

The Honorable Philip Coyle
The BRAC Commission
2521 S Clark St.
Arlington VA 22202

BRAC Commission
Received
6/23/2005

Dear Honorable Philip Coyle,

I am disturbed that the Department of Defense has recommended that Cannon Air Force Base be closed. This recommendation has thrown our community in Southeastern New Mexico into turmoil and uncertainty.

~~As the Business and Noncredit Training Coordinator at Clovis Community College,~~ I can say that this recommendation has led to local economic, as well as job performance uncertainty. Local businesses and industries do not want to invest in employee training and individuals are not signing up for training classes as they have previously. It is next to impossible to suggest training opportunities to individuals and entities faced with such uncertainty, not to mention the trauma of possibly losing their friends, employees, and family members. If Cannon Air Force Base is closed, many businesses will close, people will leave the area, and my position (as well as some others at the College) may be phased out.

Although Cannon does not fit the criteria provided for base closures, The BRAC Commission has recommended that one of the very few resources that we have in the state of New Mexico and in Southeastern New Mexico be closed. I would like to suggest that other bases that are located in states that demonstrate little or no dependence or support should be selected first. Personally, I will leave the area and relocate if my position is cut. The domino effect of taking away the air base and its personnel will impact every individual living in this area, whether directly or indirectly.

For 50 years our Community has surpassed measurable demonstrations of support for the Air Force and its personnel. The Commission can reward this Community by removing Cannon Air Force Base from the recommended base closure list.

Sincerely,


Judith Spillane
PO Box 543
Portales, NM 88130
(505) 359-0375