

800 Third Street Melrose, New Mexico 88124 June 3, 2005

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

Dear Commission Members:

As I drove home last night, past Cannon Air Force Base, my heart felt pride and then fear. The pride came from years of seeing the base growing, changing from a small base to a large establishment in the past 30 years. The fear came from the thought of losing it.

I met my husband at Cannon at the recreation center in a square dance club. I worked in Civil Engineers for a while in 1971 and at the Base Exchange and Military Clothing from 1989 to 1997. My son worked at the base post office, my husband worked for communications for a few years in the nineties.

We made lots of friends through the base and I can't stand the thought of losing it. I have so much passion and feelings for the base. It sounds odd to love a place, but it is easily done. If it closes, it will break many hearts. If you don't consider the economics of losing the base, please consider the personal loss.

Please do not insult my intelligence to say closing the base would save money. You know the government does not worry about saving our tax dollars. The government sends millions of our tax dollars to other countries, it needs to use our tax dollars for us, the United States tax payers.

Thank you for your time.

Judy Casady