

DCN: 1745

Rev. Dr. Frank W. Sherman
124 Fairway Terrace North
Clovis, New Mexico 88101-3043

RECEIVED
06062005

Admiral Harold W. Gehman Jr. USN (RET)
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

2 June 2005

Dear Admiral Gehman,

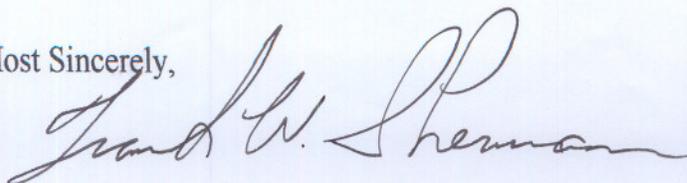
As a former military commander, I'm sure you will soon realize that closing Cannon Air Force Base is a big mistake that will prove to be costly to the readiness and fighting ability of the United States military. This base has an abundance of air space with no encroachment problems. Navy aviators can attest to that, since they took part in a joint exercise here this past year. In addition, supersonic training will be available once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is in place late this year or early next year. This will allow the Air Force, as well as Navy aviators and Army and Marine pilots, to train with more realistic scenarios. And, because of our unique location, there are few commercial air lanes for the military to contend with – as is the case with bases located near airports.

Cannon has plenty of room to grow. If you are one of the commission members to tour Cannon, you will see that there is ample ramp space and hangers, which can accommodate the Joint Strike Fighter, F-22, and just about any other aircraft the military has to offer. At one time Cannon was a “super wing” and there are plenty of facilities and space for it to be one again. Cannon is also “super” in the fact that the base has won numerous awards at all levels.

It is important to know that the people of Clovis, Portales, and the surrounding area, have supported Cannon like no other community. They purchased land all around the base, so that there would not be a problem with encroachment, and gave it to the Air Force – didn't sell it, gave it! They have welcomed the men and women of Cannon into their community and into their hearts – and they have done so consistently over the last 50 years! You also need to be aware of the large retirement community that relies on Cannon for their medical appointments, pharmacy needs, military needs and shopping needs. Cannon is the closest military base to Amarillo, Lubbock, Tucumcari, Roswell, and all the little towns in between.

The Department of Defense did not look at all the facts when they put Cannon on the list. It is my fervent hope and prayer that you will do so, and will vote to remove Cannon from the list!

Most Sincerely,



Rev. Dr. Frank W. Sherman
124 Fairway Terrace North
Clovis, New Mexico 88101-3043

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The Honorable James V. Hansen
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

2 June 2005

Dear Mr. Hansen,

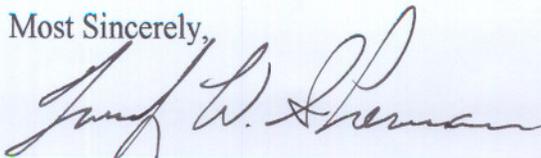
As a former Representative from Utah, where the military has an important presence, I'm sure you will soon realize that closing Cannon Air Force Base is a big mistake that will prove to be costly to the readiness and fighting ability of the United States military. This base has an abundance of air space with no encroachment problems. In addition, supersonic training will be available once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is in place late this year or early next year. This will allow the Air Force, as well as Navy aviators and Army and Marine pilots, to train with more realistic scenarios. And, because of our unique location, there are few commercial air lanes for the military to contend with – as is the case with bases located near airports.

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It is important to know that the people of Clovis, Portales, and the surrounding area, have supported Cannon like no other community. They purchased land all around the base, so that there would not be a problem with encroachment, and gave it to the Air Force – didn't sell it, gave it! They have welcomed the men and women of Cannon into their community and into their hearts – and they have done so consistently over the last 50 years! You also need to be aware of the large retirement community that relies on Cannon for their medical appointments, pharmacy needs, military needs and shopping needs. Cannon is the closest military base to Amarillo, Lubbock, Tucumcari, Roswell, and all the little towns in between.

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Rev. Dr. Frank W. Sherman
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General Lloyd W. Newton USAF (RET)
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

2 June 2005

Dear Fig,

Time has sure flown since Carolyn, Mother and I spent New Year's Eve with you, your wife, Ira and Nuris in the Holloman Officer's Club. My mother, who is 96 now, still remembers dancing with you that night. We also had a nice visit in your lovely home and enjoyed your gracious hospitality.

I am writing now, however, because I know that as a former Air Force commander who is knowledgeable of valuable Air Force resources, you will realize, once you have all the facts, that closing Cannon Air Force Base is a big mistake that will prove to be costly to the readiness and fighting ability of the United States military. As a pilot, you can appreciate the fact that Cannon has an abundance of air space with no encroachment problems. In addition, supersonic training will be available once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is in place late this year or early next year. This will allow military pilots to train with more realistic scenarios. And, because of our unique location, there are few commercial air lanes for the military to contend with – as is the case with bases located near airports. All things that, as an Air Force officer, you can appreciate!

Cannon has plenty of room to grow. Joint war-fighting efforts with other branches of the military can easily be accomplished at Cannon, as was shown by the recent joint training exercise with the Navy. If you are able to tour Cannon, you will see that there is ample infrastructure, which can accommodate the Joint Strike Fighter, F-22, and just about any other aircraft the military has to offer. As you may remember, Cannon was once a “super wing” and there are plenty of facilities and space for it to be one again. Cannon is also “super” in the fact that the base has won numerous awards at all levels.

Fig, I think you know that the people of Clovis, Portales, and the surrounding area, have supported Cannon like no other community. They purchased land all around the base and gave it to the Air Force. They welcomed Cannon personnel into their community and into their hearts – and they have done so consistently. You are also aware of the large multi-service retirement community that relies on Cannon for their medical appointments, as well as pharmacy, military and shopping needs. Cannon is the closest military base to Amarillo, Lubbock, Tucumcari, Roswell, and all the little towns in between.

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Most Sincerely,



P.S. Carolyn & Mother say "Hi" To you
& your wife

Rev. Dr. Frank W. Sherman
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Clovis, New Mexico 88101-3043

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The Honorable Samuel Knox Skinner
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

2 June 2005

Dear Mr. Skinner,

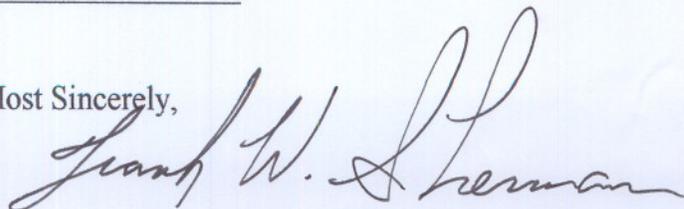
As the former Chief of Staff of this great country, I'm sure you will soon be aware that closing Cannon Air Force Base is a big mistake that will prove to be costly to the readiness and fighting ability of the United States military. This base has an abundance of air space with no encroachment problems. In addition, supersonic training will be available once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is in place late this year or early next year. This will allow the Air Force, as well as Navy, Army and Marine pilots, to train with more realistic scenarios. And, because of our unique location, there are few commercial air lanes for the military to contend with – as is the case with bases located near airports.

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It is important to know that the people of Clovis, Portales, and the surrounding area, have supported Cannon like no other community. They purchased land all around the base, so that there would not be a problem with encroachment, and gave it to the Air Force – didn't sell it, gave it! They have welcomed the men and women of Cannon into their community and into their hearts – and they have done so consistently over the last 50 years! You also need to be aware of the large retirement community that relies on Cannon for their medical appointments, pharmacy needs, military needs and shopping needs. Cannon is the closest military base to Amarillo, Lubbock, Tucumcari, Roswell, and all the little towns in between.

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Rev. Dr. Frank W. Sherman
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Brigadier General Sue Ellen Turner USAF (RET)
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

2 June 2005

Dear General Turner,

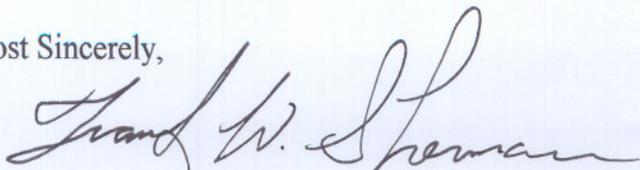
As a former Air Force commander who is knowledgeable of valuable military resources, I'm sure that once you have all the facts, you will realize that closing Cannon Air Force Base is a big mistake that will prove to be costly to the readiness and fighting ability of the United States military. This base has an abundance of air space with no encroachment problems. In addition, supersonic training will be available once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is in place late this year or early next year. This will allow the Air Force, as well as Army, Navy and Marine pilots, to train with more realistic scenarios. And, because of our unique location, there are few commercial air lanes for the military to contend with – as is the case with bases located near airports. All things that, as an Air Force officer, you can appreciate!

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Most Sincerely,



P.S. This is a great place to raise a family!

Rev. Dr. Frank W. Sherman
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Clovis, New Mexico 88101-3043

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General James T. Hill USA (RET)
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

2 June 2005

Dear General Hill,

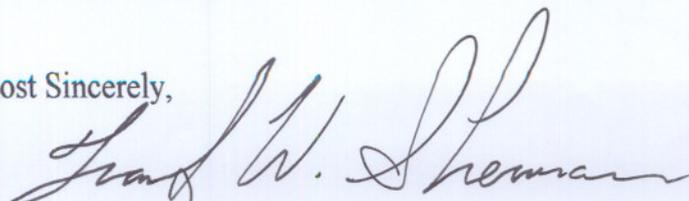
As a former Army commander who is knowledgeable of valuable military resources, I'm sure that once you have all the facts, you will realize that closing Cannon Air Force Base is a big mistake that will prove to be costly to the readiness and fighting ability of the United States military. This base has an abundance of air space with no encroachment problems. In addition, supersonic training will be available once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is in place late this year or early next year. This will allow the Air Force, as well as Navy, Army and Marine pilots, to train with more realistic scenarios. And, because of our unique location, there are few commercial air lanes for the military to contend with – as is the case with bases located near airports.

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The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

1 June 2005

Dear Mr. Bilbray,

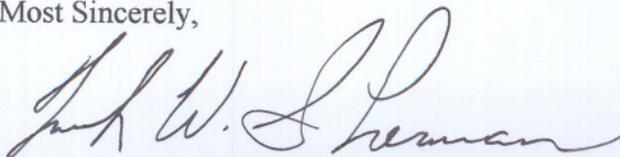
As a former Representative from Nevada, where the military has an important presence, I'm sure you can realize that closing Cannon Air Force Base is a big mistake that will prove to be costly to the readiness and fighting ability of the United States military. This base has an abundance of air space with no encroachment problems. In addition, supersonic training will be available once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is in place late this year or early next year. This will allow the Air Force, as well as Army, Navy and Marine pilots, to train with more realistic scenarios. And, because of our unique location, there are few commercial air lanes for the military to contend with – as is the case with bases located near airports.

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Rev. Dr. Frank W. Sherman
124 Fairway Terrace North
Clovis, New Mexico 88101-3043

The Honorable Philip Coyle
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

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1 June 2005

Dear Mr. Coyle,

As a senior advisor to the Center for Defense Information, I'm sure you will soon realize that closing Cannon Air Force Base is a big mistake that will prove to be costly to the readiness and fighting ability of the United States military. This base has an abundance of air space with no encroachment problems. In addition, supersonic training will be available once the New Mexico Training Range Initiative is in place late this year or early next year. This will allow the Air Force, as well as Army, Navy and Marine pilots, to train with more realistic scenarios. And, because of our unique location, there are few commercial air lanes for the military to contend with – as is the case with bases located near airports.

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