

TRACY A. BROOKS
124 CADE'S CT
CLOVIS NM 88101-9555

28 MAY 2005

RECEIVED
06032005

GENERAL LLOYD W. NEWTON (USAF, RET)
2521 SOUTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 600
ARLINGTON VA 22202

GENERAL NEWTON, SIR

With the entire BRAC-related events currently at hand, I'm sure that you are very busy, so I'll get right to my point. I ask that you take the time to reconsider factors that I feel are supportive to justify Cannon AFB's (CAFB) removal from the BRAC list.

I have no idea if you've been to Clovis NM and/or Cannon AFB before, so the following factors, which are a very few of the many, are for your serious consideration:

- a. Without a doubt, Clovis has an **unmatched**, positive supporting community relationship with the base for over 50-years. Many military members say that our town-base relationship is the best in the Air Force.
- b. Leaders within our community spearheaded the effort to expand and convert the airspace to SUPERSONIC flying through the NM Training Range Initiative. This factor makes equipping CAFB in the future with either the new F/A-22 or F-35 aircraft extremely attractive immediately which allows the AF to better train for real-life situations.
- c. The lowest level of encroachment on the base's land and airspace of any base in the Air Force, unlike some other installations currently not on the BRAC list.
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- e. Noteworthy amounts in immaculate condition of both aircraft ramp parking space and maintenance facilities. We can easily accommodate surge force requirements in training/emergency situations.
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- g. Melrose bombing range is located immediately west of the base and is utilized by numerous Air Force installations from all over the Continental United States for bombing exercises to maintain mission readiness for wartime contingencies.
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The above are just a very few of many remarkable military-related dynamics which justify why CAFB should be removed from the BRAC list. In addition, please consider the following significant issues:

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Sir, Clovis and the surrounding area are **exceedingly** proud of their long-standing support of CAFB and our military. In this day and age of global terrorism and the need for a rapidly deployable military, it is imperative that CAFB be not only kept open with its current mission, but that its mission is greatly expanded in the future.

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HONORABLE JAMES V. HANSEN
2521 SOUTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 600
ARLINGTON VA 22202

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HONORABLE ADMIRAL HAROLD W. GEHMAN, JR., (USN, RET)
2521 SOUTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 600
ARLINGTON VA 22202

ADMIRAL GEHMAN, SIR

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HONORABLE BRIGADIER GENERAL SUE E. TURNER (USAF, RET)
2521 SOUTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 600
ARLINGTON VA 22202

BRIGADIER GENERAL TURNER, MAM

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HONORABLE JAMES H. BILBRAY
2521 SOUTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 600
ARLINGTON VA 22202

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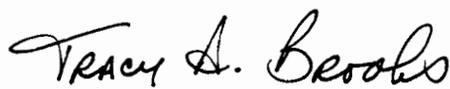
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HONORABLE SAMUEL K. SKINNER
2521 SOUTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 600
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- j. Within the last few years, again, the Clovis community purchased land north of CAFB and **GAVE** it back to the AF for additional housing, now known as Chavez Manor – some stated that it's the best military housing they've lived in. And with our privatization which was to happen this month, we would have 100% premier housing.

k. In addition, Clovis, Portales, Easter New Mexico, Roswell, Tucumcari, West Texas (including Amarillo and Lubbock) are home to in excess of 21,000 military retirees and their families. These people rely on CAFB for healthcare, grocery shopping and countless other amenities. There is not another installation close by to serve our retired military.

The above are just a very few of many remarkable military-related dynamics which justify why CAFB should be removed from the BRAC list. In addition, please consider the following significant issues:

With a community population of only 37,000 and it being located in a seriously remote portion of the state, Clovis and its surrounding communities are **incalculably** dependent upon CAFB for not only future growth, but indeed for their sheer survival. While the "official" estimate is that Clovis could expect a 20% decline in its population and jobs, many experts believe 40%-90% as more realistic! The massive decline in the tax base would negatively impact every facet of the quality of life which is recognized here. As a critical example, school funding would be severely diminished and our children's futures would be negatively impacted. Communities out to a distance of 200 miles would be forever **detrimentally** impacted.

Considering the transient nature of the military, and the chronic, frequent moves all over the world, this is the only place my 13-year old has ever considered as home; this is now my home as well. She barely knows any of her "real" relatives. Our first assignment at CAFB was 1993-1998 and we are back by request for our second assignment since 2002 and had hopes of retiring here. As I write this letter the tears are streaming down my face as the wonderful memories flood back of this tremendously sustaining community and overwhelmingly supportive environment. I'm not sure you realize the impact this will have on this community; not just financially, but socially, morally, spiritually and emotionally. This community supports CAFB like no other military installation I've seen in my 24-year career. They have become our family; please don't take this away from us!

Sir, Clovis and the surrounding area are **exceedingly** proud of their long-standing support of CAFB and our military. In this day and age of global terrorism and the need for a rapidly deployable military, it is imperative that CAFB be not only kept open with its current mission, but that its mission is greatly expanded in the future.

Thank you in advance for your time and reconsideration of removing Cannon AFB from the BRAC list, it is most legitimately warranted and justified.

Sincerely,


TRACY A. BROOKS

TRACY A. BROOKS
124 CADE'S CT
CLOVIS NM 88101-9555

28 MAY 2005

GENERAL JAMES T. HILL (USA, RET)
2521 SOUTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 600
ARLINGTON VA 22202

06032005

GENERAL HILL, SIR

With the entire BRAC-related events currently at hand, I'm sure that you are very busy, so I'll get right to my point. I ask that you take the time to reconsider factors that I feel are supportive to justify Cannon AFB's (CAFB) removal from the BRAC list.

I have no idea if you've been to Clovis NM and/or Cannon AFB before, so the following factors, which are a very few of the many, are for your serious consideration:

- a. Without a doubt, Clovis has an **unmatched**, positive supporting community relationship with the base for over 50-years. Many military members say that our town-base relationship is the best in the Air Force.
- b. Leaders within our community spearheaded the effort to expand and convert the airspace to SUPERSONIC flying through the NM Training Range Initiative. This factor makes equipping CAFB in the future with either the new F/A-22 or F-35 aircraft extremely attractive immediately which allows the AF to better train for real-life situations.
- c. The lowest level of encroachment on the base's land and airspace of any base in the Air Force, unlike some other installations currently not on the BRAC list.
- d. Superb year round flying weather. In the early 90s, Curry County, in conjunction with the State of NM, purchased air easements around CAFB and **GAVE** them to the AF.
- e. Noteworthy amounts in immaculate condition of both aircraft ramp parking space and maintenance facilities. We can easily accommodate surge force requirements in training/emergency situations.
- f. Extremely low operating costs for utilities such as electricity/water/sewage.
- g. Melrose bombing range is located immediately west of the base and is utilized by numerous Air Force installations from all over the Continental United States for bombing exercises to maintain mission readiness for wartime contingencies.
- h. CAFB has the space/facilities to accommodate joint war-fight, training and readiness as was evidenced by the recent joint training effort between Cannon and the US Navy.
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28 MAY 2005

HONORABLE PHILIP COYLE
2521 SOUTH CLARK STREET, SUITE 600
ARLINGTON VA 22202

06032005

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