

DCN: 2089

Charles B. Goodale
2905 Hockenhull
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

RECEIVED

06102005

June 2, 2005

The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA., 22202

Dear Sir,

I am very concerned about the Department of Defense's recommendation that Cannon Air Force Base should be closed.

I want to help make the Commission fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include unencroached airspace suitable for training at supersonic speed, many new and existing facilities suitable for joint training exercises, and a low-cost environment that promotes cost-efficient training. Cannon is a real asset to the country's armed forces.

Whether or not Cannon's military value has been recognized yet in Washington, out here we really appreciate the base. The local community has been uniquely supportive, donating time and land to promote the base's needs. We have also welcomed the personnel. The many veterans in the area make it clear that they feel at home here. We consider Cannon and its retirees a part of our family.

The closure of Cannon will also have a devastating impact on our economy. It has been estimated that the area will lose at least 20 percent of its workforce, a percentage out of line with the effect of base closings in other communities. Cannon is critical for us.

I invite you to come personally to the Cannon hearing in Clovis. I ask you to please reconsider Cannon's importance to the nation and to my community. Please, let us KEEP CANNON!

Sincerely,

Charles B. Goodale

PS. On a personal note, the City of Clovis and Cannon have an excellent relationship. The land Cannon sits on was donated many years ago to United States government for the purpose of the base. I am the Director of the Laboratory at Plains Regional Medical Center and the hospital depends on Cannon for much of our support. I truly believe that Cannon is critical to the defense of our country and should not be closed at this crucial time. Cannon offers so much to the mission of our government. Again, PLEASE, KEEP CANNON!

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The Honorable Philip Coyle
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA., 22202

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Admiral Harold W. Gehman, Jr.
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA., 22202

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The Honorable James V. Hansen
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA., 22202

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General James T. Hill
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
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General Lloyd W. Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
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BRAC Commission
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Brigadier General Sue E. Turner
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