

# Congress of the United States

August 12, 2005

The Honorable Anthony J. Principi  
Chairman, Defense Base Closure  
& Realignment Commission  
2521 S. Clark Street, Suite 600  
Arlington, VA 22202-3920

BRAC Commission

AUG 12 2005

Received

Dear Chairman Principi:

The Department of Defense proposes to establish Eglin AFB as the initial Joint Strike Fighter (JSF) training site. The net cost to implement this decision is \$209M, which will include over \$167M in MILCON. Eglin AFB is a test and evaluation base - not a training base, and will grow significantly as a result of BRAC 2005 recommendations without the JSF proposal. Cannon AFB has the ramp space, hangars, airspace, ranges and low level routes to support JSF requirements based on its former mission as a primary training base for the F-111. If, as recommended, the F-16s depart, all of Cannon AFB's facilities will be available to standup the JSF mission with a minimum construction investment.

As discussed in our previous conversations, it is clear to us that the Commissioners and a number of senior Air Force leaders are not confident the closure of Cannon AFB makes sense. The data that was submitted and certified by the Department is certainly at odds with the personal assurances to us over the years by the uniformed Air Force leadership that Cannon AFB is one of their best Air Combat Command installations. The economic impact exceeds the point that any community can reasonably absorb. Additionally, it appears that the Air Force neglected a number of viable future missions for Cannon AFB, such as the Airborne Laser and the JSF training mission.

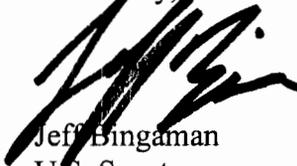
Some Commissioners have remarked to us that Cannon AFB should stay open, but needs a new mission. We request that you consider Cannon AFB as the initial site for JSF training. We also ask that you review Attachment (1) and encourage your analysts to determine whether or not the BRAC Commission could, in fact, eliminate the \$167M cost to the taxpayers to start-up this mission at Eglin AFB. Cannon AFB is available, ready and has a history of training aircrews and their support personnel.

We would also encourage you to determine the amount of interaction the Education and Training Joint Cross Service Group had with the Air Force during the decision process that chose Eglin AFB over Cannon AFB, as well as which bases — other than Eglin AFB — were evaluated to receive this new and large training mission.



Pete V. Domenici  
U.S. Senator

Sincerely,



Jeff Bingaman  
U.S. Senator



Tom Udall  
U.S. Representative

**JSF Training Recommendation**

**DoD Recommendation COBRA – JSF Training to Eglin AFB:**

MilCon for Base: Eglin AFB, FL (FTFA)

All values in 2005 Constant Dollars (\$K)

| FAC Title                                      | UM | New MilCon | New Cost* | Using Rehab | Rehab Type | Rehab Cost* | Total Cost* |
|------------------------------------------------|----|------------|-----------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1131 Aircraft Apron, Surfaced                  | SY | 79,016     | n/a**     | 0           | Default    | n/a**       | 8,997       |
| 1412 Aviation Operations Building              | SF | 14,000     | n/a**     | 0           | Default    | n/a**       | 2,600       |
| 1711 General Purpose Instruction Building      | SF | 22,579     | n/a**     | 0           | Default    | n/a**       | 4,141       |
| 1721 Flight Simulator Facility                 | SF | 112,420    | n/a**     | 0           | Default    | n/a**       | 24,516      |
| 2111 Aircraft Maintenance Hangar               | SF | 90,600     | n/a**     | 0           | Default    | n/a**       | 23,951      |
| 6100 General Administrative Building           | SF | 111,830    | n/a**     | 0           | Default    | n/a**       | 18,957      |
| 2112 Aircraft Maintenance Shop                 | SF | 0          | n/a**     | 27,280      | Default    | n/a**       | 2,877       |
| 2113 Aircraft Corrosion Control Hangar         | SF | 0          | n/a**     | 17,280      | Default    | n/a**       | 2,744       |
| 2181 Installation Support Vehicle Maintenance  | SF | 0          | n/a**     | 35,105      | Default    | n/a**       | 3,179       |
| 2151 Weapon Maintenance Shop                   | SF | 0          | n/a**     | 10,047      | Default    | n/a**       | 846         |
| 2171 Electronic and Communication Maintenance  | SF | 0          | n/a**     | 6,000       | Default    | n/a**       | 519         |
| 1444 Miscellaneous Operations Support Building | SF | 45,685     | n/a**     | 0           | Default    | n/a**       | 9,566       |
| 2116 Aircraft Maintenance Shop, Depot          | SF | 68,827     | n/a**     | 0           | Default    | n/a**       | 13,475      |
| 2184 Parachute And Dingy Maintenance Shop      | SF | 8,209      | n/a**     | 0           | Default    | n/a**       | 1,616       |
| 4221 Ammunition Storage, Installation          | SF | 4,217      | n/a**     | 0           | Default    | n/a**       | 1,048       |
| 4421 Covered Storage Building, Installation    | SF | 8,508      | n/a**     | 0           | Default    | n/a**       | 823         |
| 7210 Enlisted Unaccompanied Personnel Housing  | SF | 193,680    | n/a**     | 0           | Default    | n/a**       | 25,920      |
| 7220 Dining Facility                           | SF | 8,109      | n/a**     | 0           | Default    | n/a**       | 2,312       |
| 7362 Religious Education Facility              | SF | 19,518     | n/a**     | 0           | Default    | n/a**       | 3,863       |
| 7371 Nursery and Child Care Facility           | SF | 24,480     | n/a**     | 0           | Default    | n/a**       | 5,016       |
| 7372 Family Service Center                     | SF | 1,911      | n/a**     | 0           | Default    | n/a**       | 421         |
| 7416 Library, General Use                      | SF | 2,731      | n/a**     | 0           | Default    | n/a**       | 499         |
| 7417 Recreation Center                         | SF | 14,859     | n/a**     | 0           | Default    | n/a**       | 2,785       |
| 7421 Indoor Physical Fitness Facility          | SF | 23,788     | n/a**     | 0           | Default    | n/a**       | 4,664       |
| 1412 Aviation Operations Building              | SF | 0          | n/a**     | 28,000      | Default    | n/a**       | 2,554       |
| Total Construction Cost:                       |    |            |           |             |            |             | 167,889     |
| - Construction Cost Avoid:                     |    |            |           |             |            |             | 0           |
| Total Net Milcon Cost:                         |    |            |           |             |            |             | 167,889     |

**Clovis Community Comments:**

- If the MILCON is deleted, the change in significant COBRA Cost Elements is displayed below:

| Scenario                 | Payback Period (Years) | Costs/Savings (\$K)* |         |                     |                        |
|--------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|---------|---------------------|------------------------|
|                          |                        | 20 - Year NPV        | 1-Time  | Total (2006 – 2011) | Annual Total Recurring |
| ECTR 005 21 Apr ver 6.10 | Never                  | 226,262              | 199,078 | 209,595             | 3,328                  |
| JSF to Cannon            | Never                  | 47,262               | 31,181  | 35,388              | 1,496                  |

- Cannon facilities, sized for the F-111, should be able to support the JSF footprint with little modification.

- MILCON Summary Report is below. As can be seen, if Cannon AFB loses its F-16s, all the facilities proposed for construction and rehab will be available for use. There may be some requirement to modify simulator, maintenance shops, avionics facilities, etc., but it appears the bulk of the \$167.9 Million MILCON show would be eliminated.
- Cannon has the airspace, ranges, low level routes, etc. to support JSF requirements based on its former life as one of two primary training bases for the F-111, the other at Mountain Home AFB, ID.