



AF  
CAFB

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

HEADQUARTERS 27th FIGHTER WING (ACC)  
CANNON AIR FORCE BASE, NEW MEXICO



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BARBARA H  
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03 OCT 1995

MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION LIST

FROM: 27 CE/CEV

SUBJECT: Minutes of the 20 Sep 95 Restoration Advisory Board (RAB)

1. **Place:** Clovis Community College Room 512
2. **Time:** 1900
3. **Chairman:** Col W. P. Ard
4. **Opening Remarks:** Col Ard welcomed everyone to the first active RAB meeting. He introduced himself as the 27 SPTG Commander and Installation Co-Chairman for the RAB. Col Ard stressed the importance of the RAB and Cannon AFB's and the community's involvement in the environment. Introductions were made around the room. Col Ard mentioned that since the last meeting on 3 Aug 95, applications had been taken for the RAB and the door was still open for more applicants. Col Ard introduced Mr. John Pike, IRP Manager for Cannon AFB, and stated Mr. Pike would walk everyone through the RAB's obligations and opportunities.
5. **Obligations, and Opportunities:** Mr. Pike explained: (1) RAB members have the opportunity to learn valuable information about the environment, and (2) members are obligated to attend all meetings.
6. **How Does Cannon AFB Operate:** Mr. Pike explained that Cannon AFB operates under the RCRA permit. He also stated that we have a total of 23 IRP sites and all of these are at varied stages of investigation or remediation.
7. **Proposed Charter:** Col Ard briefed that the proposed charter provided for the RAB members would be reviewed at the next meeting and they would vote on what they would like to include in the charter. Col Ard stated that some of the ground rules that needed to be resolved in order for the charter to be built are (1) proposed agenda for the RAB, (2) when do we want to stop taking applications, (3) do we want to continue to have open sessions, and (4) the proposed parliamentary procedures for voting. These items are to be answered at the next RAB meeting.

8. **Transition at Cannon AFB from the F-111 to the F-16s:** Lt Col Howard Buehler who is a Logistics Group member and is assigned to the transition team at Cannon AFB, gave a broad view of what Cannon AFB is doing with the wing. Lt Col Buehler explained some of the reasons the F-111 is going away at Cannon AFB including the fact that the world threat has changed and we are going from the need to be prepared for fighting a global super power to fighting a more regional type conflict. Because of the different kind of threat, our leadership has made a decision to resize our military. The Air Force will be going from 530,000 people down to 400,000 people. Cuts are being made and the F-111 is very expensive to operate. For every hour we operate, it cost the taxpayer over \$4,000. By comparison, it costs only \$2,000 to operate the F-16. Lt Col Buehler remarked that we can't afford to operate the F-111 anymore.

9. **Training:** Lt Col Buehler covered the training required for the conversion of the F-111 to the F-16. Cannon AFB will be doing a lot of training; eighty percent of the people who will be maintaining the F-16s a year from now are already at Cannon AFB.

10. **Future of the 429ECS:** Lt Col Buehler stated that the plan for the 429ECS is to stay in existence until 1997. He also stated that Det 7 and Det 2, which are dedicated to test and evaluation, will stay around as long as needed to keep the 429ECS a viable unit.

11. **Changes in Cannon AFB Facilities.** Lt Col Buehler briefed that there will be some changes in the facilities due to the conversion. Some of the changes include: (1) construction of a hydrazine facility, (2) modifications to munitions storage areas, and (3) demolition of Hangar 184.

12. **Changes in Local Community:** Lt Col Buehler mentioned that with the conversion will come change in the community. It is estimated that 1800 allocations will go away over the entire transition period including the eventual elimination of the EF-111. When you include families it is estimated that there will be 3600 fewer people. Lt Col Buehler also stated that even though the F111 will be missed, the F-16 is a highly capable weapon system that will keep Cannon AFB viable for years to come.

13. **National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA):** SrA Venable briefed the purpose of the NEPA. He explained that the purpose of the NEPA is to promote informed decision making. This policy also ensures that environmental information is available to public officials and citizens before decisions are made and actions are taken by the federal facility.

14. **Environmental Assessment:** SrA Venable explained that an Environmental Assessment provides evaluation results in a concise public document for which the federal agency is responsible. He also mentioned that it serves to: (1) provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining whether to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), (2) aid an agency's compliance with NEPA when no EIS is required or necessary, and (3) facilitate preparation of an EIS when one is required and necessary.

15. **Outline of Environmental Assessment:** An Environmental Assessment consists of: (1) Airspace Management, (2) Noise, (3) Safety, (4) Hazardous and Toxic Materials and Solid Waste, (5) Earth Resources, (6) Water Resources, (7) Air Quality, (8) Biological Resources, (9) Cultural Resources, (10) Land use and visual resources, and (11) Socioeconomic.

16. **Results of Environmental Assessment at Cannon AFB:** SrA Venable briefed that on the basis of the findings of the environmental assessment, a FONSI is expected from the proposed action on human health or the natural environment.

17. **Election of Co-chairman:** Five people on the RAB expressed interest in being Co-Chairman for the RAB. Col Ard had only the members on the RAB vote by secret ballot. Mrs. Evelyn McNamara was voted in as Community Co-Chairman. Congratulations!

18. **Next RAB Meeting:** The next RAB meeting is scheduled to be held in the Wing Conference Room on Cannon AFB on 13 Nov 95, at 1900 hours.

19. **Closing Remarks:** Col Ard extended his appreciation to all who attended the RAB meeting. He also welcomed Mrs. McNamara aboard as Co-Chairman.

Meeting adjourned at 2100 hours.



JOHN S. PIKE, GS-11  
Recorder

Attachment:  
Distribution List

1st Ind to 27 CE/CEV letter, RAB Minutes, 20 Sep 95 Meeting

10 OCT 1995

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Approved/~~Disapproved~~ *as annotated.*



W. P. ARD, Colonel, USAF  
Co-Chairman, Restoration Advisory Board