

May 20, 2005

Kathy Roler Durand
138 Yucca Drive
Portales, New Mexico 88130

The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner,

I am writing this letter to urge you to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closing list. I believe that Cannon does not fit the criteria for base closure. Cannon has an abundance of airspace, with no encroachment issues . . . in fact, the New Mexico Training Range Initiative would soon allow Cannon's pilots to fly supersonic during training missions. Further, the Melrose bombing range is almost immediately adjacent to Cannon, allowing more training time and no wasted fuel!

The weather in this region allows year round training and there is ample room at Cannon for joint training and fighting missions with other branches of the armed services. This base would also be perfect for future training missions for F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, and other types of military aircraft.

Finally, the impact of closing Cannon would be devastating to Clovis, Portales, and the surrounding communities. Indeed, it is estimated that this closure would have the most detrimental impact of any being considered. This would do damage not only to the local economy, with a loss of up to 20 percent of the work force, but also to the local schools and to the lives of the many military retirees who have made this region their home.

I hope that you will consider removing Cannon from the base closing list.

Sincerely,

Kathy Roler Durand

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5/25/05

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General Lloyd W. Newton,

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138 Yucca Drive
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The Honorable James V. Hansen,

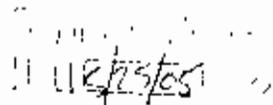
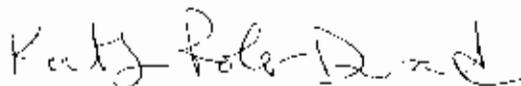
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Admiral Harold W. Gehman Jr ,

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Portales, New Mexico 88130

General James T. Hill,

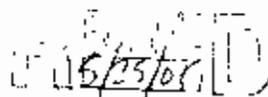
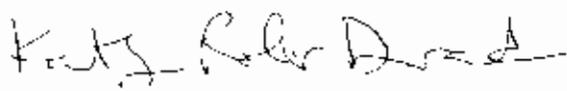
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The Honorable Philip Coyle,

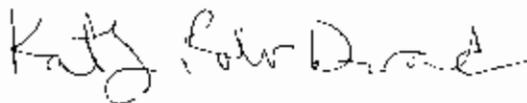
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The Honorable James H. Bilbray,

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Brigadier General Sue E. Turner,

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