

May 22, 2005

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BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

CANNON AIR FORCE BASE, NEW MEXICO

Please reconsider closing Cannon Air Force Base in New Mexico. I have lived here 15 years and have come to consider the Cannon AFB/Clovis area my home. I have been affiliated with the air force since 1975 and have never been in a community that supports a military installation in such a positive way as here in Eastern New Mexico. From the local businesses, churches, and schools, support is given to the military personnel and the mission that is Cannon's. Support is given not only to the military members but to their spouses, children and even parents.

This base is very important to the economy of Eastern New Mexico and West Texas. Closing it will impact this area negatively. The housing market will fall, school enrollment will decrease, and some businesses will be forced to close. My family is already starting to cut back on spending that we had planned to do in relation to summer vacation and home improvements in order to prepare for the negative impact of the base closing.

Not only is Cannon vital to the local community, it is vital to our nation's security. Cannon has won numerous awards for excellence. It has an abundance of air space and there are no encroachment issues. Because of the weather here in Eastern New Mexico, year round training can take place. There is lots of room for Cannon to grow and accommodate and support new aircraft added in the future. And the communities of Clovis, Portales, West Texas, and all of Eastern New Mexico will be here to continue the positive relationship that exists between them and Cannon Air Force Base!

I sincerely hope that you will take the time to reconsider the closing of Cannon Air Force Base and the negative impact it will have. Thank you.


Dannette Ewers