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Brac Commission  
2521 S. Clark St.  
Arlington, VA 22202

May 19, 2005

I am writing in response to the announcement about the potential closure of Cannon Air Force Base (AFB) in Clovis, New Mexico.

I am a disabled veteran, a retired Noncommissioned Officer with 21 years of military service. I live in Clovis, New Mexico. I made this area my home upon retiring from the Air Force in 1984, because of the convenience of Cannon AFB, its wonderful weather and my medical needs.

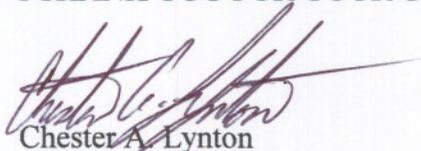
In previous years, military bases in this surrounding area have been closed down. These closures included: Roswell, NM; Amarillo, TX; and Lubbock, TX, which have all been closed. Cannon AFB, NM is the only remaining base in the "western Texas" and "eastern New Mexico". In addition within a 100 miles radius of Cannon AFB, they are 1500 retired and/or annuitants that rely on this base. The closure of Cannon AFB, would place a great and extreme hardship on all retired personnel and annuitants recipients living in the surrounding area. At present Cannon AFB, serves the needs of retired/annuitants personnel, this is the one and only remaining base in this entire area.

Retired/annuitant personnel living in the following cities now drive the following round trip distance to Cannon AFB: Amarillo, TX (217 miles); Lubbock, TX (217 miles); Roswell, NM (227 miles); Tucumcari, NM (181 miles); and Ft. Sumener, NM (131 miles). This is already a great hardship on many who served our great country with high honors, and many of which now are disabled, please keep us in mind.

With the loss of Cannon AFB, NM., our closest military base would be Albuquerque, NM, at a distance of some 467 miles round trip, from Clovis, NM and greater from some of the other cities.

I very strongly request the committee to examine the enormous impact and hardship this base closure would make on all military retired and annuitant personnel in this area.

I THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION IN THIS MATTER.

  
Chester A. Lynton  
232 Rosa Blvd.  
Clovis, NM 88101

cc to: Sen Kay Bailey Hutchison  
Brac Commission  
Governor Bill Richardson  
Sen. Pete Domenici  
Sen. Jeff Bingaman  
Rep. Tom Udall  
Rep. Heather Wilson  
Steve Pearce

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