

1500 St. Andrews Drive  
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

BRAC Commission  
2521 S. Clark St.  
Arlington, VA 22202

05312005

May 20, 2005

Gentlemen:

In regard to the proposed closure of Cannon Air Force Base in New Mexico I would like to express my dismay that the government would spend millions of dollars on base improvements within the last few months, then turn around and close it. Those are taxpayer dollars, all of them. I am a taxpayer, and am glad to do my part, but when I see how many tax dollars are going to be lost because of lost revenue due to this particular base closure, then the savings of closing the base is truly questionable.

Perhaps the F-16 is to be phased out, but this base can support ANY airplane, as has been proved in the past. Surely we can replace the older missions with emerging missions. Encroachment is definitely not a problem at Cannon. We have wonderful, uncrowded skies for flying, a bombing range that has just acquired more airspace for super-sonic flights, flyable weather more days than any other base, and a community that supports the base wholeheartedly.

No other proposed closure will so negatively impact the surrounding community as will Cannon AFB. There are no larger communities that can absorb a laid-off work force within 100 miles of Cannon AFB.

Please consider removing Cannon AFB from the list of closures.

Sincerely,



E. C. Shaeffer

cc:

Acting Air Force Sec. Michael L. Dominguez

Air Force Chief of Staff John Jumper

Senator Pete Domenici

Senator Jeff Bingaman

Rep. Tom Udall

Rep. Steve Pearce

Rep. Heather Wilson

Gov. Bill Richardson