support to the range that is now supplied by Cannon AFB Where would they go to find people trained to operate the targeting equipment and to do emergency EOD work. Then they have find a place to house them feed them pay them, etc. Seems like they need an Air Force Base operating full time, such as Cannon AFB. That doesn't sound like something the New Mexico Air National Guard can take on. Then who else might it be?

Closing Cannon Air Force Base is losing a valuable asset. As the old saying goes "If it ain't broke, don't fix it". Let's keep Cannon Air Force Base open and supporting The Melrose Bombing Range, They are both valuable assets.

There is another reason that should be considered. There is a proposal for the formation of a supersonic fly-way, oriented southwest to northeast, the northeastern end to be fifty or so miles southwest of Cannon Air Force Base. Positive control and communication must be in effect at all times. In that closing speeds of aircraft approaching each other from the other end might be in the excess of much more than 1,000 MPH, positive full time communication with a controlling authority is mandatory at all times. Cannon AFB is the only Air Force base in a geographical position to set up a satisfactory control, of the kind of air space suitable for this kind of fly-way.

Cannon Air Force Base is close enough to the proposed fly-way that a jet swallows a buzzard, it he might with a little luck make it back to Cannon AFB. If there is an accident on the fly-way Cannon is close enough to get to the site in a hurry. Rescue from another base could take an hour, probably much more, which conceivably might be too late for a badly injured pilot.

I would suggest that instead of closing Cannon, send in another wing, there is room on the base and in the cities nearby. Simply put, closing Cannon Air Force Base is a bad idea.

David B. Grumig
Lt. Col. USAF (Ret)

255 Floyd Golden Circle.
Portales, New Mexico 88130
(505) 356-2099

FROM THE DESK OF
Sheila A. Gray

07132005

06 July 2005

The Honorable BRAC Commissioners,

I am writing to you concerning an issue of great importance to some men and women of the 117th Air Refueling Wing in Birmingham, Alabama.

First of all, allow me to recognize that the nine-member BRAC commission has an awesome responsibility of examining and analyzing the information created by members of the Pentagon and submitted by Secretary of Defense Rumsfeld. I would also like to recognize the fact that the Pentagon had approximately 2 ½ years to compile data, analyze, and recommend changes to our military structure with the goal of creating a much leaner and more effective fighting force. The BRAC Commission also bears the responsibility of ciphering through all of the data (right and wrong), correct misinformation given, and makes the appropriate recommendations to President Bush. The last thing I would like to recognize is that in researching the data given, and if it appears to be wrong, the Commission must research and acquire the correct data, and make the appropriate changes in the recommendations. The Commission has less than four months to go through 2 ½ years of data presumably done by the Pentagon. I do not need to tell you that finding wrong data takes away needed time that could be better served analyzing the remainder of the report.

According to the Base Realignment and Closure Report, 183 men and women of the 117th Air Refueling Wing are scheduled to lose their full-time jobs as "Technicians" (Federal Employees) and their military positions (drill status). Many other "drill status" personnel who have other professions will also lose their positions at the Unit. This will bring the total number of losing personnel up to over 500. The base will lose all nine of the KC-135R Stratotankers. There will be no replacement aircraft.

Please allow me to give you a little history of the 117th Air Refueling Wing. The Birmingham Unit was formed in 1919 originally to promote aviation in the city of Birmingham and the State of Alabama and was federally recognized as a flying unit in 1922 as the 135th Observation Squadron. Over the course of many decades, the 117th ARW has seen many missions and changes. However, it has never been a unit without an aviation mission. Some of the more memorable activations include the attack on Pearl Harbor, at which time the Unit performed anti-submarine patrol. Later, the unit served as part of the 42nd Bombardment Group. It was redesignated the 100th Bombardment Squadron which later established a brilliant war record and was presented a Presidential Unit Citation for outstanding performance of duty in action against the enemy. The 117th was activated during the Korean War, The Berlin Crisis, the Bay of Pigs, and also made history for all Air National Guard Units in the United States. Please refer to the following website to read the rich history of the117th Air Refueling Wing for a more in-depth review at http://www.globalsecurity.org/military/agency/usaf/117arw.htm.

In 1990, the Unit deployed to the United Arab Emirates in support of Desert Shield and Desert Storm and conducted reconnaissance missions. The Unit suffered two of the first casualties of the war.

Honorable Commission, when the 117th Air Refueling Wing converted from the RF4C Reconnaissance Aircraft to the KC-135 Stratotanker in 1994, the base accepted the 24- hour, seven day per week Command Post tasking. Many millions of dollars ($73,000,000) and thousands of hours were spent in the conversion process, which took several years to complete.

I do realize that for the most part, it is about money and global strategy, however, the yearly savings for the realignment of the 117th ARW is calculated at $23,000 when all is said and done. This is a net savings of $460,000 over the next twenty years. I am reminded of what Secretary of Defense, Donald Rumsfeld said on Thursday, May 12, 2005. He said that the closures and realignments recommended would be based on what bases have accomplished, missions, and what they have done to contribute to the fight in the global

war against terror. I do not remember his exact words. However, it gave me the impression that basically, if the bases earned their keep, they would survive.

Grant it, the Unit is not closing, but the KC-135R Stratotankers have been fulfilling a vital role in the global theater of operations since 1994. The ramp was rebuilt to hold twelve Stratotankers. The Unit has two new hangers to support and maintain them. The Base can actually accommodate 13 aircraft. To move them will waste the talents of those who fly and maintain them. According to the BRAC Report, Birmingham (63) scored higher than McGhee-Tyson (74) and much higher than Bangor (123) in military value with Phoenix (37) scoring the highest. I do not understand why the military value matters for one base and does not matter for others. How does "military judgment" argue in favor of retaining and adding force structure to Phoenix-Sky Harbor, Bangor, and McGhee-Tyson to increase their overall effectiveness when Birmingham already has all of the above and can support four additional aircraft? McGhee-Tyson has available capacity, as does Birmingham, however they have the KC-135E model Stratotanker aircraft, which are very high maintenance. Yes, they do have experience in maintaining the outdated aircraft, however Birmingham has the overwhelming experience in the maintenance of the updated model aircraft. The report also indicated that McGhee-Tyson personnel have experience in the operation and maintenance of the older aircraft. What constitutes an older aircraft? Is a 1957 model old? The 117th aircraft airframes are almost 50 years old, but have been modernized for today's global operations. All "gaining" Units personnel would have to be trained. Birmingham already has the force structure, newer updated aircraft, much lower maintenance, and trained and experienced Air National Guard personnel to fly, maintain, and support the overall force structure of the Air National Guard.

In addition, the Birmingham Airport Authority is currently implementing a $43 million plan to add 2000 feet to the east-west runway. The 12,000-foot extended runway will be completed and operational at the end of 2006. The extended runway and low-field elevation allows optimum tanker operations by a substantial payload increase, thus increasing airlift capability to current theater operations. I believe the DOD erred when it did not take this factor into consideration when the recommendations were made. Enclosed, you will find three maps showing the global reach capabilities of the 117th ARW.

Further more, Birmingham is the only tanker unit that is co-located with one of three KC-135 Depot repair facility (PEMCO). The 117th does provide aircrew augmentation and has proposed to assume the flight test mission. In effect, the DOD could do away with active duty aircrew that has to be sent and stationed in Birmingham.

In much of my research of the DOD recommendations and based on my interpretations, there appears to be a substantial deviation from the BRAC Act of 1990. The DOD seems to have disregarded the mission capability and infrastructure of the KC-135R Air National Guard Units. The DOD failed to consider Birmingham's mission capabilities and existing infrastructure. Why take the updated planes, equipment, and infrastructure of the six "R" model tanker units and spend money to create seven "R" model units? Better yet, why close or realign Air National Guard units at all? The Guard does 34% of the total mission with 7.2% of the DOD budget. Who can argue with that? The Guard has been, is, and will continue to be the best bargain the DOD has.

In addition, the DOD's "military value" seems to disregard the tanker aircraft from air sovereignty alert requirements, yet the 117th ARW accepted the 24-hour, 7 day per week alert tasking since 9/11. The fighter capabilities are nothing without the tanker mission.

Most of those people will not be able to move to where the airplanes are going nor will they be able to transfer to other areas of the state. Money will have to be spent to train local people to those units gaining our aircraft and retrain those people who are already trained that are affected by the realignment. This does not include all of the drill status personnel who have other civilian jobs. They are "citizen soldiers" as well. This is going to affect nearly one half of the base personnel, not just the 183 people indicated in the BRAC report. Many hundreds of employers have been very supportive of our Guard troops in their deployment missions. Now they are also going to be asked to wait again as their employees are retrained into other career fields. I am not including the fact that member spouses have careers and their children are in schools ranging from pre-school to college. Many members are less than five years away from retirement and

many spouses are close to retirement from their civilian professions. This realignment will delay many families' retirement plans. This does not include the recruitment and retention issue if the base is realigned as an "enclave", solely with ECS personnel.

It also would not be fair for me not to mention the drill-status personnel that attend weekend drills and active duty requirements and stay in hotels and live on the local economy while fulfilling their military obligations as citizen soldiers. That aspect of the economic impact on the community is also not addressed in the BRAC report.

To me, the planes, missions, and the men and women who have dedicated themselves and sacrificed their time away from their homes and families are worth much more than the $23,000 yearly savings that is projected if this RIF takes place (just don't fill an administrative position for that matter). They have done everything they have been tasked to do. The Unit has volunteered to do everything that has been asked and then some. The Unit has also been in the forefront of every recent contingency operation. The Unit is always the first to be called upon in the State of Alabama and one of the first in the country to be called when a serious incident occurs. The Guard and Reserve forces do not just "backfill" for the active duty forces. They work along side of them. The active duty arena even sends their personnel to Air Guard Units to be trained and proficient in their jobs. Even though these decisions are way above my pay grade, but based on my direct observations, the realignment plans for the 117th Air Refueling Wing does not make good strategic sense. The contributions of the personnel of the 117th ARW to the safety, security, and well being to this country in the fight against terror cannot be measured.

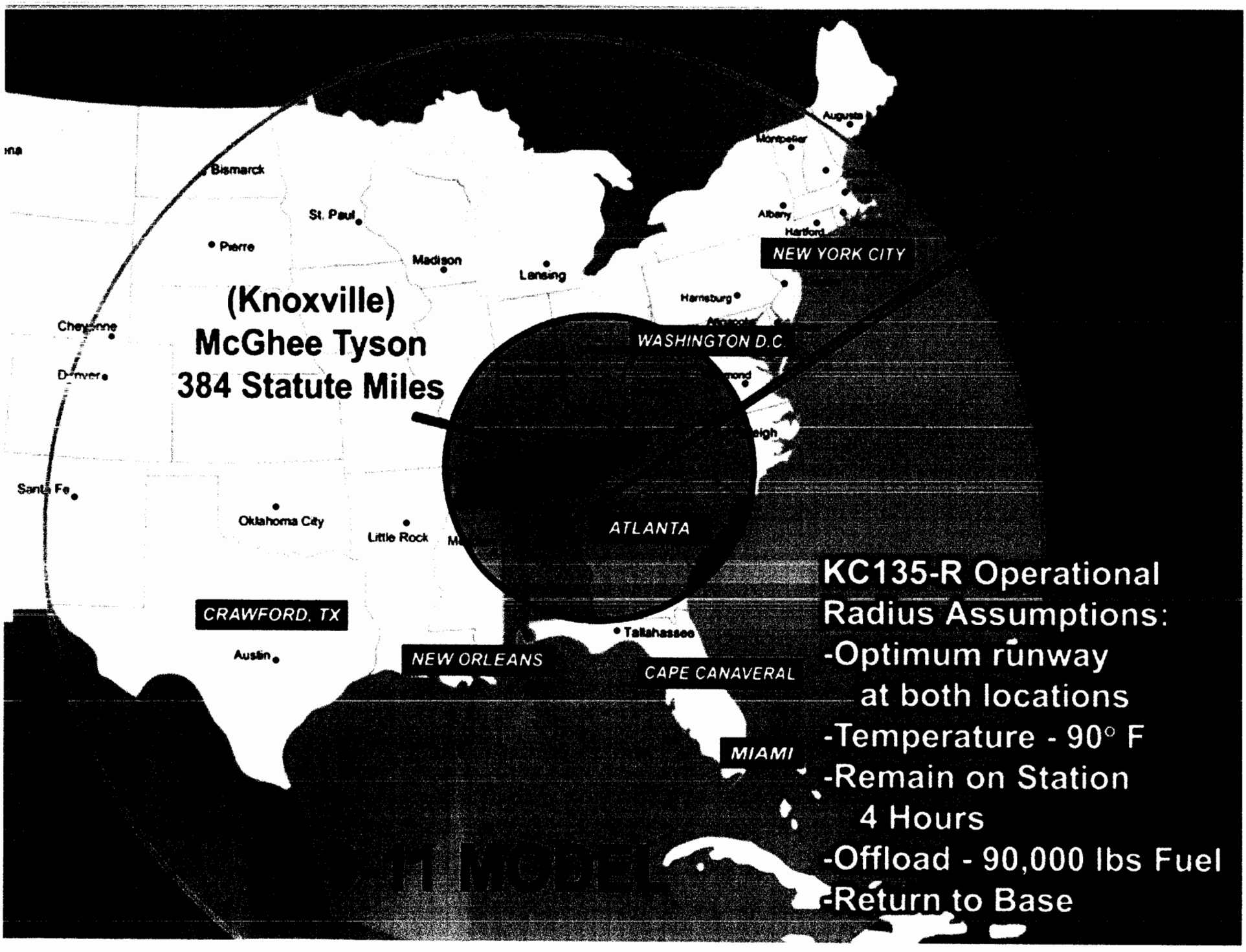
Honorable Commission, I respectfully request that you take up the fight. The personnel are not just numbers. They are real people who have faithfully supported their unit, city, state, and our Nation. It is difficult for the members of the Alabama Air National Guard to understand why the "powers that be" are always thanking them yet, in the same breath telling them they are not worthy of existence. The 117th Air Refueling Wing is mission capable, mission ready, and in the end, the mission is always accomplished.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Sheila A. Gray

Sheila A. Gray



KC135-R Operational Radius Assumptions:

- -Optimum runway at both locations
- -Temperature - 90° F
- -Remain on Station 4 Hours
- -Offload - 90,000 lbs Fuel
- -Return to Base

DCN: 4873

PACIFIC REACH
(Non-Stop)

KC-135R Departing For Guam
With 29,000lbs Cargo or 29,000lb Fuel Offload

6271 Statute Miles

A KC-135R Departing From
McGhee Tyson ArrivesThis Point
With 20 000 lbs Fuel Remaining

Hawaii

Wake Island

Guam

7852 Statute Miles

DCN: 4873

KC-135R Departing For Al-Udeid
With 33,000lbs Cargo Or Fuel Offload
5973 Statute Miles
A KC-135R Departing From
McGhee Tyson ArrivesThis Point
With 20 000 lbs Fuel Remaining
Iran
Libya
GLOBAL REACH
Persian Gulf Region
Qatar
7547 Statute Miles

DCN: 4873

DCN: 4873

BRAC Commission

JUL 12 2005

Received

Leutenant General CJ LeVan, USA (Ret.)
4505 N. 37th St.
Arlington, VA 22207

8 July, 2005

Secretary Anthony J. Principi
Chairman
2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 S. Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Mr. Secretary,

I am a retired Army Air Defense officer, who served on active duty from 1942 to 1978 and I write this letter to express my serious concern with the BRAC proposal which relocates the Army Air Defense School and Center from Ft. Bliss, TX to Ft. Sill, OK. I have been stationed at both Ft. Bliss and Ft. Sill and my concerns are not based upon political, branch capabilities, or other similar issues but on maintaining the correct capabilities of the Air Defense Artillery to provide highly critical national and theater operational air and missile defense.

I first served at Ft. Bliss as an air defense lieutenant from 1944 to 1946 and as an aide to the Deputy Commanding General, and last served there as the Commanding General from 1973 to 1976. Air Defense Artillery, and in particular, the more critical Air Defense Missile units, require such large target operational and Air Defense fire unit engagement testing and training areas that the Army Air Defense units and command elements were relocated to Ft. Bliss from Camp Davis, NC and other stations in the mid to late 1940's. Ft. Bliss, as an early cavalry, later armored, post had the large firing and maneuver areas required for Air Defense to mature and maintain its capabilities to meet the advancing air and missile threat. Additionally, the White Sands Missile Range, a missile and other test and development range, is adjacent and available, capable of providing expanded range support and, importantly, early air Defense interaction with advancing potential threats and systems.

In the early 1950's, Ft. Bliss was officially selected by DoD as the home of the Army Air Defense forces.

Ft. Sill training and operational areas are totally inadequate for the vital training and test operations required to maintain the critical effectiveness of Army Air Defense. Such a move would seriously erode the Army's national and operational defense capabilities.

The criticality of loosing necessary test, service practice, and operational training areas for Army Air Defense is aggravated by the necessity to respond to rapidly evolving and changing threats which must be engaged under a variety of different operational situations such as recently experienced in operations Desert Storm and Operation Iraqi

Freedom. These are examples which presented a wide range of defense operational situations. The ability to training and prepare adequately for these situations is vital as the success of PAC-3 reflected.

Air Defense Artillery is becoming even more critically important to these future military operations areas across the spectrum of conflict which is becoming widely variable. This creates an even greater priority for the facilities to both test responses and to train to rapidly accommodate new situations and systems.

The need for an adequate Air Defense Center will be even further stretched by the addition of new systems such as the MEADS, the national ground based midcourse Strategic Missile deployment, and others. The need to preserve, and maintain adequate training facilities is critical to these important future systems and deployments. It is most doubtful that the facilities at Ft. Sill could provide such support.

Movement to Ft. Sill with its very limited training and operational exercise facilities - which are virtually non-existent for Air Defense Systems - would seriously erode combat readiness and capabilities of the Air Defense Units and the deployment of air defense weapons.

As noted earlier, Ft. Bliss. served both as an Air Defense and an Armored unit station. During my tenure as Commander, Ft. Bliss, the 3rd Armored cavalry regiment was stationed at Ft. Bliss. The joint air defense and armored cavalry relationship, and use of Ft. Bliss facilities, were effective and efficient, and in total harmony.

I understand the First Armored Division, returning from Germany, will be stationed at Ft. Bliss. Experience has shown the efficiency and harmony of such dual stationing, to include the joint use of range and other facilities, can be achieved.

And finally, and most important, the housing and troop support facilities at Ft. Bliss are capable of providing not only training and operational support but housing and high quality soldier support on a large troop strength scale. The adequacy at Ft Sill may be less satisfactory and limited. We must take care of the soldier!

In sum, the need for the air and missile defense forces to maintain stationing at Ft. Bliss to meet the demanding readiness capabilities necessary to provide both combat area and national defense support is vital to critical defense mission needs. Movement to Ft. Sill could result in loss of such capabilities, or serious reduction of these capabilities, to perform the noted national defense missions and emergencies.

Mr. Secretary, I fully recognize the seriousness, enormity, and difficulty of the BRAC task you have before you. However, I would recommend that you investigate other alternatives not involving the re-stationing of the air Defense Center and School. As noted, Ft. Bliss has been operated efficiently and harmoniously as a joint air defense and armor brigade station.

DCN: 4873

Relocation of the Army Center and School to Ft. Sill would have a serious negative impact of the air and missile defense capabilities of the Army, to include the well being and readiness to fight of the air defense soldier. The national and theater army air and missile defenses could be seriously eroded in capability.

Most Sincerely,

CJ LeVan

DCN: 4873

5/23/2005

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

Jill Tatum

PO Box 546

Melrose, NM 88124

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to take this time to impress on you the importance of allowing Cannon Air Force Base to remain open. I personally have a son-in-law deployed through the National Guard to Washington, helping to keep America Safe. My daughter, his wife would not be able to take advantage of the benefits due her while he is deployed if Cannon was not here. I know there are many more individuals in the same situation that most likely need the services more than she. This would be a travesty to take it away.

Clovis and the surrounding communities would be devastated if Cannon is closed. We have supported Cannon through the following ways and much more that is too long to list.

- 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.

Cannon Air Base offers the following reasons why it should be left 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 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.

I understand the terrible burden you are under with these difficult decisions. I do not believe you will find another Air Base with as much room to grow, the ability to become more war ready, the ability to serve the military retirees and deployed men and women's spouses and families, with as much community support as Cannon Air Force Base.

Please find it in your wisdom to leave Cannon Air Base open and expand it to its full potential.

Thank You,

Jill Tatum

RECEIVED
06022005

DCN: 4873

Dear Brac Commission,

I know that you are now going to be flooded with letters from our community, asking you to remove Cannon Air Force Base, in Clovis New Mexico. from your list of bases you have chosen to close, I can only pray that you will take the time to read all of our heartfelt letters.

Cannon Air Force Base should not be closed, we do meet the criteria that you are asking for. Our base has an abundance of air space. I know this is so very important, because our pilots need the training in order to protect our country. The air space here provides them with ample flying space to accomplish this. We have NO encroachment issues. I see this as being very important.

Once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is implemented, we will be able to offer our pilots at Cannon Air Force Base the ability to fly supersonic during training missions. I know you realize the importance of this, because it allow the Air Force to better train for real-life situations. With the terrorism threats against us I see this is as a very important factor for keeping us off of the to be closed list. Also look at our weather here in Clovis New Mexico our pilots are able to fly year round. They can train 12 months out of the year, and they are ready at a moments notice to go into combat as needed.

We have the Melrose bombing range, this is only seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon Air Force Base. This gives our pilots the opportunity to immediately begin training missions without being airborne for any long period of time just to get to their training. I see this as very important, look at the money that is saved in jet fuel because the training field is only seconds away.

Cannon Air Force Base has plenty of space and facilities to accommodate joint war fighting, training and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon Air Force Base and the U.S. Navy.

Cannon Air Force Base also has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations. This is a must.

Because of our availability of air space surrounding Cannon Air Force Base and our ideal year round weather makes Cannon Air Force Base the PERFECT candidate to support future training missions for the F-22Joint Strike Fighter and other military air craft.

The relationship between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding towns, Clovis, Portales, even West Texas and others is unlike any other installation in the country. Many military retirees live here in Clovis, Portales, West Texas, this includes Lubbock and Amarillo these are men and women who have fought for our country to keep us the free country we are. Cannon Air Force Base is the base they rely on to receive their health care, and they do their shopping here. Please don't make these men and women loose the only base facilities in this area. There is no other base they can turn to in our area. They

served our country in war and in peace. They have put their lives on the line for our country, to close Cannon Air Force Base will cause the veterans to suffer and I don't think they should have to go through this after all that they have done for this country.

In the early 90"s Curry County, in conjunction with the state of New Mexico, purchased air easements around Cannon Air Force Base and in turn WE GAVE THIS TO THE BASE, We didn't sell it to make money off of the government we simply gave it to them. We love our base and we know how important our base is not to just this community but to the safety of our country. Our local community also purchased the land north of Cannon Air Force Base, and again we didn't sell this to make money off of the government WE GAVE IT BACK TO CANNON AIR FORCE BASE, so that they could have additional base housing now known as Chavez Manor.

Within just the past few years our community purchased land west of Cannon Air Force Base and again No we did not sell this to them to get money from the government WE GAVE IT TO CANNON AIR FORCE BASE, we gave this so that they could use is for the installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway at the base.

Leaders here in our community spear-headed the effort to expand and convert the air space to supersonic capability through New Mexico Training Range Initiative. I think our community has proven what we are willing to do for our Country by showing what we have done for Cannon Air Force Base. I will not go into all of the awards that Cannon Air Force Base has won a total of 29 since 2003. I am sure one of the many letters you receive from us will tell you of the awards Cannon Air Force Base has won.

I have lived here in Clovis New Mexico for over 15 years now. I don't know if you have a full understanding of #1 how supportive our community is to our base,
we have proven this by purchasing land and simply giving it to them. We could have sold it and tried to make money off of our base, but we chose to give it to them. The whole community stands behind this decision. And #2 if you close this base you will devastate the economy here, not just the city of Clovis New Mexico but ALL surrounding areas. I personally have over ½ my life invested in my home. My home is my security for my retirement years, if you close this base, the value of my home drops, therefore the value of my own future drops too, and this is not just me this is for many of the citizens in this whole area. I believe the facts that I have shown you in this letter shows you that Cannon Air Force Base is not only important to our community it is very essential for our country. WHY? Because we have the flying space to train our pilots, we have the year round weather they can fly 12 months out of the year, we have the facilities needed to bring in any aircraft you choose to send here and we meet your criteria of keeping this base open.

PLEASE reconsider and take Cannon Air Force Base off your list of bases to be closed. WE the community stand in unity behind our base, not just for ourselves but for the safety of our country. Our community needs Cannon Air Force Base and so does The United States of America!

DCN: 4873

Thank-you for taking the time to read this letter, may God Bless You.

Sincerely,

Sue McCutchan

Sue McCutchan

DCN: 4873

May 23, 2005

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

Joy Eilenstine
112 Cactus Drive
Clovis, NM 88101

Dear Sir(s) or Madam,

I am writing to you voice my concerns as a resident of Clovis, New Mexico. I have lived in Clovis for 7 years. My husband and I moved here due to the military. At first, I thought why would they move us here, of all places. But as the months went by and the months turned into years, this town and it's people have grown on us. I have never been in a community where you are greeted with open arms. You are treated like one of their own. I feel, a large part of this comes from military retirees that have decided to stay here and call Clovis their home, joined with the native Clovis residents.

Moving on, I feel that Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure. The base has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides the pilots with safer and more training scenarios. The bombing range is just down the road from the base, accessible within minutes of the base. The availability of air space and ideal flying weather would make Cannon Air Force Base a perfect candidate to support future missions for other aircraft. Where can you have ideal weather 96 out of 100 days? The relationship between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding communities; Clovis, Portales, West Texas, and others, is unlike any other installation in the country. These communities want the base here. Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas (including Lubbock and Amarillo) are home to a large retiree population. These people rely on Cannon Air Force base for healthcare, grocery shopping, and for most there is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

I also feel that the closure of Cannon Air Force Base would hurt the surrounding communities more than any of us have begun to realize. I believe the blow would be felt all over the communities. From that small business to Wal-Mart, Lowe's, Hobby Lobby, to mention a few,

from the car dealerships to the gas stations. The Real Estate and Construction companies would be affected a great deal. There are two elementary schools that have more than 90% military children attending these schools. What will happen to these schools, the teachers and administrators who are employed at these schools? I am sure that the other schools will be affected as well. The list is too long to mention all that would be affected by this closure.

Please reconsider the decision to close Cannon Air Force Base. This base is worth saving, there is room for growth, there is no encroachment issues, the community This base and its surrounding communities are good examples of "Home Town America".

Sincerely Yours,

Joy Eilenstine

Joy Eilenstine

RECEIVED
06022005

DCN: 4873

1808 Jonquil Park Dr
Clovis NM 88101
May 22, 2005

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

Dear Honorable Philip Coyle

The closing of CAFB will be devastating to New Mexico and West Texas. It would definately affect my life.

My family and I are not military, but CAFB touches our lives. We have been involved with Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts, and the United Way. A closure would significantly hurt these community organization and their functionng. We need Cannon.

Please take Cannon off the list!

Sincerely,
Dianna Thompson

DCN: 4873

May 20, 2005

RECEIVED
06022005

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

Brittni Page
Concerned Clovis Citizen

DCN: 4873

RECEIVED
06022005

May 22, 2005

Mr. John K. Rebman
3604 Lew Wallace Drive
Clovis, NM 88101

General (Ret.) Lloyd "Fig" Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark Street
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Newton,

I am writing to point out the mistake the BRAC recommendation team made when they identified Cannon Air Force Base for closure. You have the power to rectify this terrible mistake. I've worked at Cannon as an Environmental Engineer in the 2004 Best Small Civil Engineer Squadron in the US Air Force. This award was the result of many civilians and military personnel who look at Cannon and the surrounding communities as their home. We have busted our butts to improve the place we work, live, and raise our families. As an Environmental Engineer, this has meant ensuring our land, water, and air space is protected.

When you visit, you'll get a sense of who we are. What we aren't is a political tool for an administration set on arbitrarily closing Cannon just because it's easy or convenient. I understand the BRAC recommendation team was told not to consider our New Mexico Training Range Initiative, which expands our air space and allows for supersonic training. If true, this smacks of politics; not of saving taxpayer money. Credibility in this life-altering process is critical in order to achieve a degree of acceptance. I've heard the airfield may remain active to make use of the expanded airspace and supersonic training. The message this would send is this: the lives people have built are unimportant and communities that welcomed the military for 60 years are on their own.

You know the reasons why Cannon should stay open. They are numerous. You'll see endless expanses for training; great weather; a bombing range mere seconds away; a flight line and maintenance facilities capable of supporting many more aircraft; countless Environmental Impact Statements that identify initiatives with no adverse impact on our natural resources; and a base that has very few environmental concerns. There are 20 civilians in my office dedicated to ensuring Cannon personnel protect our environment. Keeping bases with large cleanup costs active in lieu of "clean" bases should not be a factor in this process. If it is, bases with small cleanup costs should stay open as the concerns they pose to their local communities pales compared to those "military bases who think they don't need to follow the law like the rest of us."

Again, you have the power and responsibility to correct a wrong. I look forward to your visit. Be prepared to learn why closing Cannon is a terrible mistake.

Sincerely,

John K. Rebman

JOHN K. REBMAN

DCN: 4873

May 22, 2005

Mr. John K. Rebman
3604 Lew Wallace Drive
Clovis, NM 88101

RECEIVED
06 02 2005

Mr. Anthony J. Principi
BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark Street
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Principi,

I am writing to point out the mistake the BRAC recommendation team made when they identified Cannon Air Force Base for closure. You have the power to rectify this terrible mistake. I've worked at Cannon as an Environmental Engineer in the 2004 Best Small Civil Engineer Squadron in the US Air Force. This award was the result of many civilians and military personnel who look at Cannon and the surrounding communities as their home. We have busted our butts to improve the place we work, live, and raise our families. As an Environmental Engineer, this has meant ensuring our land, water, and air space is protected.

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Sincerely,

John K. Rebman

JOHN K. REBMAN

DCN: 4873

RECEIVED
06022005

May 22, 2005

Mr. John K. Rebman
3604 Lew Wallace Drive
Clovis, NM 88101

Admiral (Ret.) Harold W. Gehman, Jr.
BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark Street
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Gehman,

I am writing to point out the mistake the BRAC recommendation team made when they identified Cannon Air Force Base for closure. You have the power to rectify this terrible mistake. I've worked at Cannon as an Environmental Engineer in the 2004 Best Small Civil Engineer Squadron in the US Air Force. This award was the result of many civilians and military personnel who look at Cannon and the surrounding communities as their home. We have busted our butts to improve the place we work, live, and raise our families. As an Environmental Engineer, this has meant ensuring our land, water, and air space is protected.

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Sincerely,

John K. Rebman

JOHN K. REBMAN

DCN: 4873

RECEIVED
06 02 2005

May 22, 2005

Mr. John K. Rebman
3604 Lew Wallace Drive
Clovis, NM 88101

Mr. Philip Coyle
BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark Street
Arlington, VA 22202

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Sincerely,

John K. Rebman

JOHN K. REBMAN

DCN: 4873

RECEIVED
06 02 2005

May 22, 2005

Mr. John K. Rebman
3604 Lew Wallace Drive
Clovis, NM 88101

Representative James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark Street
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Bilbray,

I am writing to point out the mistake the BRAC recommendation team made when they identified Cannon Air Force Base for closure. You have the power to rectify this terrible mistake. I've worked at Cannon as an Environmental Engineer in the 2004 Best Small Civil Engineer Squadron in the US Air Force. This award was the result of many civilians and military personnel who look at Cannon and the surrounding communities as their home. We have busted our butts to improve the place we work, live, and raise our families. As an Environmental Engineer, this has meant ensuring our land, water, and air space is protected.

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Sincerely,

John K. Rebman

JOHN K. REBMAN

DCN: 4873

RECEIVED
06022005

May 22, 2005

Mr. John K. Rebman
3604 Lew Wallace Drive
Clovis, NM 88101

Representative James V. Hansen
BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark Street
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Hansen,

I am writing to point out the mistake the BRAC recommendation team made when they identified Cannon Air Force Base for closure. You have the power to rectify this terrible mistake. I've worked at Cannon as an Environmental Engineer in the 2004 Best Small Civil Engineer Squadron in the US Air Force. This award was the result of many civilians and military personnel who look at Cannon and the surrounding communities as their home. We have busted our butts to improve the place we work, live, and raise our families. As an Environmental Engineer, this has meant ensuring our land, water, and air space is protected.

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Sincerely,

John K. Rebman

JOHN K. REBMAN

DCN: 4873

RECEIVED
06022005

May 22, 2005

Mr. John K. Rebman
3604 Lew Wallace Drive
Clovis, NM 88101

Mr. Samuel Knox Skinner
BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark Street
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Skinner,

I am writing to point out the mistake the BRAC recommendation team made when they identified Cannon Air Force Base for closure. You have the power to rectify this terrible mistake. I've worked at Cannon as an Environmental Engineer in the 2004 Best Small Civil Engineer Squadron in the US Air Force. This award was the result of many civilians and military personnel who look at Cannon and the surrounding communities as their home. We have busted our butts to improve the place we work, live, and raise our families. As an Environmental Engineer, this has meant ensuring our land, water, and air space is protected.

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Sincerely,

John K. Rebman

JOHN K. REBMAN

DCN: 4873

RECEIVED
06 02 2005

May 22, 2005

Mr. John K. Rebman
3604 Lew Wallace Drive
Clovis, NM 88101

General (Ret.) James T. Hill
BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark Street
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Hill,

I am writing to point out the mistake the BRAC recommendation team made when they identified Cannon Air Force Base for closure. You have the power to rectify this terrible mistake. I've worked at Cannon as an Environmental Engineer in the 2004 Best Small Civil Engineer Squadron in the US Air Force. This award was the result of many civilians and military personnel who look at Cannon and the surrounding communities as their home. We have busted our butts to improve the place we work, live, and raise our families. As an Environmental Engineer, this has meant ensuring our land, water, and air space is protected.

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Again, you have the power and responsibility to correct a wrong. I look forward to your visit. Be prepared to learn why closing Cannon is a terrible mistake.

Sincerely,

John K. Rebman

JOHN K. REBMAN

DCN: 4873

May 22, 2005

Mr. John K. Rebman
3604 Lew Wallace Drive
Clovis, NM 88101

RECEIVED
06022005

BGen (Ret.) Sue Ellen Turner
BRAC Commission
2521 S. Clark Street
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Commissioner Turner,

I am writing to point out the mistake the BRAC recommendation team made when they identified Cannon Air Force Base for closure. You have the power to rectify this terrible mistake. I've worked at Cannon as an Environmental Engineer in the 2004 Best Small Civil Engineer Squadron in the US Air Force. This award was the result of many civilians and military personnel who look at Cannon and the surrounding communities as their home. We have busted our butts to improve the place we work, live, and raise our families. As an Environmental Engineer, this has meant ensuring our land, water, and air space is protected.

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Again, you have the power and responsibility to correct a wrong. I look forward to your visit. Be prepared to learn why closing Cannon is a terrible mistake.

Sincerely,

John K. Rebman

JOHN K. REBMAN

DCN: 4873

May 27, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06022005

Dear Commissioner Skinner:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED
06022005

The Honorable Samuel Skinner
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Dear Commissioner Skinner:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED
06022005

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

Dear Commissioner Skinner:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED
06022005

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

Dear Commissioner Skinner:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED
06022005

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

Dear Chairman Principi:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED
06022005

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.

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
1708 Arcineiga Dr.
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4873

Donna Smith
1078 CR U
Clovis, NM 88101

RECEIVED
06022005

May 27, 2005

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

Dear Chairman Principi:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED
06022005

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

RE: Closure of Cannon AFB

Dear Chairman Principi:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06022005

Dear Chairman Principi:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06022005

Dear Commissioner Coyle:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED
06022005

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

Dear Chairman Principi:

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: 4873

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.

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06022005

Dear Commissioner Skinner:

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: 4873

Donna Smith
1078 CR U
Clovis, NM 88101

RECEIVED
06022005

May 27, 2005

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

Dear Commissioner Skinner:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED
06022005

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

Dear Commissioner Skinner:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06022005

RE: Closure of Cannon AFB

Dear Commissioner Skinner:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED
06022005

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

Dear Commissioner Skinner:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED
06022005

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

Dear Brigadier General Turner:

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
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: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED
06022005

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

Regarding: Removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list

Dear Chairman Principi:

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

Larissa J. Garza
Clovis, New Mexico

DCN: 4873

RECEIVED
06022005

May 27, 2005

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

Regarding: Removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list

Dear Chairman Principi:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED
06022005

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

Dear Chairman Principi:

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.
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- 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: 4873

May 27, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06022005

Dear Chairman Principi:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

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

RECEI

06022005

Dear Brigadier General Turner:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED

06022005

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

Regarding: Removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list

Dear Commissioner Skinner:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06022005

Dear Commissioner Skinner:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED
06022005
06022005

Honorable Samuel K Skinner
Chairman, BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark St, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Regarding: Removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list

Dear Mr. Skinner:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06022005

Regarding: Removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list

Dear Commissioner Skinner:

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

Larissa J. Garza
Clovis, New Mexico

DCN: 4873

May 27, 2005

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

06022005

Dear Commissioner Skinner:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06022005

Dear Commissioner Skinner:

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: 4873

May 31, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06022005

Dear Commissioner Hansen:

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.
- 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 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.

Based on the stated future goals for our Armed Forces, not only should Cannon be pulled from the BRAC closure list, but it should also be targeted for expansion. 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,

Jack Nuttall

Jack Nuttall
3717 Nancy Lopez
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4873

May 31, 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.
- 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 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.
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- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations
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Sincerely,

Jack Nuttall

Jack Nuttall
3717 Nancy Lopez
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06022005

Dear Commissioner Skinner:

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.
- 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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- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations
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Based on the stated future goals for our Armed Forces, not only should Cannon be pulled from the BRAC closure list, but it should also be targeted for expansion. 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,

Jack Nuttall
3717 Nancy Lopez
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED

06022005

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

Dear Brigadier General Turner:

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.
- 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 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.

Based on the stated future goals for our Armed Forces, not only should Cannon be pulled from the BRAC closure list, but it should also be targeted for expansion. 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,

Jack Nuttall
3717 Nancy Lopez
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06022005

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.
- 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 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.

Based on the stated future goals for our Armed Forces, not only should Cannon be pulled from the BRAC closure list, but it should also be targeted for expansion. 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,

Jack Nuttall

Jack Nuttall
3717 Nancy Lopez
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06022005

Dear Commissioner Coyle:

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.
- 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 an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
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- 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.

Based on the stated future goals for our Armed Forces, not only should Cannon be pulled from the BRAC closure list, but it should also be targeted for expansion. 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,

Jack Nuttall
3717 Nancy Lopez
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED

06022005

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

Dear Admiral Gehman, Jr.:

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.
- 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 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.

Based on the stated future goals for our Armed Forces, not only should Cannon be pulled from the BRAC closure list, but it should also be targeted for expansion. 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,

Jack Nuttall

Jack Nuttall
3717 Nancy Lopez
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

DCN: 4873

May 31, 2005

RECEIVED
06022005

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED
06022005

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

Regarding: Removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list

Dear Commissioner Hansen:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06022005

Dear Chairman Principi:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED
06022005

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

Dear Chairman Principi:

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: 4873

May 31, 2005

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

06022005

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED
06022005

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

Dear Chairman Principi:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED
06022005

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

Dear Brigadier General Turner:

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. Our area was growing at a rapid rate until the news that Cannon Air Force Base was placed on the BRAC closure list. This has caused a panic for many business and residents in this area. Home building has come to a halt. Many people have been laid off from their jobs. People have called in to Plateau and lowered their Internet plan and remove features on the CLEC to the basic service to try and save money.

Sincerely,

ViAnn Arnold

ViAnn Arnold
PO BOX 490
Farwell, TX 79325

DCN: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED
06022005

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

Dear Commissioner Skinner:

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.

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Sincerely,

ViAnn Arnold

ViAnn Arnold
PO BOX 490
Farwell, TX 79325

DCN: 4873

May 27, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06022005

Dear Commissioner Coyle:

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
1708 Arcineiga Dr.
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4873

May 27, 2005

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.

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

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

RECEIVED

06022005

Dear Commissioner Coyle:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED

06022005

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

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 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: 4873

May 27, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06022005

Dear Mr. Bilbray:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

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

RECEIVED
06022005

Dear Commissioner Hansen:

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.
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- 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
1708 Arcineiga Dr.
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4873

May 27, 2005

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

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Dear Commissioner Hansen:

I am asking you to please reconsider the closing of Cannon Air Force Base. I understand the BRAC Commission has a difficult task, but I am very concerned about the Department of Defense's recommendation that Cannon Air Force base should be closed. Please consider the following as reasons Cannon should not be on the BRAC list of closure.

- 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
- 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 will allow the Air Force to better train for real-life situations.

In closing, I would like to add Clovis, Portales and surrounding communities have always supported Cannon Air Force Base, financially, morally, spiritually and consistently, as family and friend.

The continued operation of Cannon Air Force Base is not only extremely important for this region, but for the Nation as a whole. Please vote to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list.

Sincerely,

Lexie Sparks

Lexie Sparks
3717 Gene Littler Ln
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4873

May 27, 2005

RECEIVED
06022005

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

Dear Chairman Principi:

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: 4873

May 27, 2005

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

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Sincerely,

Kimberly A. Johnson

Kimberly A. Johnson
605 Circle Drive
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4873

May 27, 2005

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

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Dear Admiral Gehman:

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.
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Kimberly A. Johnson

Kimberly A. Johnson
605 Circle Drive
Clovis, NM 88101

DCN: 4873

May 27, 2005

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06022005

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

Dear Admiral Gehman, Jr.:

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: 4873

RECEIVED
06022005

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

To Admiral Harold W. Gehman, Jr.

Dear Sir,

I am writing this letter hoping that you will reconsider the closing of our Cannon AFB. My family came to Clovis and Cannon in 1967 courtesy Uncle Sam. We were here 7 years and when it was time for my husband to retire we never considered living any other place. The base being here was a major reason for that decision. We liked Clovis, the area, the weather, the schools and the promised medical care was a big factor. That eroded away but now that Medicare and TriCare has kicked in it is a mute point. We are still able to get some of our medications there. There are *lots* of retired military folks living here and in Portales nearby. We depend on the commissary and Base Exchange to help make ends meet. Those are my personal reasons... however there is much more to consider. Our community is much richer because of the diversity of personnel stationed here. Of course, Clovis benefits from the capital income as well. The base has a big beautiful hospital which could be utilized to a larger extent. Just this past year the main entrance was revised at a considerable cost I am sure. Why do all that if it was not to be kept active. That is wasteful. I have no idea what it would cost to close the base, buy homes of personnel leaving, moving the men and all the base equipment to other locations but it must be monumental !! I cannot see how doing this and what ever else would come into question could be a savings. Right now we are involved in fighting two wars and having to use National Guard troops to fill slots not able to be manned by regular personnel. I cannot understand this either....

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

populated area and allows for various training missions and activities that might not be carried out in other areas. Cannon has won awards for excellence too. It is a beautiful facility and has a good golf course too!

Clovis has grown and has a lot to offer. There is a good job market for spouses. Our local hospital is in the process of expanding and will soon be able to handle cardiac emergencies locally. We have a new Cancer Center capable of both chemotherapy as well as radiation treatments. A new Health-Plex has opened for rehab purposes. We have an additional sixty new doctors and specialties that have come here in the last year.

There are many new developments providing good housing. There are new restaurants and new businesses going in and this helps to support the base personnel as well as the community. Losing Cannon would greatly impede our growth and economy. Our schools would lose funding because of a decrease in enrollment. We have Clovis Community College as well as Eastern New Mexico University in nearby Portales just 30 minutes away for secondary education opportunities. A new Civic Center is proposed...

Please reconsider closing our Cannon AFB.....

Pat Weekley

Sincerely,
Pat Weekley

DCN: 4873

RECEIVED
06022005

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

To The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner

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