

May 27, 2005

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

Dear Commissioner Bilbray:

Please vote to overturn the Department of Defense's recommendation that Cannon Air Force Base be closed. Cannon Air Force Base should not be on the BRAC closure list. Here are a few of the many reasons why:

- **LOCATION** - New Mexico is the perfect location and has excellent weather for year-round flying. Training facilities, like the Melrose bombing range and all the ground space necessary, are available for joint war-fighting, training and readiness exercises.
- **AIR SPACE** – The base has an abundance of air space with no encroachment issues. Once the NM Training Range Initiative is implemented, Cannon will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions. Cannon is a perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter and any other military aircraft.
- **SUPPORT** – Cannon has the full support of not only Clovis, New Mexico, but every community within at least 100 miles. We have reached out and supported Cannon financially, morally, spiritually and consistently for the last 50 years and pledge to continue for at least another 50.

Cannon just does not fit the criteria for base closures.

I invite you to come to Clovis, inspect the base and tour our community. I ask you to reconsider Cannon's importance to the security of our nation and to my community. We need Cannon. You need Cannon. America needs Cannon! Please, let us KEEP CANNON AFB OPEN!

Respectfully,



Marla D. Gutierrez
1816 Avondale Blvd.
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

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