

May 25, 2005

RECEIVED

Honorable Samuel K. Skinner
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Virginia 22202

Regarding: Removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list

Dear Honorable Skinner

I would appreciate a moment of your time to talk about the Department of Defense's recommendation that Cannon Air Force Base should be closed. I want to help make you aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure.

- The base has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues.
- The New Mexico Training Range Initiative will offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic over land during training missions. This will offer real-life training that is virtually unavailable in other locations!
- Eastern New Mexico weather provides year round training ability.
- The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. This allows pilots to get airborne, and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range, rather than spending all of their fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, then returning to the base.
- 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.
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations.
- 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 other military aircraft.

I truly do not believe that closing Cannon will save the military money. Although Clovis is my home town and Cannon is where I met my husband, we have spent the last 15 years at Seymour Johnson AFB where we are currently stationed. If comparable statistics exist between a base like Cannon and Seymour on the number of training flights cancelled due to weather, I urge you to consider this data. I ask this because we have the F-15 training squadron here, and it has long been viewed that this is not a good base because of the excessive flight hours trainees must log to complete their flights. For example, each pilot needs about 70 hours to complete training, however, some will complete over 100 hours largely due to weather interrupting the flight. Well how much does this cost? How much does it cost each time an F-15 takes off? If you have any data

to help support this fact that is observed here by many, please consider this as part of Cannon's military value as well. Maybe Cannon really could be a perfect location for pilot training. Let us really save some money and a community!

On a personal note, my husband and I are being transferred back to Cannon this summer, and we had hoped to retire in the Clovis community. Our house hunting trip scheduled for the first of June was cancelled upon the BRAC announcement because the base closure will be so devastating to our community that buying a home would be a costly mistake. In fact we fear that Clovis will be so devastated that retirement and a future there with our family may never become a reality. The closure of Cannon will be economic and cultural disaster to our community. It has been estimated that the area will lose at least 25 percent of its economic base, a percentage out of line with the effect of base closings in other communities. Cannon is critical for our community, it such a part of Clovis that we cannot imagine what will happen if the two are parted.

Clovis has long supported Cannon and its people, and if it closing it were truly in the best interest our national defense that would be one thing, but clearly it is not! Using a base like Cannon to reduce the costly practices of other less efficient locations would bring the military greater savings, and spare our community. Also, please remember the history of Clovis' support which includes the purchase of land, air-space, and a missile range which was given to the U.S. Air Force. I urge you to very carefully reconsider the recommendation to close Cannon AFB, our future depends on your fair judgment about the value of Cannon AFB, and the Eastern New Mexico region.

Sincerely,



Robin Fogerty

311 Bolling Dr., Goldsboro, NC 27534

May 25, 2005

RECEIVED

Honorable Philip Coyle
 BRAC Commission
 2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
 Arlington, Virginia 22202

Regarding Removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list

Dear Honorable Coyle,

I would appreciate a moment of your time to talk about the Department of Defense's recommendation that Cannon Air Force Base should be closed. I want to help make you aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closure

- The base has an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues.
- The New Mexico Training Range Initiative will offer pilots the ability to fly supersonic over land during training missions. This will offer real-life training that is virtually unavailable in other locations!
- Eastern New Mexico weather provides year round training ability.
- The Melrose bombing range is seconds from the end of the runway at Cannon. This allows pilots to get airborne, and immediately begin training operations over the bombing range, rather than spending all of their fuel just to get to the range, having one pass over, then returning to the base.
- 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.
- Cannon has ample space/ramp space to accommodate surge force requirements in training and emergency situations
- 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 other military aircraft.

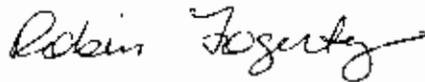
I truly do not believe that closing Cannon will save the military money. Although Clovis is my home town and Cannon is where I met my husband, we have spent the last 15 years at Seymour Johnson AFB where we are currently stationed. If comparable statistics exist between a base like Cannon and Seymour on the number of training flights cancelled due to weather, I urge you to consider this data. I ask this because we have the F-15 training squadron here, and it has long been viewed that this is not a good base because of the excessive flight hours trainees must log to complete their flights. For example, each pilot needs about 70 hours to complete training, however, some will complete over 100 hours largely due to weather interrupting the flight. Well how much does this cost? How much does it cost each time an F-15 takes off? If you have any data

to help support this fact that is observed here by many, please consider this as part of Cannon's military value as well. Maybe Cannon really could be a perfect location for pilot training. Let us really save some money and a community!

On a personal note, my husband and I are being transferred back to Cannon this summer, and we had hoped to retire in the Clovis community. Our house hunting trip scheduled for the first of June was cancelled upon the BRAC announcement because the base closure will be so devastating to our community that buying a home would be a costly mistake. In fact we fear that Clovis will be so devastated that retirement and a future there with our family may never become a reality. The closure of Cannon will be economic and cultural disaster to our community. It has been estimated that the area will lose at least 25 percent of its economic base, a percentage out of line with the effect of base closings in other communities. Cannon is critical for our community, it such a part of Clovis that we cannot imagine what will happen if the two are parted.

Clovis has long supported Cannon and its people, and if it closing it were truly in the best interest our national defense that would be one thing, but clearly it is not! Using a base like Cannon to reduce the costly practices of other less efficient locations would bring the military greater savings, and spare our community. Also, please remember the history of Clovis' support which includes the purchase of land, air-space, and a missile range which was given to the U S Air Force. I urge you to very carefully reconsider the recommendation to close Cannon AFB, our future depends on your fair judgment about the value of Cannon AFB, and the Eastern New Mexico region.

Sincerely,



Robin Fogerty

311 Bolling Dr., Goldsboro, NC 27534