

May 20, 2005

BRAC COMMISSION  
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Re: Cannon Air Force Base

Dear BRAC Commission:

I am writing this letter in reference to the proposed closure of Cannon Air Force Base near Clovis in Curry County, New Mexico. I am 36 years old and was born and raised in Clovis. Cannon has played a large role in my life as well as my children's lives. Over the years I have made several close relationships with many of the military families and many of my children's best friends are from military families.

Cannon plays an integral part of not only the Clovis economy but the surrounding area of eastern New Mexico and West Texas. If the base were to close the economic impact is estimated at 20% to 25%; however, in conversing with several area business owners I feel these estimates are very conservative.

I do not understand the Department of Defense's rationale for placing Cannon on the BRAC list. The Clovis area is very supportive of the base and the military as a whole. Eastern New Mexico has vast air space with excellent flying conditions. The base is located just outside of Clovis with no encroachment issues and plenty of room for future expansion. Much of Cannon's infrastructure has been upgraded within the past five years and the base is state of the art with a new tower, runways, hangers and remodeled dorms and housing. Additionally area communities recently rallied for support of the expansion of air space and super sonic capabilities of the nearby Melrose bombing range.

With Cannon Air Force Base's excellent track record in past and current conflicts and considering all other amenities, the base should be slated for expansion.

I strongly oppose the closure of Cannon not only for the detrimental economic impact to the area, but also the impact it would have on our national security.

Sincerely,



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