

May 19, 2005

Larry N. Smith  
1576 SRR 8  
Portales, NM 88130

Hon. Phillip Coyle,

This letter is to encourage you to take a close look before deciding to close Cannon Air Force Base.

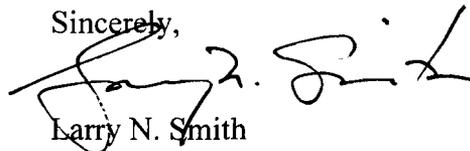
As a member of the Eastern (NM) Area Workforce Development Board, I can tell you that the closure would have a serious impact on barely healthy, very delicate economic situation in this area.

I was raised in this area and watched B-29s take off from the base during World War II. The base closed after that War, but was reopened in the 1950s and has been a vital part of our economy since that time.

Having worked in Washington for Senator Edwin Mechem and Senator Paul Fannin, and later for the Department of Justice, I understand the common good sometimes must trump local interests. However, I believe the situation regarding Cannon AFB and this area is one that bears very close inspection.

It is a tough decision and I trust that you will use your very best judgment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry N. Smith", written over the typed name.

Larry N. Smith

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5/25/05

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Admiral Harold W. Gehman, Jr,

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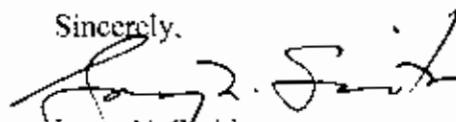
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6/23/05

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Hon. James V. Hansen,

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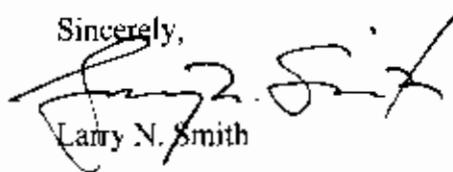
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Hon. James H. Bilbray,

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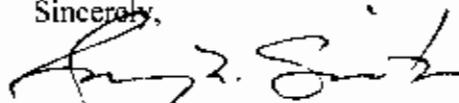
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Hon. Samuel K. Skinner,

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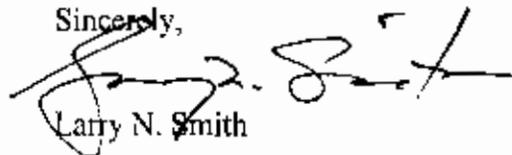
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REC'D  
Historical

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Portales, NM 88130

Gen. Sue E. Turner,

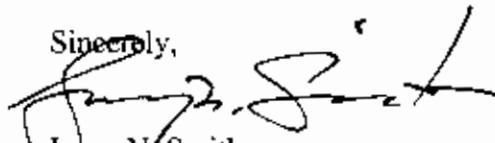
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[D] 301 25/05

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Gen. Lloyd W. Newton,

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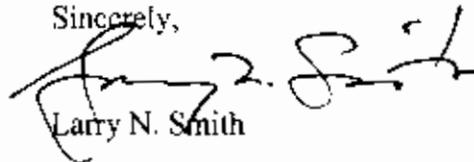
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Gen. James T. Hill,

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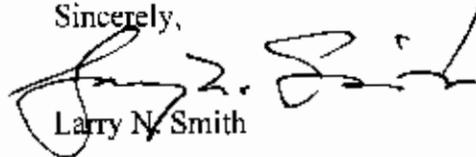
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