

**RECEIVED**

06062005

Tri. June 3, 2005

DCN: 3254

Subject: Please reconsider & take  
Cannon AFB off the closure list

Dear BRAC Commission:

We would greatly appreciate if you  
would take the following facts about  
Cannon AFB into consideration before  
making a huge mistake in closing  
this base.

- ① The relationship & communication  
between Cannon AFB, Clovis, Portales,  
& surrounding areas is exemplary.
- ② The airspace has no encroachments
- ③ Great year-round weather for  
flying conditions.
- ④ Melrose Bombing range is in  
close proximity.
- ⑤ Cannon AFB has been the recipient  
of many ACC, Air Force & NAF awards.
- ⑥ The large military retiree  
population within a 150 mile radius  
that uses their retiree privileges at  
Cannon AFB.

These are just a few of the many issues  
that I believe the BRAC process  
did not consider.

On a more personal note, my father & father-in-law, both retired from Cannon AFB after more than 40 years of service between them. My husband & I both have special memories of our years at Cannon. When Sept. 11, 2001 happened, it was a blessing knowing the base was near to protect all of us. During the time when aircraft could not fly, the silence of the jets was noticeable. How I missed the mighty roar of their engines & the trails of smoke in the wide, open blue skies. It left a feeling of emptiness & vulnerability. When the skies were once again opened for the jets, I couldn't help but to run outside & jump up & down, waving, at them! I am so proud of Cannon. Clovis is proud. My grandson, Max, although only 18 months old, will point to the sky when he sees the jet trails or hears the sound of freedom with a big smile & eyes of wonderment. Please reconsider & take Cannon AFB off of the closure list!  
Thank you. Sincerely, Rose & Sonny Ponce