

May 19, 2005

Rebecca Dawn Reeves
1904 West 2nd #47
Portales, NM 88130

The Honorable Philip Coyle,

This letter is in response to the closing of Cannon Air Force Base.

I think that this Air Force Base is a very vital attribute to the economy in the surrounding areas, including, but not limited to Clovis, Melrose, and Portales. Many jobs will be lost because of this closure and not to mention the impact that the military families leaving will have on the other business in the surrounding communities.

For the past three years, I have worked at Cannon Air Force Base Outdoor Recreation. This experience as a lifeguard, head lifeguard, and eventually aquatic director has helped open many doors for me. I think that had it not been for this base and swimming pool I would not be where I am now. I am finishing my accounting and business administration degree and without this summer job I would not be able to afford to attend college. I know that the swimming pool is just a little part of the base but there are other jobs there that people are counting on to help survive. All the little parts add up to the big part.

While working at Cannon, I realized that it is just one big family there. If there is anything that needs to be done, there is somebody that is always just a phone call away and is responsive at all times.

The military spouses attend many of the same classes that I attend and without them Eastern New Mexico University and Clovis Community College would also suffer. Because of the military in the area, the community as a whole is very supportive and all the communities' relationship with Cannon Air Force Base is unlike any other in the country.

I just ask that you would reconsider the closure of Cannon Air Force Base as it is a vital part to all of the surrounding communities.

Respectfully Yours,

Rebecca Dawn Reeves

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The General James T. Hill,

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The Honorable James V. Hansen,

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The Admiral Harold W. Gehman Jr.,

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