

JOHN C. URBAN

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May 18, 2005

Mr. James Bilbray  
Commissioner  
The B.R.A.C. Commission  
2521 S. Clark St. Ste 600  
Arlington VA 22202

Dear Mr. Bilbray:

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. Bilbray, 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

Mr. James Bilbray

May 18, 2005

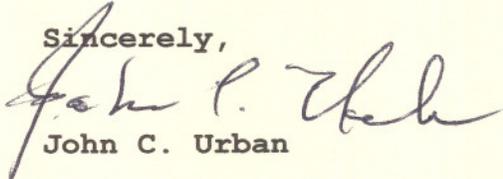
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We have no encroachment issues here, giving Cannon the military freedom it needs for its personnel to do its job that it has done so well over the past years. Because of our unlimited air space, Cannon has the ability to accept future aircraft with 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,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John C. Urban".

John C. Urban