DCN: 8629

BRAC Commission

EASTERN NEW MEXICO UNIVERSITY

Office of the President
ENMU Station 1
Portales, NM 88130

AUG 3 1 2005

Received

Dear General - You certainly went the extra mile for Cannon, and please know that we appreciate you very much. We met (and ate at the same table) at the meal/reception when you and your fellow commissioners visited.

In case you are interested, here are the "consensus beliefs" of the folks in Clovis and Portales:

1. There was very little "politics" in the decision

2. The recusals were the reason for our defeat (yes, we do see the BRAC decision as a defeat). Cannon had to get 5 of 7 votes instead of 5 of 9. This is counter to the doctrine of fairplay and fails the "smell test."

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3. There is a tremendous sense of betrayal. Clovis has been the perfect AF town for over 5 decades, and our reward is ....

4. We have little faith that the AF will attempt to find CAFB another mission unless Sen. Domenici presses the issue (and he will).

The 3 heroes of our "defense effort are you, Gov Richardson and Randy Harris. A recent letter to the Clovis paper even suggested that we make the "fig newton" the official cookie of eastern New Mexico. Thanks, General.

Steve Gamble
pres, Eastern NM University.
Lt. Col., USAFR (Ret.)