

**BRAC Commission  
Received**  
6/17/2005

June 13, 2005

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

Re: Cannon Air Force Base, Clovis, New Mexico

Dear General Hill:

Thank you for the opportunity to express my feelings toward the BRAC closure list regarding Cannon Air Force Base. It is greatly appreciated that while performing your commission duties, the time is taken out to hear the public's feelings regarding the placement of Cannon Air Force Base.

Cannon Air Force Base has been a huge part of my life and those around me for quite some time. I was born in Clovis, NM as was my brother; I am now 18 years old and my brother is 21. I am currently working part-time for a lawyer in Clovis as a secretary and I will also be attending Eastern New Mexico University in the fall. When I started attending school at the age of four I quickly became associated with Cannon Air Force Base. While attending pre-school I was intrigued at the amount of students in my morning class that were from different parts of the country. All through school from pre-school, elementary, junior high and even high school, I began making friends from Cannon Air Force Base. I loved that I was able to associate with students who had seen different parts of the world. I have made life long friends from Cannon Air Force Base. If Cannon was not part of my life while growing up I do not believe that I would be as open hearted and welcoming of people and their cultures as I am today.

With this little information about me I hope you can see how living in Clovis with Cannon as my neighbor influenced me. My heart grew and I learned the differences between people and their cultures and how no matter what's the difference we could all be friends.

I believe Clovis is a great place for Cannon Air Force base. Clovis has excellent fight weather, great airspace, little electromagnetic interference and great air traffic control. The community of Clovis and the Committee of Fifty works together to fulfil every request made by the Pentagon. Where else would be a better location for Cannon Air Force Base than Clovis, New Mexico? Cannon Air Force Base helped bring my small town of Clovis to life. Cannon isn't just a base to us it's the heart of Clovis.

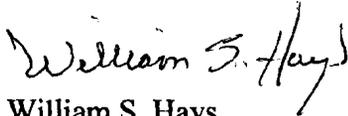
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- d. Finally, the facilities, space availability, location, and weather make Cannon a valuable asset and an economic benefit to the military mission. It gives the Air Force greater flexibility in meeting surge force requirements in training and emergency situations. This is great advantage for the Air Force in adapting to the changing global threat faced by the United States today.

There will be economic impacts on the surrounding Clovis area from the closure of Cannon, but these are not the deciding factors to weight in your evaluation of closing or not closing Cannon AFB. I hope you will look further into the benefits Cannon AFB offers the Air Force by retaining it as an active installation.

Respectfully,



William S. Hays  
Lt. Col. USAF (Ret.)

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6/17/2005

1509 Stagecoach LN SE  
Albuquerque, NM 87123  
June 14, 2005

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

Dear Sir:

As a current resident of Albuquerque, NM, a former resident of Clovis, NM both as a youth and later as an adult, and a retired Air Traffic Control Officer in the U. S. Air Force with 25 years service, I am writing this letter in support of retaining Cannon AFB in an operational status. Cannon AFB is unique in its location, proximity and its relationship with the local community. These factors are so significant that I believe they have overriding considerations greater than the gain from the closure of the base. My rationale as a professional air traffic control officer is as follows:

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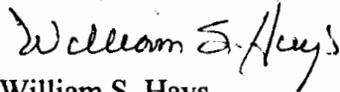
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Lt. Col. USAF (Ret.)

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Albuquerque, NM 87123  
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The Honorable Philip Coyle  
BRAC Commission  
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

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

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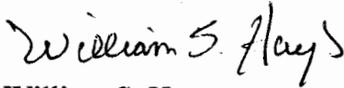
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Lt. Col. USAF (Ret.)

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1509 Stagecoach LN SE  
Albuquerque, NM 87123  
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General Lloyd W. Newton  
BRAC Commission  
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

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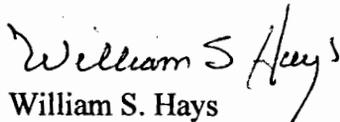
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Albuquerque, NM 87123  
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The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner  
BRAC Commission  
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

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Albuquerque, NM 87123  
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Brigadier General Sue E. Turner  
BRAC Commission  
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Madam:

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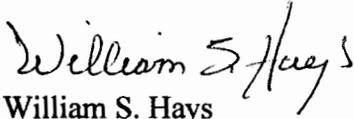
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The Honorable James V. Hansen  
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Arlington, VA 22202

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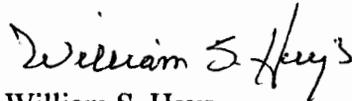
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Admiral Harold W. Gehman Jr.  
BRAC Commission  
2521 South Clark Street, Suite 600  
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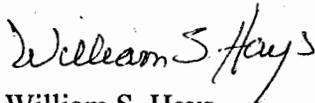
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- d. Finally, the facilities, space availability, location, and weather make Cannon a valuable asset and an economic benefit to the military mission. It gives the Air Force greater flexibility in meeting surge force requirements in training and emergency situations. This is great advantage for the Air Force in adapting to the changing global threat faced by the United States today.

There will be economic impacts on the surrounding Clovis area from the closure of Cannon, but these are not the deciding factors to weight in your evaluation of closing or not closing Cannon AFB. I hope you will look further into the benefits Cannon AFB offers the Air Force by retaining it as an active installation.

Respectfully,



William S. Hays  
Lt. Col. USAF (Ret.)

1509 Stagecoach LN SE  
Albuquerque, NM 87123  
June 14, 2005

**BRAC Commission**  
**Received**  
6/17/2005

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

Dear Sir:

As a current resident of Albuquerque, NM, a former resident of Clovis, NM both as a youth and later as an adult, and a retired Air Traffic Control Officer in the U. S. Air Force with 25 years service, I am writing this letter in support of retaining Cannon AFB in an operational status. Cannon AFB is unique in its location, proximity and its relationship with the local community. These factors are so significant that I believe they have overriding considerations greater than the gain from the closure of the base. My rationale as a professional air traffic control officer is as follows:

- a. The air space surrounding Cannon is restricted for military purposes from civilian aircraft. These restrictions avoid conflicts with non-military aircraft offering much safer flight conditions. This is vital to the military training environment because of the necessary training tactics needed to improve Air Force pilots' flying skills i.e. air to ground and air to air training scenarios. Uncongested air space in our ever growing American environment is becoming less and less available due to expanding population centers across the USA and the need for greater civilian airways. Further, Eastern New Mexico weather offers the flying mission at Cannon AFB year round flight training, thus less training sorties are lost as a result of inclement weather. This is a major economic advantage.
- b. The population in Eastern New Mexico is basically rural which results in far less civilian complaints regarding the flying mission at Cannon AFB. I have been assigned in the Air Force to much greater urban centers i.e. Ellington AFB at Houston, Texas, Edwards AFB in Southern California, and Torrejon AB, Madrid, Spain, than what is experienced at Cannon AFB next to Clovis. Due to the proximity of the civilian residences near many airbases in urban areas, greater complaints for noise, over flights and/or delays are notably increased. I have been stationed at Cannon AFB where the civilian complaints were minimal due to the less dense population. Flights originating and arriving Cannon are not routinely diverted to avoid civilian airways. This is an advantage of Cannon's proximity in Eastern NM as compared to other Air Force locations.
- c. Additionally, what might be considered unique to Cannon AFB is its relationship with the local civilian community. I grew up in Clovis and I remember it being re-opened early in the Korean War. Clovis community opened its hospitality to the base members to such a degree that it became the envy of other bases throughout the Air Force. I personally experienced this when stationed at Reese AFB