



State of New Mexico

Office of the Governor

Bill Richardson
Governor

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Governor Richardson to Meet Face to Face With Last Two BRAC Commissioners-- Eight and Ninth Meeting

Governor Richardson Will Meet BRAC Commission Chairman and Former Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Anthony Principi and Commissioner General Lloyd W. "Fig" Newton (USAF, Ret.)

Santa Fe: Governor Bill Richardson will travel to Washington D. C. on July 21, 2005 to meet with the last two BRAC Commissioner, BRAC Commission Chairman Anthony Principi and Commissioner General Lloyd W. "Fig" Newton (USAF, Retired). "I made a commitment to meet face to face with all the Commissioners and this trip fulfills that pledge. I've talked to Chairman Principi by phone, but I want to meet him face to face. These personal meetings with the Commissioners have proven a great opportunity to make our case to keep Cannon Air Force Base open. I will be traveling with State Republican Senate Minority Leader Stuart Ingle and Hanson Scott, Director of the State Office of Military Base Closing and Support," Governor Richardson said.

"It is critical that every BRAC Commissioner hear directly about the strategic importance of Cannon to our national security and the tremendous impact closing Cannon will have on eastern New Mexico. We have a strong case and I have conveyed the facts to every Commissioner I have met with. We began planning for this in 2003 and now it is paying off. We basically have about a month and a half to make our position known. Our case is well documented and the entire political leadership of the state, Democrat and

Republican are united in our determination to keep Cannon Air Force Base open,” Governor Richardson said.

“We need five votes. I will continue to travel anywhere and do anything I can to save Cannon Air Force base,” Governor Richardson said.

The seven BRAC Commissioners Governor Richardson has met face to face are:

James Hansen in Salt Lake City

Sue Ellen Turner in Santa Fe

James Bilbray in Las Vegas

Sam Skinner in Washington, D.C.

Admiral Harold Gehman in Pensacola, Florida

General James Hill in Miami

Philip Coyle in Los Angeles

There are nine members on the BRAC Commission. Five votes are required to reverse the Pentagon recommendations.

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