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May 31, 2005

To the BRAC Commission Members:

My husband and I feel very strongly that Cannon A.F.B., in Clovis, N.M., should not be closed. We moved here via the Air Force about 18 years ago. We decided to make Clovis our home when my husband retired. We liked Clovis and wanted to live close to a base. We appreciate the outstanding medical care, commissary shopping, and more.

Clovis and the surrounding communities are very supportive of Cannon. Our community purchased land north of Cannon and gave it back to the base for additional housing. Also, land was purchased west of Cannon and given to the base for installation of instrument lighting on the alternate runway.

As far as training - our weather is mild which allows year round training ability. Our community leaders spearheaded the effort to expand and convert the air space to supersonic capability. Once the N.M. Training Range Initiative is implemented, this will provide pilots to train for real-life situations. The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the base and available for training.

Please reconsider and remove Cannon A.F.B. from the closure list.

Sincerely,
Greg & Edith Darden