

May 27, 2005

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street
Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Brigadier General Turner:

I am concerned about the BRAC decision to close Cannon Air Force Base in Clovis, New Mexico. Cannon has been part of our community for over 50 years. We believe the relationship between Cannon and the surrounding towns, Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, and West Texas (including Amarillo, and Lubbock) to be unlike any other installation in the country.

- Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure
- The base has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues. This provides for safer and more realistic training scenarios for pilots.
- Once the New Mexico Training Range initiative is implemented, we will be able to offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic during training missions.
- The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides for year round training ability.
- Cannon has the space and facilities to accommodate joint war-fighting, training, and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
- The availability of air space and ideal flying weather makes Cannon the perfect candidate to support future training missions for the F-22, Joint Strike Fighter, And any other military aircraft.

The closure of Cannon will have a devastating impact on our economy. It has been estimated that the area will lose at least 20 percent of its work force, a percentage out of line with the effect of base closings in other communities. Cannon is critical for us.

I invite you to come personally to the Cannon hearing in Clovis. I ask you please to reconsider Cannon's importance to the nation and to my community. Please, let us KEEP CANNON!

Sincerely,



Michael Sandoval
109 W Plaza Dr.
Clovis, New Mexico 88101

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