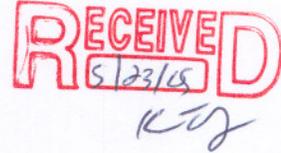


DCN: 735

B. E. SPARKS

120 West Plains Ave
Phone (505)763-5066
Clovis, NM 88101

May 17, 2005



BRAC Commission
2521 S, Clark Street
Arlington, VA 22202

Gentlemen:

I am writing to you in reference to Cannon Air Force Base being on your closure list. I am one for the government to be fiscal responsible. But closing a military establishment that has been upgraded by the tune of quite a few million dollars The runways have been upgraded, there is a new control tower, the base housing is one of the best in the country. We have around 320 flying days a year, we have the Melrose bombing range. We are in the process of creating a super-sonic area, and we have a lot of wide open space that is available for future use. All of the above helps to contribute to Cannon personal winning a lot of "Top Gun" type awards.

Considering what it would cost to close the base, transfer personal, having to buy housing in a flooded market does not make sense in trying to save money. There are way too many "pork barrel" laws that if they were cleaned up, it would save more money than thru the BRAC procedure and still leave our country defenses strong.

It would appreciated it if your commission would re-consider the closure of Cannon Air Force Base. It is vital to our national defenses.

And you will never find a town that embraces a military installation like Clovis does, which is good for the troops.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "B. E. Sparks". The signature is written in a cursive style.

B. E. Sparks
120 W. Plains Ave
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

A faint, circular stamp or mark located at the bottom center of the page. It appears to contain some illegible text or a logo, possibly a date or a reference number.