

DCN: 5813

Rhonda Calvery
1825 West Avenue B
Muleshoe, Texas 79347
(806) 272-4658

BRAC Commission

JUL 28 2005

Received

July 24, 2005

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

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi
The Honorable James H. Bilbray
The Honorable Philip Coyle
Admiral Harold W. Gehman Jr.
The Honorable James V. Hansen

General James T. Hill
The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner
Brigadier General Sue E. Turner
General Lloyd W. Newton

RE: Cannon Air Force Base
Clovis, New Mexico

Dear BRAC Commissioners:

I recently received a letter from Clovis Community College that urged their former students to participate in a letter writing campaign to urge you not to close down Cannon Air Force Base. This is a cause that is well worthwhile. I do not know that anything we can say will sway you one way or the other, but I am willing to try.

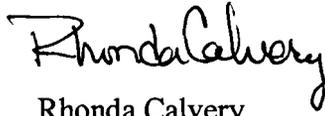
Many of the airmen now serving in Uzbekistan, Iraq and Afghanistan were trained at Cannon Air Force Base, my brother-in-law among them. These soldiers are an asset to our government and a source of great pride to our community. Their families reside here, awaiting their safe return home. If you close Cannon, where will they come home to?

Cannon Air Force Base is less than an hour's drive from the Texas/New Mexico state line and closing the base would impact the economies of small towns on both sides of the border, not just Clovis. The town that I live in, Muleshoe, Texas, is closer to Clovis, New Mexico, than to the nearest Texas metropolitan cities of Amarillo and Lubbock. Reese Air Force in Lubbock was closed down a few years ago, and closing Cannon gives our region a double dose of economic depression.

You have been given a mandate to close military facilities in order to save the government money. You have been provided with all the statistics and numbers that will help you in this task, a process that started long before President Bush declared war against Iraq. Mr. Bush said that he had to do this in order to protect us from the threat of

attack. An entire government agency, Homeland Security, was created to deal with that threat. It's just a bureaucracy. Our soldiers protect us, not an agency. If you send all our soldiers and reservists overseas, and close our regional military facilities, how are we supposed to protect ourselves, call our congressman?

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rhonda Calvery". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "R".

Rhonda Calvery

2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission
2521 S. Clark St. Ste. 600
Arlington, VA 22202

BRAC Commission

JUL 28 2005

18 July 2005
Received

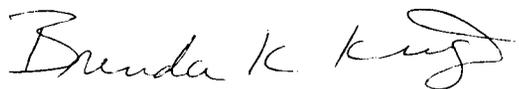
Dear BRAC Commissioners,

I am writing in response to the letter from Mr. Gordon England to Chairman Principi, dated July 14, 2005. Specifically, question 5 that involved Cannon AFB, NM. I believe that Mr. England's response demonstrates that the Air Force and Department of Defense not only substantially deviated from BRAC guidance, but sought to interpret the BRAC law to suit their own wishes.

Until Mr. England's letter, the accusation that the Cannon AFB recommendation for closure was pre-determined was purely conjecture. However, viewing the letter in light of the DoD recommendation, it is apparent that the DoD substantially deviated from Sec. 2903.c.3.A in that all military installations were not considered equally. It is apparent that the recommendation to close Cannon AFB was made and then the data calls designed to support the decision. For example, the data call that awarded military value (MV) points if a base is within 60 nm of a major airport, specifically penalizes a base that is in a small community with unencroached airspace. By definition, any base that is within 60 nm of a major airport must fly in encroached airspace.

Another example is the DoD refusal to acknowledge that MV scores could be incorrect due to inaccurate data, unequally applied criteria, or human error is evidence by a steadfast adherence to the MV scores and rankings in Mr. England's response. The DoD appears unwilling to admit that mistakes have been made. A perfect example of this is in the testimony before your commission by either Mr. Wynne or Gen. Mosely that BRAC supersedes the requirement for state governors to approve the shuttering of a guard unit in their state or the removal of that state's unit assets. DoD does not have the authority to rewrite BRAC law by interpreting it to suit their needs.

Space does not permit me to detail the discrepancies that I have discovered. I believe that our local committee and congressional delegation has more than adequately addressed the shortcomings of the DoD recommendation. Because the DoD substantially deviated from the BRAC law by not considering all bases equally, by creating a flawed data call that was designed to substantiate predetermined recommendations, by violating the 10th Amendment to the United States Constitution by usurping the authority of the governors of the separate states, I urge you to remove Cannon AFB from the DoD list for recommended closures in BRAC 2005.



Brenda K. King
676 CR 5
Clovis, NM 88101

July 26, 05

BRAC Commission

JUL 28 2005

Received

Near BRAC

Just wanted to tell you my feelings about Cannon AFB. - One of the Commissioners stated that if Cannon closed it would kill the town, Wrong. In fact it's holding the town back. We have the World's biggest cheese plant, several big Product Plants - that created more jobs than Cannon ever could plus it's not our money being spent at Cannon that's our money coming to town, we have meat packing plants. if Cannon would close I'm sure some amount of would look to coming here - Amarillo is doing well so is Roswell. So don't feel like we are so dependant on Cannon a lot of folks want to keep it open so they can go get cheap groceries, gas so forth. what about the ones that can't go there. those places that are here now opened doors that offer jobs to just about anyone from any walk of life.

I'm sure north AFB would be happy to have this base from Cannon - the nearby AFB in GA, would really hurt them cause they don't have things we do - If we don't get rid of Cannon now we'll be held back a lot longer -

Yours truly

Ed Harvey

over

1000

the greedy senators and
they want to be made to look
good, in the eyes of the Public.
Right or wrong - they look good
for Re Election.

they are not looking at the
whole big picture.

I hope you do -

(ed)



RECEIVED
06132005

6. 9. 05

To Whom It May Concern,

We just got here from Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska. There's a lot of difference between these two places.

Cannon AFB should not be on the list for closure. Why? Due to my family, we supposed to retire here for the sake of my two children. Raising kids in these communities is really great, based upon the places we've been through.

The relationship between Cannon AFB, raising up kids and surrounding towns like Clovis, Portales, West Texas and other is unlike any other installation in the country.

The Clovis, Portales, Eastern N. Mexico, W. Texas (including Amarillo & Lubbock) are home to a large civilian and military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon AFB for healthcare & etc.

Cannon AFB has 50 yrs relationship w/ the base and has supported the base like no other community over the last 50 yrs. They've done so financially, morally, spiritually & above all, consistently.

Cannon AFB needs to keep it open. So that we can start a new life.

Sincerely yours,
Nova

To whom it may concern.

I'm not a Service Connected person, but I do know what closing Cannon Air Force Base will do to this community & city. Consider this a lot of disappointed service connected men & women will be effected from this closing. And most of all the economic aspect of the city will be effected. Jobs, businesses, homes, & property values will be greatly effected & jeopardized. In closing as a concerned citizen & frequent visitor of Faith Christian & Family Church I would really consider the possibilities of this closing and the effect it will have on everyone in this city.

Sincerely a Concerned
& Employed Citizen Debra Simon