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DCN: 3114

5/19/05

BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, Va. 22202

RECEIVED 5/23/05 KG

Dear Sirs:

My dad was in the Army in World War I and my husband was in the Navy in World War II and I know people don't pay any attention what a 78 year old woman has to says I know things change, but you don't do away with them you make them work. I just had to write and tell you why I think Cannon Air Force Base should not be on the list for Closure.

The weather in Eastern New Mexico provides year round training ability.

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.

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 having one pass over, than 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.

The relationship between Cannon Air Force Base and the surrounding towns; Clovis, Portales, West Texas and others,

is unlike any other installation in the Country.
Clovis, Portales, Eastern New Mexico, West Texas are home to a large Military retiree population. These people rely on Cannon air Force Base for healthcare, grocery shopping and more.
There is not another installation close to serve our retired Military.

Sincerely,

Ida Lee Combs