



WAYLAND
BAPTIST UNIVERSITY

Clovis Campus

**BRAC Commission
Received**

6/23/2005

June 15, 2005

Brigadier General Sue Ellen Turner
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Re: Removing Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC list

Dear General Turner,

When I and my colleagues learned about the Department of Defense's recommendation that Cannon Air Force Base should be closed, we were stunned and concerned.

As part of your fact-finding and objective research into this recommendation, I would like to present - or at least, reaffirm - what a valuable military asset Cannon offers to our national defense.

For example, Cannon offers:

- Unencroached airspace for training at supersonic speed
- New & existing facilities suitable for joint training
- Low-cost environment that promotes cost-efficient training
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year-round training ability.
- The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. This allows pilots to get airborne, and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range, rather than spending all of their fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, then returning to the base.
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
- The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future

training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike and other military aircraft.

- Cannon has won countless awards, both on ACC Air Force and NAF levels, and national and STA levels.

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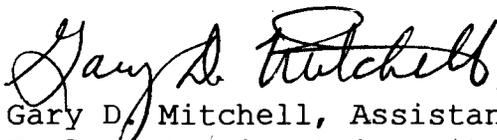
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It has been estimated that the area will lose at least 20 percent of its workforce, a percentage out of line with the effect of base closings in other communities. Here at Wayland, we would lose approximately 40% of our student population (including Cannon dependents), so you can understand why Cannon is critical to us.

Here's the bottom line. I, along with my fellow colleagues and other community leaders, invite you to come to the Cannon hearing in Clovis. We would ask you to reconsider Cannon's importance to the nation and our community.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Gary D. Mitchell, Assistant to the Dean
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121 E. 4th Street
Clovis, NM 88101



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

Re: Removing Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC list

Dear Commissioner Coyle,

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6/23/2005

June 15, 2005

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

Re: Removing Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC list

Dear Commissioner Bilbray,

When I and my colleagues learned about the Department of Defense's recommendation that Cannon Air Force Base should be closed, we were stunned and concerned.

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

Re: Removing Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC list

Dear Admiral Gehman,

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

Re: Removing Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC list

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General Lloyd "Fig" Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Re: Removing Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC list

Dear General Newton,

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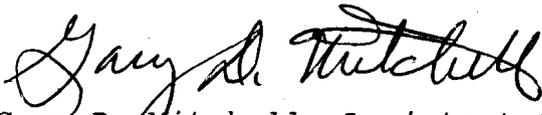
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General James T. Hill
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The Honorable Anthony J. Principi, Chair
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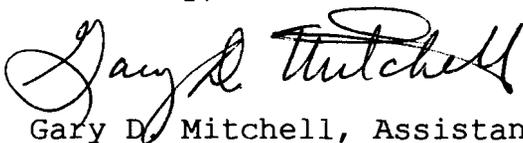
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