

DCN: 3000

Village of Des Moines

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06222005

May 25, 2005

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



Re: "KEEP CANNON INITIATIVE"

To Whom It May Concern:

As Mayor of the Village of Des Moines, Union County, New Mexico, I am writing this to let you know that the Village of Des Moines strongly supports the City of Clovis and the Clovis City Commission in their efforts to have Cannon Air Force Base removed from the BRAC closure list.

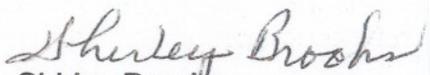
All of Eastern and Northeastern New Mexico would be greatly affected if the Cannon Air Force Base were closed. There are many area students who live in the Clovis and the Portales areas: while attending college. These students also work to help pay their way through college. The economic impact would be very far reaching, as many families around the state and west Texas would be affected. Many young people would be unable to find employment to help support themselves while attending College.

Cannon Air Force Base through the foresight and planning by our military, local and state officials has become a necessary component for the military and security needs for our country.

Removing Cannon Air Force Base from the closure list will not only help the Clovis, Portales and surrounding areas but also the entire Eastern and Northeastern side of New Mexico and West Texas.

Thank you, for your consideration in this diligent effort by all.

Respectfully,


Shirley Brooks
Mayor, Village of Des Moines

CC: City of Clovis, Claire Burroughes

RESOLUTION № 04/05 – 20

A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE “KEEP CANNON” INITIATIVE.

WHEREAS, the Clovis Army Air Base was activated during World War II and closed at the end of the war;
and,

WHEREAS, the base was reactivated during the Korean conflict and has been continuously serving the national defense since that time; and,

WHEREAS, Cannon Air Force Base has a long history of both combat and peace time service to the safety and security of the country; and,

WHEREAS, the Clovis community has strongly supported Cannon Air Force Base, its mission and the United States Air Force personnel and their families; and,

WHEREAS, the Department of Defense, on May 13, 2005, announced its recommendation to close Cannon Air Force Base as a part of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) program; and,

WHEREAS, Cannon Air Force Base meets all announced criteria governing the base closure evaluation; and,

WHEREAS, Cannon Air Force Base has favorable flying conditions, is in close proximity to the Melrose Bomb range, has recently refurbished both runways and other infrastructure, and has infrastructure capable of accommodating an expanded mission; and

WHEREAS, through foresight and planning by local and state officials, air right easements have been previously acquired to eliminate encroachment issues that have impacted other Air Force bases; and,

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Training Range Initiative should be finalized before the end of 2005, allowing supersonic training at Melrose Bomb Range and the associated military airspace; and,

WHEREAS, from the inception of the air expeditionary force (AEF) concept, Cannon Air Force Base has served as a lead wing; and,

WHEREAS, Cannon personnel and their families have contributed greatly to the local community, and the local community has provided a supportive home to those military families; and,

WHEREAS, the closure of Cannon Air Force Base would have a significant adverse impact on the community and state, both financially and culturally; and,

WHEREAS, the Village Council believes that the closure recommendation fails to follow the announced criteria; and,

WHEREAS, Governor Richardson has vowed to lead and support efforts to overcome the recommendation of the Defense Department; and,

WHEREAS, Congressional leaders have also pledged to lead efforts to overcome the recommendation; and,

WHEREAS, the citizens of Des Moines, Union County, eastern New Mexico and west Texas support Cannon Air Force Base and the efforts to resist closure; and,

WHEREAS, City and community leaders have developed a strategy and initiative to collect and present data that will demonstrate that Cannon Air Force Base is a necessary component for the military and security needs of the country far into the future; and,

WHEREAS, the City Commission seeks the involvement, support and assistance of all citizens to successfully persuade the BRAC Commission to remove Cannon Air Force Base from the closure list.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the Village of Des Moines, Des Moines, New Mexico, to exert whatever means and energy is necessary to obtain the removal of Cannon Air Force Base from the BRAC closure list, and encourages the citizens of Des Moines and eastern New Mexico to actively and aggressively support this effort by writing letters, emails and communications showing the support of the community for the continued existence of Cannon Air Force Base.

DONE this 9th day of June, 2005.

Village of Des Moines, NEW MEXICO

By Shirley Brooks
Shirley Brooks, MAYOR

Jesse Yeargain
MAYOR PRO TEM Jesse Yeargain

Sandra Fernandez
COUNCIL MEMBER Sandra Fernandez

Marjorie Briesch
COUNCIL MEMBER Marjorie Briesch

Thomas E. Haynes
COUNCIL MEMBER Thomas Haynes

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

Karen Bray
Village Clerk/Treasurer