

DCN: 651

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5/23/05
KTY

May 20, 2005

BRAC commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Va., 22202

Dear Sirs:

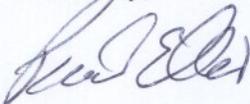
I am writing in response to the decision to have Cannon Air Force Base on the base closure list. I am aware your task is a very difficult one. There are many reasons we feel Cannon should not be closed but think one of the greatest would be the relationship the Clovis area has with the military presence for over 50 years. I personally have many friends in the Air Force both stationed here currently and previously.

We have excellent weather and terrain for training of importance to military value. Our air space has no encroachments and we are in the process of obtaining supersonic designation. Melrose Bombing Range is located adjacent to Cannon Air Force Base and provides excellent training opportunities.

Probably the largest area of concern about closing Cannon Air Force Base is the impact on our community. Economic and social the military will be missed here. I am sure you know but we would loose about 20% of our local economy. I just find it hard to believe that the Air Force could do this to a community that has supported it for so many years.

I hope my letter makes a difference and look forward to your positive response to our community to keep Cannon open.

Sincerely,



Paul Ellis

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