

May 27, 2005

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

Dear Commissioner Hansen:

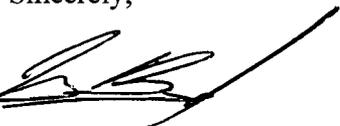
I am a long-time resident of Clovis, NM and I am writing to express my concern about Cannon AFB being included on the list for closure. I understand that the decision is being considered to do so to make our military more streamlined and efficient.

However, I do not believe that the benefits of Closing Cannon AFB compare favorably to the benefits of keeping it open. Consider: The financial impact that this would have on my home town of Clovis, NM and the surrounding areas including the cities of Lubbock and Amarillo, TX. From personal experience my wife and I just sold our house to a man in the air force this sale enabled us to buy a larger house for my growing family. Also coming from a military family I have traveled around the world and Clovis is the best place for military families, the local communities engage military families with open arms, as if they were born and raised here. Plus cannon has Melrose bombing range and a soon to be enacted agreement that would allow the F-16 to fly at supersonic speeds. I know that the F-16 model Cannon has is an older model but with the size Cannon it could accommodate a different type of aircraft and maybe even move a transport squadron in.

It would seem that closing Cannon would help make our countries military more streamlined for the 21st. century. However, consider the burden that this would cause my home town such as a higher unemployment rate, the closing of local businesses, closing of schools that military children attend. Not to mention that Cannon brings in 200 million a year to our local economy.

Are these tradeoffs that we really want to make? I am looking forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Jerry Byrd
3733 Sam Snead
Clovis, NM 88101

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May 27, 2005

General Lloyd W. Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

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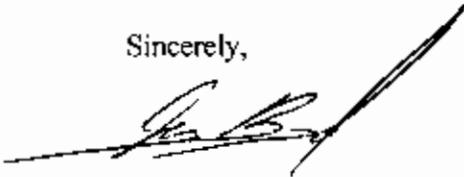
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