DCN: 2275

06072005
RECEIVED

Date June 3, 2005

From: John Simpson
Apt. 7# 1510 Arizona Dr.
Portales, NM 88130

The Honorable James H. Bilbray

I am very concerned about the proposal to close Cannon Air Force Base. I do not believe the commission is fully aware of the unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. These include an abundance of air space and no encroachment issues, a bombing range that is only seconds away, the airspace to fly at supersonic speeds, and ideal-year-round flying weather, among many others.

In addition to the military value to the nation, Cannon has been supported over the past 50 years by the local communities like no other in the country. We consider Cannon a part of our family.

The closure of Cannon will also have a devastating impact on our economy. It has been estimated that the area will lose at least 20 percent of its workforce, plus the ripple effect that we will have on our public and higher education systems.

Please consider all the facts before making your final decision.

Respectfully Yours,

John Simpson

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Admiral Harold W. Gehman Jr.

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General Lloyd W. Newton

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Date June 3, 2005

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The Honorable Philip Coyle

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Brigadier General Sue E. Turner

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