

DCN: 2231



 **RECEIVED**

June 15, 2005

06172005

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

Dear Mr. Skinner,

My father opened Watson Motor Co. in 1948, about the same time Cannon Air Force Base was reactivated, five years before I was born. This year the dealership celebrates it's 57th anniversary. Last week my son received his Bachelor's Degree and his plan was to continue the operation of the dealership. The closing of Cannon AFB will certainly place those plans at risk. We are very concerned with the decision to close our base. Cannon is a vital part of our community. We feel it has been put on your closure list in error.

There are several unique attributes that Cannon offers to our national defense. There is no encroachment to Cannon's airspace. We understand from Senator Domenici that the completion of the supersonic training range is very near. We have been told that the Department of Defense did not consider the supersonic training capabilities or the recently completed second runway at Cannon. The many new and existing facilities **suitable for joint training exercises** are two of the wonderful aspects of Cannon AFB. Our close proximity to the Melrose Bombing Range is also an asset. In today's world of rising fuel costs, it seems unthinkable to ignore the savings of being located adjacent to the Melrose Bombing Range. We understand that Cannon has one of the lowest lost flight training days due to the weather.

Fighter planes from Cannon are scrambled to protect the Pan Tex facility in Amarillo, Texas and they are the closest defender. They are able to reach Amarillo in half the time of the next closest base.

We believe that no other community would be as economically harmed as eastern New Mexico and west Texas if Cannon were to leave. Not only will closing Cannon AFB devastate Clovis, it will also affect many of the smaller surrounding communities.

New Mexico's Oldest Lincoln Mercury Dealer • New Mexico's Oldest Toyota Dealer

Military retirees from Lubbock, Amarillo, and Roswell will have to travel to Albuquerque, which is 225 miles away, for medical care and to use the commissary.

We invite you to come personally to the Cannon hearing in Clovis. We ask you to please reconsider Cannon's importance to the nation and to our community. Please, let us KEEP CANNON!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Tom and Vestana Watson". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

Tom and Vestana Watson
1505 E. 21st
Clovis, NM 88101



June 15, 2005

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi, Chairman
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Chairman Principi,

My father opened Watson Motor Co. in 1948, about the same time Cannon Air Force Base was reactivated, five years before I was born. This year the dealership celebrates it's 57th anniversary. Last week my son received his Bachelor's Degree and his plan was to continue the operation of the dealership. The closing of Cannon AFB will certainly place those plans at risk. We are very concerned with the decision to close our base. Cannon is a vital part of our community. We feel it has been put on your closure list in error.

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Tom and Vestana Watson
1505 E. 21st
Clovis, NM 88101



June 15, 2005

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Brigadier General Turner,

My father opened Watson Motor Co. in 1948, about the same time Cannon Air Force Base was reactivated, five years before I was born. This year the dealership celebrates it's 57th anniversary. Last week my son received his Bachelor's Degree and his plan was to continue the operation of the dealership. The closing of Cannon AFB will certainly place those plans at risk. We are very concerned with the decision to close our base. Cannon is a vital part of our community. We feel it has been put on your closure list in error.

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Sincerely,

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Tom and Vestana Watson
1505 E. 21st
Clovis, NM 88101



600 W. 7 TH ST. P.O. BOX 1850
CLOVIS, NEW MEXICO 88101
PHONE (505) 762-4551



June 15, 2005

General Lloyd W. Newton
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear General Newton,

My father opened Watson Motor Co. in 1948, about the same time Cannon Air Force Base was reactivated, five years before I was born. This year the dealership celebrates it's 57th anniversary. Last week my son received his Bachelor's Degree and his plan was to continue the operation of the dealership. The closing of Cannon AFB will certainly place those plans at risk. We are very concerned with the decision to close our base. Cannon is a vital part of our community. We feel it has been put on your closure list in error.

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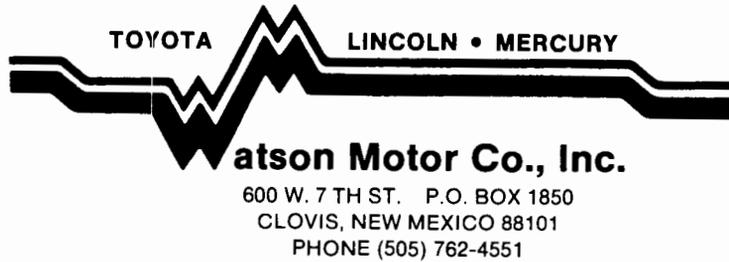
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Sincerely,

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature is a large, stylized cursive signature, likely belonging to Tom Watson. The second signature is a smaller, more legible cursive signature, likely belonging to Vestana Watson.

Tom and Vestana Watson
1505 E. 21st
Clovis, NM 88101



June 15, 2005

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

Dear General Hill,

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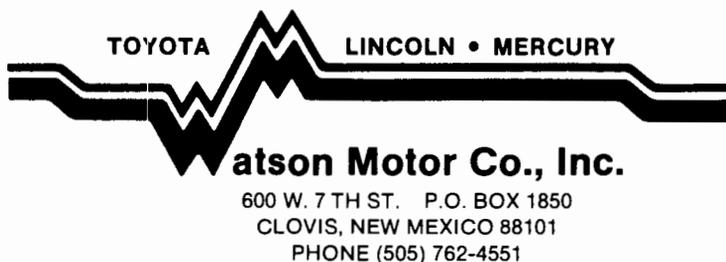
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Tom and Vestana Watson
1505 E. 21st
Clovis, NM 88101



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June 15, 2005

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

Dear Mr. Hansen,

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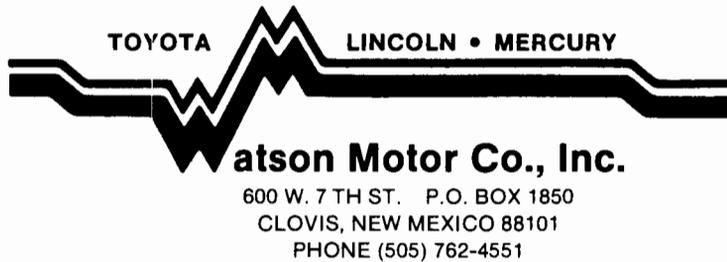
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The Honorable James H. Bilbray
BRAC Commission
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Mr. Bilbray,

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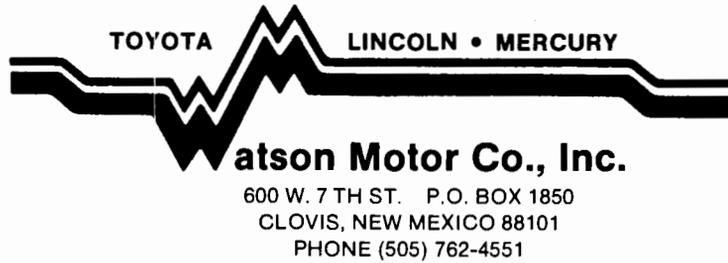
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Clovis, NM 88101



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

Dear Admiral Gehman,

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Tom and Vestana Watson
1505 E. 21st
Clovis, NM 88101



06 172 005 RECEIVED

June 15, 2005

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

Dear Mr. Coyle,

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Tom and Vestana Watson
1505 E. 21st
Clovis, NM 88101