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In Re:)
)
MAKUA MILITARY RESERVATION)
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT)
STATEMENT PUBLIC COMMENT)
MEETING)
)

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

The above matter came on for public comment meeting on behalf of the 25th Infantry Division (Light) and the U.S. Army Hawaii at Nanaikapono Elementary School, 89-153 Mano Avenue, Nanakuli, Hawaii, commencing at 6:58 p.m., on Thursday, August 25, 2005.

REPORTED BY: ADRIANNE IGE KURASAKI, RPR, CSR 388
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U.S. ARMY DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
MEETING STAFF LIST

PANEL:

Colonel Howard Killian, Garrison Commander
Colonel Timothy J. Pendolino, Staff Judge Advocate

FACILITATORS:

ANNELE AMARAL
KUUMEA ALOHA GOMES

HAWAIIAN-ENGLISH TRANSLATOR:

KEHAULANI PUU

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1 Thursday, August 25, 2005 6:58 p.m.

2 PROCEEDINGS

3 MS. PATTERSON: Aloha kakou. Shall we pray.

4 Grace of God, ke akua alaa, by whatever name we
5 know you, we thank you for bringing us together again this
6 evening. We thank you for giving us the challenges that
7 we are addressing. We thank you for these people who have
8 come to make things right. We ask you to be with us,
9 each, every step of the way so you will give us the words
10 to bring your will to this place. All these things, we
11 ask, through your spirit. Amen. Mahalo.

12 FACILITATOR AMARAL: Mahalo. Thank you very much,
13 Pat, for that.

14 Okay. As we begin, let me introduce myself. To
15 those of you who may not know me, my name is Annelie
16 Amaral. I'm one of the facilitators this evening. My
17 co-facilitator is Kuumea Aloha Gomes. And we will spell
18 one another throughout the night.

19 Another person I would like to -- or two people I
20 need to introduce to you. With the U.S. Army seated at
21 the table here receiving the testimonies, closest to you
22 is Colonel Pendelino of the Staff Judge Advocate's office.
23 And next to him, of course, is Colonel Howard Killian, the
24 Garrison Commander of the 25th Infantry Division.

25 And I'd like to invite Colonel Killian to come up

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1 and say a few words, if you will.

2 COLONEL KILLIAN: Thank you, Annelle.

3 Aloha kakou.

4 FACILITATOR AMARAL: Aloha.

5 COLONEL KILLIAN: Thank you for taking time out of
6 your busy schedules to be here this evening. This is the
7 second of three scheduled meetings we have this week. The
8 next meeting will be on Saturday back up at the Waianae
9 Park district building that we were in on Tuesday night.
10 And that will be Saturday afternoon.

11 I want to thank you for the courage it takes to
12 get up and stand before a group and in front of a camera.
13 We will make every effort to get down accurately what your
14 testimony is. And for whatever reason, you may not want
15 to do that orally or have a chance to state everything
16 you'd like to, we have many opportunities for you to
17 provide written testimony. And if you think something
18 else, makuaeis.com is up and you can submit your testimony
19 that way as well.

20 I think Tuesday night, we got -- we had 21 folks
21 come up and give testimony, which was a great turnout.
22 And hopefully, we'll have the same level of participation
23 tonight.

24 Please bear with us. This is meant to be an
25 exchange, and unfortunately we can't do a lot in the way

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1 of a response to your testimony this evening. But I would
2 encourage you all that just because we're in a 60-day
3 public comment period does not limit the dialogue that the
4 Army seeks to have with the community. And we will -- I
5 will encourage that across the board, not only within this
6 time period but into the future. So as I said Tuesday
7 night, my staff, myself, remain at your disposal should
8 you request access to Makua, education on Makua, or for
9 that matter anything to do with the Army.

10 So once again, I offer that to the community and
11 anybody who's interested. And this is kind of a
12 culminating process. We started in July. We did three
13 public meetings and three meetings to different groups on
14 the coast in July, to try to get the word out on the
15 EIS -- well, actually, before the EIS was published but we
16 knew it was coming. And so tonight is the second of three
17 meetings, and basically its our turn to sit and listen.
18 And we will give your our full attention.

19 Thank you, Annelle.

20 FACILITATOR AMARAL: Thank you. Okay. Thank you,
21 Colonel.

22 For those of you that wish to speak this evening,
23 we'd ask you to return to the sign-in table and sign in
24 that you wish to speak. They'll then -- the staff there
25 will bring us these cards. We're basically calling the

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1 testifiers in the order that we're given the cards. And
2 so if you want to speak, you sort of have to sign up;
3 otherwise, I won't know that you need to speak.

4 As the Colonel has said, this is the second of
5 three meetings to invite public comment on the Draft
6 Environmental Impact Statement on the military training
7 activities at Makua Military Reservation. The meetings
8 consist of an open house, during which informational
9 material on the project can be reviewed, questions can be
10 asked. After the open house period, it is then followed
11 by a public comment period, which is a period that is on
12 the record.

13 The next meeting that will take place will be on
14 Saturday, August 27th, at Waianae District Park.
15 12:30 to 1:45 is the open house period. 2:00 to
16 6:00 p.m., the public comment period.

17 Public comment is a very formal process. There
18 is, as you may note, a court reporter in the front of the
19 room who is taking verbatim everything that is said here
20 on the microphone, which is entered into the written
21 record. Also with us, as you can see, is a videographer,
22 who is recording the comments as they are provided.
23 Another stenographer, in fact, is located at the room to
24 the rear and is available for anyone wishing to make
25 public comment but not in front of everyone, but actually

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1 requesting a more private way of commenting. Sometimes
2 people are fearful standing in the front of a large
3 audience. So there is an alternative way to give oral
4 testimony, and that is by going to the stenographer in the
5 back of the room.

6 So as a result of having the court reporter and
7 the videographer here taking the oral record, we ask that
8 if you have any discussions and conversations that you
9 need to have, that you take it outside of this room so
.0 that the additional noise doesn't interfere with these two
.1 individuals that are making the written record.

.2 We ask also that if you have a pager or a cell
.3 phone, to put it on vibrate or put it on silence, again so
.4 we don't compete with those noises.

.5 This evening, we have a Hawaiian language
.6 translator provided for us. She is Kehaulani Puu from
.7 Leeward Community College. And so I'd like to invite
.8 Kehaulani up to say a few words.

.9 Kehaulani.

:0 TRANSLATOR KEHAULANI: Aloha ahiahi kakou.

:1 FACILITATOR AMARAL: Aloha.

:2 TRANSLATOR KEHAULANI: My name is Kehaulani Puu,
:3 and I am here tonight to serve as a Hawaiian translator
:4 for those of you who wish to testify in part or in whole
:5 maka olelo Hawaii. For some of you, I understand you may

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1 not want to have your testimony translated, maybe
2 something special or sacred to you (Speaking Hawaiian),
3 but if you do want to utilize me, my services (Speaking
4 Hawaiian), and if you have any questions, just hele mai.
5 Mahalo.

6 FACILITATOR AMARAL: Mahalo. Nicely done.
7 The public comment period, as you know, is open
8 until September 21st, so further comments can be made
9 beyond Saturday and submitted either via mail, fax,
10 e-mail. Forms are found at the entrance at the sign-in
11 table. If you have any questions about public comment,
12 Mr. Gary Shirakata is at the back of the room. He's
13 wearing a green shirt. And you can go to him and ask him
14 any specific questions that you may have.

15 You should know that regardless of the form that
16 comments come in, equal weight is given to all comments.
17 So it doesn't matter if you stand up here and give it, it
18 doesn't matter if you hand write it or e-mail it, it's all
19 considered equally. And so that's not -- shouldn't be a
20 problem.

21 Okay. When we call you up to speak, I'm going to
22 call your name, and then that way the court reporter kind
23 of knows your name. If I forget to, remind me, or
24 identify yourself if I haven't made clear who you are,
25 because the court reporter needs to know who the speaker

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1 is.

2 The role of the facilitator is really just kind of
3 monitoring for time. Our job is to make sure that we meet
4 the promise we've given you. We've told you we'll begin
5 at 7:00; we're going to leave at 10:00. So we're going to
6 try to keep this meeting timely and we're going to try to
7 get everyone out in a timely fashion.

8 We're also kind of monitoring for appropriate
9 conduct. As we see it, this is an opportunity for people
10 to say what is in their hearts and on their minds, to
11 share and to be heard. So we ask that the speakers all be
12 treated with respect, regardless of your personal opinion
13 on content of their speech, that we treat everyone in the
14 front of the room with respect. We let them say what they
15 need to say. We don't interfere with it. We listen and
16 hear. So our job here also is to just monitor for
17 conduct, make sure that people behave appropriately and
18 treat one another appropriately.

19 As much as we can, we're going to give you as much
20 time as we can for you to speak. Now, if it turns out
21 that there are lots of speakers registered and some of us
22 are a little loquacious and we're running out of time,
23 then we're going to have to start to put a time limit on
24 the duration of your speech. But for now, we'll let you
25 speak, and we hope that you stay on the subject.

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1 Remember, this evening's discussion, the purpose
2 of this meeting is to comment on the Draft Environmental
3 Impact Statement. But if the facilitators ask you to
4 summarize or to bring your comment to an end, it's not
5 personal, we don't mean to hurt your feelings, but we hope
6 that you will respond accordingly.

7 We will take breaks on the hour. That gives the
8 court stenographers a chance to switch off. It gives the
9 videographer a chance to change tape. And it gives us all
10 a chance to get some more water or cookies or something.
11 Okie dokie. I think that's it now, and I think we're
12 ready to begin.

13 The first speaker is Pat Patterson, and she is
14 followed by Kauai Amsterdam.

15 Pat.

16 MS. PATTERSON: That's good. Aloha again.

17 FACILITATOR AMARAL: Aloha.

18 MS. PATTERSON: I would like to deal with 3.12
19 socioeconomic and environmental justice. ROI, Region of
20 Influence. Your training in Makua doesn't affect other
21 parts of Oahu as it does the Waianae Coast. But even the
22 name "Waianae" has been affected by the military's
23 presence and the noise in Makua. "Waianae," the place of
24 big mullet. Tales of Makua Bay teeming with mullet came
25 from any oral trans -- history taken, whether by Marian

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1 Kelly -- which, hooray, her work will finally be published
 2 after 30 years -- and -- or any of the stories that we
 3 newcomers, malihini, who have only lived here half of
 4 those 30 years, but we've had supreme privilege of hearing
 5 from the lips and hearts of the kupuna or the stories of
 6 the young-kid time of today's fisher folk, there were
 7 mullet. There are no more.

8 How shall we then call ourselves? Shall we call
 9 those of us who live on the Waianae Coast the land
 10 destroyed by the Strykers? the Bangalore? and the parade
 11 of generals who could have stopped the destruction? I
 12 don't know the Hawaiian word unless it's hewahewa.

T22-1

13 This Region of Influence in 312.1, you say the
 14 section describes the contribution of MMR to the economy.

T22-2

15 There is no contribution from the Army to the Waianae
 16 Coast economy. And statistics in the next to last
 17 paragraph, it says that we can't break down Oahu's
 18 statistics. I'm sure that's not true. I help take the
 19 census in 2000. I'm sure that we can find the Waianae
 20 Coast census results, and then you'll be able to truly
 21 tell how the Region of Influence influences Waianae.

T22-3

22 312.2, Employment. You know, it says that the
 23 ROI, the Region of Influence, is primarily
 24 nonagricultural. Again, you're talking about all of Oahu.
 25 You're not talking about the Waianae Coast. You know we

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T22-1

For purposes of socioeconomic assessment, the region of influence is defined as Honolulu County, which included the Waianae community. As set forth in Section 3.12, the Army contributes to the Honolulu County economy by providing jobs and purchasing goods and services.

T22-2

Population and race, ethnicity, and poverty data was provided for the Waianae Census County Division in Sections 3.12.4 and 3.12.7.

T22-3

The proposed action would not affect farming. For clarification, the Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) defines farming as a separate industry from the Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing Sector. BEA defines the Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing Sector as "The Forestry, fishing, related activities NAICS sector comprises establishments primarily engaged in harvesting timber, and harvesting fish and other animals from a farm, ranch, or their natural habitats." BEA defines farming as "Farm employment is the number of workers engaged in the direct production of agricultural commodities, either livestock or crops; whether as a sole proprietor, partner, or hired laborer."

Comments

13

T22-3

1 have farms. But it's very interesting. Again, on the
 2 next page, Table 330, the first line is -- the industry
 3 sector is agricultural services, forestry, and fishing.
 4 And then down at the bottom, the next to last one it says,
 5 "Farm." I'm not a farmer, although my sister's husband
 6 was. But to me, farming and agriculture are not two
 7 different things. So do we add these two percentages
 8 together to get the true statistic in that area?

9 I'd like to go on, then, to a good response that I
 10 had. I brought, once upon a time, a glob of silver and
 11 asked to have that analyzed. Tetra Tech -- thank you,
 12 Gary -- did analyze it. And you will see in 311.4 that
 13 the metal in that piece is the same as in aluminum cans.
 14 Now, I've seen a lot of aluminum cans burned in campfires
 15 at Makua. They're dark. They're brittle. I didn't see
 16 anything bright and shiny like that.

17 I wonder, Gary, were any tests done to determine
 18 how the two metal globules took that form?

T22-4

19 Now, the EIS says that they went out into the bay,
 20 Makua, to look for those silver globules. And they worked
 21 for three days doing it. They found nothing in the bay,
 22 even though people had told me they were scattered all
 23 over the floor of the bay. And I'm not a diver, so I
 24 didn't know. But they didn't find any in the bay, but
 25 they did find another one on the beach. And, you know, I

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T22-4

The Army conducted a dive survey to locate any metal globules located on the floor of the near-shore areas. The dive survey found no globules in the ocean, but one was found on Makua Beach and examined. It was determined to be material from aluminum cans and not toxic. This was discussed in Section 3.11.4 of the Draft EIS.

Comments

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T22-4 1 don't know where those things come from still from the
 2 response. As far as I know, they needed high temperature
 3 to come together that -- how do I know whether they could
 4 have been shrapnel used in the howitzers or the mortars.
 5 But we don't know what temperature it would take. We
 6 don't know how they got there. But there were at least
 7 two in Makua, and there are probably more. And if
 8 anybody's diving out there and taking pictures, I'd still
 9 like to know that.

10 Now I'd like to go to Hazardous Waste Materials,
 11 3.11. And the EIS says that -- that there was some
 12 concern from the community that medical waste was disposed
 13 of in Makua. Now, I don't know how they say this because
 14 no medical activities take place on -- in MMR. Biomedical
 15 procedures and waste disposal would not be affected by
 16 this project. In addition, infectious waste has never
 17 been reported as being disposed of at MMR.

T22-5 18 That's wrong. You don't have any way of knowing
 19 that because we have been told that the Army destroys all
 20 their records after five years. Now, people -- many
 21 people who are here know and have heard that any agency,
 22 including Tripler Army hospital, at one time could ask for
 23 a key to Makua and come out there and dump anything
 24 without supervision. So we can't say that.

T22-6 25 In Chapter 6.3, the third to last paragraph says,

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T22-5

The text in Section 3.11.1 has been changed to clarify that there are no records of biomedical wastes disposed at MMR.

T22-6

The Draft EIS analyzed the effects on environmental resources based on the current condition of those resources within the region of influence. The historical effects on those resources are discussed in Chapter 5 of the EIS.

Comments

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1 "The long-term productivity of the proposed training
2 activities is based on the Army's mission. Any
3 measurement of long-term productivity in this context must
4 recognize the paramount importance of national defense."

5 Now, that is probably true but I want to leave
6 with a different idea of what long-term productivity could
7 look like in the words of dearly departed Walter Kamana.
8 He says, number one, "There were seven wells in Makua
9 Valley. I know and can show you where they were. The
10 good well with the best water was under the big mango
11 tree. Best water when the tide goes down. Some others
12 were already contaminated when I was a boy."

13 Number two, "Find out what happened to all the
14 trees, the koa, milo, mountain apple, seven varieties of
15 guava, orange, plum, ini, kukui nut. Find out why they're
16 all gone."

17 Three, "We had many kinds of birds in the valley.
18 Now all the tops of the trees are burned. Dead.
19 Poisoned."

20 Those chemical poisons, the herbicides are
21 destroying the muliwai, the ocean. The river of poison
22 runs deep. It's sinks under the sand. Find out what it
23 is, what's in it, how it affects the ocean where our keiki
24 play and the fishermen catch our food. Clean it up. Give
25 it back, back to the families who live there. Encourage

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T22-6

T22-6

Comments

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T22-6

1 them to bring life back. Grow food like they did before.

2 Raise children. Let them run free. Aloha.

3 FACILITATOR AMARAL: Aloha. Mahalo.

4 Our next speaker is Kauai Amsterdam, followed by

5 James Manaku.

6 MR. AMSTERDAM: Aloha ahiahi kakou. I come before

7 you, my dear brothers and sisters, the Hawaiian community,

8 family, friends, and loved ones, our military

9 representatives, brothers and sisters this evening. I ask

10 the Lord's blessings to be with us and myself as I speak

11 this evening that I might be able to extend and be in

12 harmony with our dear Lord God.

13 Tonight, I'm speaking because I've been asked to

14 clarify some of the things I said when I last spoke, so

15 that's what I intend to do. I'd like to direct

16 attention -- incidentally, I'm Kauai Jochanan Amsterdam,

17 been functioning, working as the prime minister of the

18 Interim Government of the Kingdom of Hawaii regarding

19 factors of jurisdiction.

20 Tonight I'm addressing the area of values and

21 purpose. Specifically from the Environmental Impact

22 Statement, I would like to address the issue of the

23 purpose of the proposed action. As it states, "The

24 purpose of the proposed action is to enable the military

25 to achieve and maintain readiness, providing training

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1 realistic to the types of threats the Army expects to
2 encounter during combat operations, insures that the
3 military's leaders and soldiers are prepared for the full
4 spectrum of operations faced in combat."

5 These operations include offensive, defensive,
6 stability, and support operations. It is this purpose
7 that we address and find conflict. There is conflict
8 because of the very spirit of Hawaii. Hawaii is known as
9 the Aloha State. Aloha includes love and peace. How can
10 you have an environment in Makua Valley which trains to
11 destroy, to kill, and to advance violence on others in the
12 world if this is a state of aloha? You can't do it.

13 This is like having a brothel in a church. You
14 might say, well, we must address maybe the duration of the
15 brothel activity; what is the wear and tear on the church;
16 when will the people come into the brothel; is it when the
17 church is operating? Why, that's not the point at all.
18 It's inappropriate, unacceptable, and hypocritical to have
19 a brothel in the church. Or would it be if you have a
20 priest that's raping young boys, is it an issue of
21 protective sex? No, it's not at all. It's immoral. It
22 is unethical to have this relationship. So it is in the
23 midst of the value of aloha to have training grounds in
24 Makua to train people to kill, to destroy, and to advance
25 violence throughout the world. It's hypocritical. How

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1 can we continue to be a nation like -- a place that's so
2 special and we contradict our own values.

T23-1

3 So, therefore, I request that the military please
4 stop this type of moral and ethical action -- unethical
5 action. This type of behavior went back during the time
6 of Queen Liliuokalani when the military morally and
7 ethically abused and victimized Queen Liliuokalani, even
8 in her own palace. And it continues today.

9 You might not be aware that this is what you're
10 doing, but it's perpetuated today. And I'm bringing it to
11 the attention at the present time with the Lord's good
12 grace. I ask the Lord to bless us so that we'll stop this
13 type of hypocrisy and that we live up to the true values
14 that we're supposed to radiate as a special place in the
15 world.

16 The second thing is if you go out and kill, you
17 will be killed. Not only will you be killed, you face
18 retaliation, and even worse, Pearl Harbor attack. People
19 will know that this is the center of -- military center in
20 the Pacific, and we're subject -- the whole population is
21 subject to retaliation. Do we want to subject all the
22 people of Hawaii to this type of response? I say no.

T23-1

23 So therefore, I request that we stop this
24 militarization. This is a symptom, a manifestation of the
25 militarization of Hawaii, and it's in contradiction --

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T23-1

The Army thanks you for your comment and appreciates your participation in this public review process. Your comment has been considered and has been included as part of the administrative record for this process.

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T23-1

1 hypocrisy -- with what Hawaii stands for.

2 Therefore, I call upon our representatives, our
3 friends, to be friends and to realize what's happening and
4 to stop this action. I'm not against the military, but
5 I'm against this type of training, this type of action
6 that is contradictory to a value -- values of Hawaiians
7 and humanity and morality and ethics.

8 This is a physical Environmental Impact Statement.
9 I'm raising the issue of a moral, ethical, environmental
10 impact -- environment impact. I ask that we be more
11 moral, ethical, and that means that we stop this type of
12 action and activity. May we so do and live up to the
13 values and ideals that Hawaii stands for as native
14 Hawaiians, kanaka maoli, and as human beings, as citizens
15 of the world. We should all be participating in this
16 since this involves our whole community. And since
17 tourism is central here in Hawaii, tourist industry should
18 be assisting in this. And if not, then they should be
19 impacted if they're not going to oppose this on moral and
20 ethical grounds and even on grounds of tourism.

21 And if this continues, then tourism perhaps should
22 even be discouraged until militarization ceases. Then we
23 can encourage tourism again. And this would be a leverage
24 in order to stop this third-point corruption. Corruption
25 of our moral and ethical ideals here in Hawaii.

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1 Therefore, I call upon our friends and neighbors,
2 our Hawaiian community, and people of goodwill,
3 humanitarians, to live up to the spirit of aloha and to
4 truly advance aloha.

5 As I have said, I hold a sign up at Washington
6 Place, among other signs. "Advance aloha, not militarism
7 in Hawaii." May we so do and may we be able to advance
8 our moral and ethical environment here in Hawaii and reap
9 the blessings of peace, love, and happiness, not only here
10 but be a model for this throughout the world.

11 And I ask the Lord's blessings to be with us as we
12 go forth in this great and wonderful journey. And I do it
13 in the Lord's name, consistent with our wonderful prayer
14 to begin our meeting tonight. In Jesus's name, amen.
15 Thank you very much.

16 FACILITATOR AMARAL: Mahalo.

17 Our next speaker is James Manaku, Sr., followed by
18 Bud Ebel.

19 Aloha.

20 MR. MANAKU: Good evening, gentlemen, everybody.
21 My names is James Kea Manaku, Sr., concerned parent and
22 grandparent.

23 I'd like to share with you something that our
24 queen had -- was saying as she went across your wonderful
25 land. "So much land. So much." Took about two weeks to

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1 get across the land. We're an island nation, small
2 island. We don't have enough to really share as much as
3 we'd like to share. And that's just part of the problem.

4 We can go back -- I'm quite sure a lot of my
5 neighbors here will be sharing our history with you, but
6 let me share what's happening with us today. We have one
7 way in, one way out. What happens when we have an
8 accident? What happens if you have an accident? You
9 know, we were -- personally, I was really glad to see that
10 we finally got rid of all the ammunition that we would
11 have before, daily, going up along our coastline. Yeah,
12 no, really. We have a lot of schools along our coastline,
13 along our Farrington Highway here. And you have all that
14 ammunition going by. You know, people say, ah, no worry,
15 the thing not going explode. But, you know, fire and
16 powder explodes. I no care how you look at it.

17 So we're looking at our roadways. How can we get
18 relief from it? Now you're bringing all of this equipment
19 down. Whether you come during non -- the busy hours or
20 not the busy hours, you're still going create a conflict
21 with us because you folks won't be coming one vehicle at a
22 time. You folks going have one whole convoy. And that's
23 just like putting up a -- having an accident on one side
24 of the road, because we cannot move as well as we'd like
25 to.

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1 There's a lot of also more important issues.
2 What's going to happen to our infrastructure, like our
3 schools. You folks are bringing in a Stryker Brigade,
4 yeah. What's going happen to our schools? our roadways?
5 our economy, yeah?

6 Waianae, sure, you folks are bringing a lot of
7 people and like how Pat had said, you bringing a lot of
8 money maybe here. But not to Waianae. We don't get it.
9 We don't have the retailers or the wholesalers to help
10 bring that kind of monies to here. And money is real --
11 money is real manini. And "manini" means nothing, yeah.
12 That's what "manini" means. Nothing. We don't really
13 need the money. All we need is our safety.

14 As a parent and a grandparent, it's frightening to
15 know that when the military passing by, they have all this
16 ammunition in this -- in this trucks and whatever they're
17 going, and the potential of it having -- becoming an
18 accident. And, you know, that's what it's called. It's
19 called an accident. It's called not -- maybe now maybe
20 could be intentional, right, because with the fears that
21 we have of having all of this militarization. People
22 might want to come here and, like they said, use this as
23 an example. And it would be the worst example they could
24 ever use, yeah, especially here.

25 Anyway, I'm here to ask you to please reconsider.

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1 I mean, why is it necessary to have such a small place
2 make a big impact, yeah, with what you folks going to do?
3 You know, on the Stryker Brigade, you folks -- on the EIS
4 with the Stryker Brigade alone, you guys said you folks
5 going to damage as well as take away critical habitat for
6 our native species here on the island. And we're an
7 island. We cannot take those things and take 'em
8 someplace else and grow 'em 'cause that's not how it
9 works. We have plants that grow only in certain areas in
10 the whole island, in the whole world. No other plants
11 grows like that. No other plants grow there. We cannot
12 just take it up and then move it over and hopefully hope
13 it will grow.

14 You know, I seen on the brigade that -- you know,
15 on the Stryker Brigade one that there was no impact for
16 Makua. And I'm surprised to see that now with this EIS
17 you folks having, that the Stryker Brigade is included.
18 'Cause if I remember correctly, we asked for years and
19 years and years for EIS for Makua. And nobody gave it to
20 us. Now you have an EIS. We have an EIS, but we also
21 have a Stryker Brigade. Was that incorporated into your
22 folks' EIS as well as just the Stryker Brigade? Because I
23 think the Stryker Brigade basically was addressing Big
24 Island, Schofield, Mokuleia and also Makua. But very
25 little in Makua. But that's not little. It would be a

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1 tremendous impact.

2 So, you know, I know we spinning our tires, we
3 spinning our wheels, because you folks already made the
4 decision. But the tragedy is that, you know, this
5 decision you make, we're going to have to live with it.
6 Oh, sure, you may have to live with it, but you know when
7 you go home to your home, the effects will eventually wear
8 away. Here in Waianae, it doesn't wear away. In Hawaii,
9 it doesn't wear away. I mean, you ask all the people,
10 when one of our family members get hurt, it affects all of
11 us. Not just the family member that they belong to, it
12 affects all of us, friends as well as family.

13 Anyway, I know it's not going to matter. You
14 folks are going to do the training in Makua. But I would
15 like to tell you I am in complete disagreement and I hope
16 that, you know, in some infinite wisdom or somehow
17 somebody can say, you know what, they're right, Waianae is
18 right, we need to go find the bigger area so that we can
19 utilize the technology better.

20 I'm a hunter, and I understand about practicing,
21 yeah. It's just like a -- it's just like an Army person.
22 If you don't practice, no use you go to war because you'd
23 be walking into a blank wall. Just like me, if I don't
24 practice shooting my rifle, aiming at something, I cannot
25 bring meat to my table.

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T24-1

The Army thanks you for your comment and appreciates your participation in this public review process. Your comment has been considered and has been included as part of the administrative record for this process.

T24-1

Comments

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1 But, still yet, that's not -- what's going to
2 happen is not going to put meat on my table. It's
3 actually taking away meat from my table. You guys know
4 you guys went eradicate all the goats in Makua. That was
5 a resource to us. Instead of letting the residents take
6 it, you folks went let somebody go up there and shoot 'em
7 and leave 'em on the mountain, and that's -- that's not
8 the Hawaiian way. You know, that's an important resource,
9 and you should have let us do it because we would have
10 took that thing off of the mountain, took it to our homes,
11 fed our families.

12 Anyway, thank you for this time. And, like I
13 said, I'm in complete disagreement. I hope you folks can
14 somehow find a bigger area so that you folks can be
15 more -- you need the practice that you going need to do.
16 Thank you.

17 FACILITATOR AMARAL: Mahalo. Our next speaker is
18 Bud Ebel, followed by Richard Kini. Aloha.

19 MR. EBEL: Thank you.

20 FACILITATOR AMARAL: Thank you.

21 MR. EBEL: Don't let this scare you. I'm going to
22 be clear, concise, and to the point. Thank you for coming
23 and giving me the opportunity to speak. I appreciate it.
24 I have already e-mailed a statement to you folks. But I
25 have something here I want to say, and then there's one

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1 item I have to digress. And this has to do with the
 2 meeting. I'll explain it, but it is directly related to
 3 the Army. Okay.

4 Anyway, welcome and thank you. I've already
 5 mailed in my statement. And at this point, I wish to
 6 reiterate my previous testimony and add the following:

T25-1

7 The Army has my full support for using of Makua Valley for
 8 training. This additional lawsuit filed by Malama Makua
 9 by David Henkin, an attorney for Earthjustice, is in my
 10 opinion just another example of the pattern of
 11 obstructionist behavior and an extension of the
 12 sovereignty movement here in Hawaii. I believe the Army
 13 is considered an occupying force by some; and as such,
 14 must be (inaudible) to the full extent of the law.

15 The use of the ERS -- EIS is justified by groups
 16 that seek to undermine all efforts to protect the laws and
 17 values of citizens of the U.S.A. If the lawyers did not
 18 get paid by directive of the courts, these frivolous
 19 lawsuits would not occur.

20 Now, as for as the incidents of fires go, I'd like
 21 to thank the Army for its stewardship out here on the west
 22 coast. We have had over 700 fires so far. Most started
 23 by arsonists. Yet, it must be noted that the protection
 24 offered by the Army to save Makua Valley from any damage
 25 has been 100 percent. So much for Save Makua. I don't

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T25-1

The Army thanks you for your comment and appreciates your participation in this public review process. Your comment has been considered and has been included as part of the administrative record for this process.

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1 know why they don't worry about saving all the other
2 valleys that are burning. I don't think any other valley
3 on the Waianae Coast has been saved from fire damage and
4 the subsequent destruction of native plant, habitat, and
5 of archaeological sites. The Army deserves credit for
6 this.

7 I could go on in much more depth as there is so
8 much myths and false information being spread about the
9 Makua Valley. But enough already, as they say.

10 Now I have to digress, and this is not going to
11 take long. Monday night, I went down to the Japanese
12 Cultural Center and listened to a debate about the Akaka
13 Bill. And I've got to bring something forward that the
14 top lawyer in this state, Mark Bennett, had to say. This
15 is part of the record. It is astounding. They are
16 talking about the militarization. That's a legitimate
17 complaint. I understand your thinking. Chew it up, chew
18 it over, spit it out, and we'll get to some resolution.

19 But Mark Bennett said he is Jewish, and he implied
20 that the United States Army had something to do with the
21 Holocaust and the slaughter of 6 million Jews. Now, I
22 don't know where the hell he was in World War II, but I
23 was in the Cub Scouts, the Boy Scouts, I was collecting
24 scrap and I was doing what I could. But I'll be damned, I
25 never saw the United States Army act in any manner that

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1 was detrimental to any prisoner or prison camp.

2 Those Jews, as soon as they were found in those
3 camps -- and we didn't even know about them. If you've
4 seen this movie about the Band of Brothers, you might have
5 gotten an update about that issue.

6 But I think it is horribly important to bring this
7 up and an absolute disgrace to the state of Hawaii for the
8 Attorney General, Mark Bennett, to imply that the United
9 States and white men caused the Holocaust. I hope each of
10 you will get a chance to watch that debate. It's
11 scheduled -- I don't have the schedule with me. I should
12 have brought it. But it wouldn't matter. You wouldn't
13 remember it, anyway. But it is scheduled for Olelo.

14 But this is the United States of America. And
15 when a damn lawyer for the state of Hawaii implies that we
16 had something to do with the Holocaust other than
17 liberation, then I am really fed up. I beg your pardon
18 for that digression. I thank you for your tolerance, and
19 I appreciate the opportunity to come and talk.

20 FACILITATOR AMARAL: Thank you very much. Thank
21 you.

22 The next speaker is Mr. Richard Kini, followed by
23 Alice Greenwood.

24 Aloha, Richard. This has to come up. Yeah, like
25 that.

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1 MR. KINI: Aloha na kupuna, na opio, na ohana, na
2 ho aloha. Aloha no e kakou e Hawaii nei.

3 My name is Richard Pomaikaikalani Kini. I'm
4 Hawaiian, Portuguese, Irish, Scotch, English. I was born
5 an American citizen. After reading Public Law 103-150, I
6 renounced my citizenship from the United States with no
7 animosity against the United States. After I read the
8 apology bill, I said the United States is admitting that
9 they wrongfully and illegally used their diplomatic and
10 military forces to overthrow the lawful government of my
11 country, my ancestors' country. I want the whole thing
12 back in its entirety.

13 My comments will be based on my knowledge of
14 Makua, especially the culture and the history of the
15 American military in Makua and these islands.

16 I got involved with Makua around 1996 when friends
17 of mine was staying at Makua, homeless. They were told by
18 a former governor, if you have no place to stay, to go to
19 Makua beach and live there and you will live in peace.
20 Well, his term in election ended, and another governor was
21 elected who had a different type of aloha for the
22 indigenous native people of these islands.

23 So there was arrests coming at Makua, and I went
24 there. And what made me decide to get arrested for Makua
25 when I read the lease for Makua that you talk about in

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1 this flyer over here where the Army has leased 3300 acres
2 of seeded lands. I don't know if anybody know -- here
3 know about that.

4 But imagine, in 1963, Governor Ariyoshi turned
5 over 3300 acres of Makua to lease to the Army for 65 years
6 just for \$1. Not dollar a year or dollar a month. But
7 for 65 years, just for \$1. Where can I, where can anyone
8 in these islands, especially the native Hawaiians who are
9 living on the street areas in the keawe tree bushes with
10 rats can go and lease land for 65 years just for \$1?

11 And that was my decision to be arrested. Also,
12 what added to my decision to be arrested is the Army's
13 involvement in Makua after World War II when the people of
14 Makua -- I understand there were 2000 people there. There
15 were farmers. They were providing food for Honolulu at
16 that time. They were evicted. They painted white crosses
17 on their homes. They even left their churches in place
18 with the cross. And after the people were wrongfully
19 evicted from Makua, it was the American military who went
20 in and pulled that Pearl Harbor attack on the personal
21 homes with the white crosses of Makua.

22 I and many Hawaiians, the indigenous people of
23 these islands and especially many of those of us who have
24 taken the stand I take have renounced our citizenship to
25 the United States and pledge our loyalty to the Hawaiian

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