

5/20/05

Carolyn Parkinson
312 S. Ave. F
Portales, NM 88130

Admiral Harold W. Gehman Jr.:

I am very concerned about the BRAC Commission's decision to close Cannon Air Force Base. Cannon does not fit the criteria provided by BRAC for closure.

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

There are many military retirees that live in and around the Clovis/Portales area. Cannon is the only base that the retirees have to do there shopping and their doctors. Closing of Cannon will not only effect the military retirees but also the economy of the surrounding areas such as Lubbock, Amarillo, Clovis, Portales, Roswell as well as the small communities.

The closing of Cannon will have a great impact on our education facilities Eastern n New Mexico University, Portales, Clovis, and Clovis Community College.

Cannon has the ability to play a very important part in our country's defense. The location of Cannon is an ideal place for defense training of the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other military aircraft.

I am a very concern citizen about our country's defense and the protection of our country and I believe that Cannon can and will play and have a vital part in the defense of our country.

Please reconsider all the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

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The Honorable Philip Coyle:

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The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner:

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The Honorable James V. Hansen::

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The Honorable James H. Bilbray:

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