Steve A. Blakeley 614 S. Roosevelt Rd. U Portales, NM 88130

Brigadier General Sue E. Turner

It concerns me that the BRAC Commission is considering closing Cannon Air Force Base.

I have been a resident of Portales, 18 miles South of Cannon, for over 50 years and I want you to know without Cannon I feel Portales would dry-up and blow away. The additional income from the base has sustained Portales through some tough times.

The closure of Cannon will devastate our local community. We are a very small community and we have not had the best of economic conditions for the past several years because farming has been hit really hard and we have had a drought for the past 7 years.

Please, reconsider you would hurt my lively hood and that of many others in our area for years go come.

I also like to go out to Cannon each year for their open house and see what our country is doing to protect it's self. I am proud of our country and of Cannon please do not take that away for me.

Respectfully yours,

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The Honorable Anthony J. Principi

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5/25/05

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The Honorable Philip Coyle

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The Honorable James h. Bilbray

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The Honorable James V. Hansen

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The Honorable Samuel K. Skinner

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General Lloyd W. Newton

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Admiral Harold W. Gehman Jr.

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