

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

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To Whom It May Concern:

We were under the assumption that the primary criteria for crafting the BRAC list were supposed to focus on "military value": mission capabilities, availability of land, facilities and airspace; ability to accommodate future force structure; and, cost of operations.

Obviously someone did not do their homework when Cannon was put on the list of military bases to be closed. Cannon meets all the criteria listed for NOT being closed. Plus the fact that it is vital to the community of Clovis. We would think that some one with some common sense needs to re-evaluate this misguided decision.

We used to have great respect for Donald Rumsfeld, but his recommendation to close Cannon without a first hand look at this base, what its capabilities are and what future expansions would be possible and the economic effect on the Clovis community, leaves us just dismayed with his judgment.

If anyone on the commission would take the time to visit Cannon Air Base and Clovis, they would find a union of hearts and souls. Each entity supports the other in every facet. This mutual cohabitation, I feel is essential for the future of the military. A town that accepts a military base and supports it, is essential to the welfare of this nation. There is no animosity with the pilots that fly training session over head all hours of the day and night. We as a community accept that these are the men and women who will keep our country safe when they are called upon to do so.

To lose this "family" base would be devastating to the town of Clovis. I think that there comes a time when common sense has to come into play when making a decision about changing something that has been in existence for fifty years. In this world of no one caring anymore about the little people

and the small towns, it is about time someone did, for once make it about the people and not about the almighty buck.

My husband is retired from the Air Force, Cannon was his last assignment, he served in Viet Nam and has chosen to live his life in Clovis, a quiet caring community, not some ghost town, because that is what it will become if Cannon Air Force Base is forced to close.

So we appeal to your common sense and decency in making the right decision to keep Cannon a viable part of this community and a training facility for the men and women who protect and serve this country.

Sincerely,

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